



Administrative Policies of the Florida High School Athletic Association, Inc. **2013-14 Edition**

Pursuant to the authority granted it in Article 4.3 of the FHSAA Bylaws, the FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following policies to govern the Association's interscholastic athletic programs. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, with the Bylaws of the FHSAA, the Bylaws shall control. Any understanding, misunderstanding, opinion or belief by an individual as a result of reading these policies shall not be binding on the FHSAA. The term "Executive Director" as used throughout these policies shall mean the Executive Director of the FHSAA or his/her designee, unless otherwise specifically noted. Official rulings shall be requested in writing only by the principal or designated official representative of a member school and shall be provided in writing by the Executive Director or his/her designee. Only a formal ruling by the Executive Director or his/her designee is binding on the FHSAA. General failure to comply with FHSAA Policies will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$100 per occurrence. Substantive changes for the 2012-13 school year are shaded.

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Revisions to Administrative Policies for 2013-14 School Year

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4.1.3	47	modifies current language relative to travel
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16.6 & 16.7	72-73	modifies current language relative to registration of Non-Traditional Students
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17.2	76	modifies, consolidates and removes current language relative to other international and immigrant students
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19	78	modifies current language relative to Advisory Committee
20.1.2	81	modifies current language relative to equipment
24.1.1.6	85	modifies current language relative to coaches conducting camps and clinics during the school year
26	87	modifies current language relative the FACA All-Star Classics
29	89	modifies current language; clarifies home and host school for FHSAA events
30.3 & 30.4	90-91	modifies current language relative to “other representative of the school’s athletic interests”
32.1	92	modifies current language relative to storms at State Finals
32.3	92	modifies current language relative to suspended contests
36, 37, 38	96-100	modifies current language to create three separate policies
40.2	102	modifies current languagerelative to defining an “Appropriate Health-Care Professional”
41	103-105	modifies current language replacing previous heat acclimatization language
42	106-107	modifies current language relative to licensing and royalties

POLICY 1

APPORTIONMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECTIONS

1.1 Board of Director Apportionment Charge. Bylaw 3.12.1 charges the Board of Directors with the responsibility of dividing the Association's membership along existing county lines into four contiguous and compact administrative sections, each containing an equal or nearly equal number of member schools to ensure equitable representation on the Association's Board of Directors, Representative Assembly and Sectional Appeals Committees.

1.1.1 Executive Director Evaluation. The Executive Director, each six years, shall be directed to undertake and prepare for review by the Board of Directors an evaluation of the existing apportionment of the administrative sections. This evaluation shall be presented to the Board of Directors as an informational item not later than its September meeting.

1.1.2 Need for Reapportionment. Should the Board of Directors determine that a reapportionment of the administrative sections is needed, it shall direct the Executive Director to develop one or more reapportionment plans for its consideration. The reapportionment plans will be advertised on the FHSAA website and placed on the agenda for action by the Board of Directors at its November meeting.

1.1.3 Effective Date of Reapportionment. The reapportionment of administrative sections shall be effective with the annual election of the Association that begins in February of that school year to seat member school representatives of the Board of Directors, Representative Assembly and Sectional Appeals Committees in the following school year.

1.1.4 Next Review Period. Pursuant to this policy, the next review of the apportionment of administrative sections by the Board of Directors shall be conducted in Fall 2014. Any reapportionment resulting from this review shall be in effect for the elections to be conducted beginning in February 2015.

POLICY 2

DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP

2.1 Diversity in Leadership. The Florida High School Athletic Association recognizes the diversity of its membership and believes that it is best served by a diverse leadership. Accordingly, the Association shall promote diversity of representation within its governance structure (Board of Directors, Representative Assembly, Sectional Appeals Committees) and substructures (advisory and other committees).

2.1.1 Charge to Executive Director. The Executive Director shall actively solicit and encourage eligible individuals from under-represented groups to seek election to available member school positions within the Association governance structure.

2.1.2 Charge to Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall actively seek out and recommend to the Board of Directors eligible individuals from under-represented groups for appointment to fill vacancies in member school positions within the Association governance structure whenever such vacancies occur.

2.1.3 Charge to Commissioner of Education, Superintendents, and School Boards. The Executive Director shall encourage the Commissioner of Education, the Florida School Boards Association and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents to seek out eligible individuals from under-represented groups when appointing and/or electing their respective representatives to positions in the Association governance structure.

2.1.4 Charge to Advisory Committees. The Executive Director and staff shall actively seek out and appoint eligible individuals from under-represented groups to fill vacancies on the various advisory committees whenever such vacancies occur.

2.1.5 Diversity Statement. All written materials for nominations and elections prepared by the Association will include the following statement: "The FHSAA values and seeks a diverse leadership."

2.1.6 Barriers Addressed. Barriers that may inhibit eligible individuals from under-represented groups from seeking or attaining leadership positions will be identified and addressed.

2.1.7 Report by Executive Director. On an annual basis, the Executive Director will report to the Board of Directors the Association's progress toward diversity.



POLICY 3

CATEGORIZATION OF INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

3.1 General Principles. The following guidelines shall govern the categorization of interscholastic sports programs sponsored by member schools, as well as the implementation of state championship series competitions in those sports. These guidelines establish the thresholds (minimum standards) that sports must meet for categorization and state championship series implementation. Any member school that sponsors a sport that is recognized or sanctioned by this Association shall abide by all regulations of this Association.

3.2 Club Sports

3.2.1 Club Sports Defined. Any sport that is not categorized as either a recognized sport or a sanctioned sport by the Board of Directors as stipulated herein shall be considered to be a club sport and shall not be under the jurisdiction of this Association. No Association bylaw, policy, rule or contest regulation shall apply to competition in a club sport. Public member schools, however, shall be required to abide by the academic eligibility requirements as set forth in Florida Statutes.

3.3 Recognized Sports

3.3.1 Recognized Sport Defined. A recognized sport is a sport that is recognized by the Board of Directors as being played on an interscholastic basis by member senior high schools.

3.3.2 Requirements for Recognition. The Board of Directors may extend recognition to a sport, effective with the beginning of the next school year, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, when a minimum of 32 member senior high schools that are geographically situated in at least two (2) of the four (4) administrative sections submit letters of petition requesting recognition status for the sport on their respective schools' official stationery. Not more than three-fourths of these schools may be located in the same one administrative section. Each school submitting a letter of petition must have sponsored a program in the sport for a minimum of two (2) years in which it actively engaged in competition in the sport with other schools. The letters of petition must be submitted by the requisite number of member senior high schools within the same school year, and shall become invalid at the conclusion of that school year.

3.3.3 State Championship Series for Recognized Sports. The Board of Directors may authorize the conduct of a state championship series in a sport which has been recognized for at least one (1) school year, effective with the following school year, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director.

3.3.3.1 Requirements for State Championship Series. A minimum of 48 member senior high schools must have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the recognized sport for a minimum of one (1) year.

3.3.3.2 Commitment to Participate in State Championship Series. When the Board of Directors authorizes a state championship series in a recognized sport, the FHSA Office shall mail to all member senior high schools a form on which to record its intention with regard to participation in that state championship series. A minimum of 48 member senior high schools, of which not more than three-fourths may be geographically located within the same one administrative section, must respond in the affirmative on the commitment form for a state championship series to be implemented. These schools must have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of one (1) year since the sport was given recognition status. It is not necessary that all member senior high schools that commit to participate in the state championship series have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of one (1) year since the sport was given recognition status. It is only necessary that at least 48 of the member senior high schools that commit to participate in the state championship series have done so. In committing to participate in the state championship series, schools shall agree to abide by all season limitations, as well as all terms and conditions for the state championship series, as established by the Board of Directors. If the requisite number of member senior high schools does not commit to participate in the state championship series under these conditions, the state championship series shall not be implemented at that time.

3.3.4 Current Sports Holding Recognition. Sports that hold recognition status only are girls bowling, boys bowling, competitive cheerleading, girls flag football, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, boys volleyball, girls water polo, boys water polo and girls weightlifting.

3.4 Sanctioned Sports

3.4.1 Sanctioned Sport Defined. A sanctioned sport is a recognized sport in which, in the determination of the Board of Directors, a representative number of member senior high schools has engaged in interscholastic competition for a sufficient period of time to warrant sanction of the sport as being eligible for official state championship series competition. Bylaw 8.5.1 states that sanctioned sports, in which an official state championship series competition is implemented, may require participants to adhere to a greater degree of regulation subject to terms and conditions established by the Board of Directors.



3.4.2 **Requirements of Sanctioning.** The Board of Directors may sanction a recognized sport as being eligible for official state championship series competition, effective with the beginning of the following school year, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, when a minimum of 10 percent of the total member senior high schools, which are geographically situated in at least two (2) of the four (4) administrative sections, have sponsored a program in, and competed in, a recognized sport for a minimum of two years. Not more than three-fourths of these schools may be located in the same one administrative section.

3.4.3 **Implementation of a State Championship Series.** When a sport is sanctioned by the Board of Directors as being eligible for official state championship series competition, the FHSAA Office shall mail to all member senior high schools a form on which to record its intention with regard to participation in an official state championship series in the sport. A minimum of 10 percent of the total member senior high schools, of which not more than three-fourths may be geographically located within the same one administrative section, must respond in the affirmative on the commitment form for an official state championship series to be implemented in a single classification in the following school year. These schools must have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of two (2) years since the sport was given recognition status. It is not necessary that all member senior high schools that commit to participate in the official state championship series have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of two (2) years since the sport was given recognition status. It is only necessary that at least 10 percent of the member senior high schools that commit to participate in the official state championship series have done so. Otherwise, the official state championship series shall not be implemented at that time. Any state championship series that has been implemented and is being conducted in the sport, however, shall be continued.

3.4.4 **Season Limitations for Sanctioned Sports.** A sanctioned sport, in which an official state championship series is implemented, shall be regulated by the Association. All Association bylaws, policies, rules and contest regulations shall apply to the sport and to the member schools that sponsor programs in the sport, regardless of the schools' intent with regard to participation in an official state championship series in the sport. The Board of Directors shall establish season limitations to which all member schools sponsoring a program in the sport shall adhere. These season limitations shall include, but not be limited to, beginning and ending dates for practice and competition, as well as a maximum number of regular season contests that schools shall not exceed.

3.4.5 **Current Sanctioned Sports.** Sports that currently are sanctioned by the Board of Directors are boys baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, girls cross country, boys cross country, boys 11-man football, girls golf, boys golf, girls soccer, boys soccer, girls fast-pitch softball, girls swimming & diving, boys swimming & diving, girls tennis, boys tennis, girls track & field, boys track & field, girls volleyball, boys weightlifting and boys wrestling.

3.5 Revocation of Categorization Status

3.5.1 **Empowerment of Board of Directors.** The Board of Directors may revoke the status given any sport, and suspend or discontinue the state championship series or official state championship series in any sport, upon recommendation of the Executive Director, when any one of the following occur:

3.5.1.1 **Below Requisite Number.** The requisite number of member senior high schools no longer sponsor a program in the sport; or

3.5.1.2 **Majority of Members Seek Revocation.** Two-thirds of the member senior high schools that sponsor a program in the sport submit letters of petition on their respective official stationery requesting that the status of the sport be revoked and/or the state championship series or official state championship series in the sport be suspended or discontinued; or

3.5.1.3 **Financially Unfeasible.** It is determined that it is no longer financially feasible for the Association and its member schools to supervise and regulate the sport, and/or conduct a state championship series or official state championship series in the sport; or

3.5.1.4 **Revocation Due to Unsportsmanlike Conduct.** The number and nature of acts of unsportsmanlike conduct, or other acts of a flagrant and malicious nature, that are committed by student-athletes and coaches during competition in the sport, reach such a level as to make it no longer in the best interests of the Association or its member schools to recognize and/or sanction competition in the sport.

POLICY 4

INTERSCHOLASTIC CONTESTS

4.1 Interscholastic Contests

4.1.1 Interscholastic Contests Defined. FHSAA Bylaw 8.1.1 defines an interscholastic contest as “any competition between organized teams of different schools in a sport recognized or sanctioned by this Association.” All such contests are subject to FHSAA Bylaws as well as the guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors for that sport and in general.



4.1.1.1 Penalties Assessed to Schools.

- (a) Permitting a student-athlete to compete in an interscholastic contest prior to his/her name being submitted to the FHSAA Office on an Annual Eligibility Report will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$50 per student.
- (b) Failure to contract with sanctioned local officials associations for registered officials at all interscholastic home contests will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$100 per contest.
- (c) Actions which may not be regarded as unsportsmanlike which result in a contest being prematurely concluded will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$100.

4.1.2 Prohibited Contests

4.1.2.1 Practice games, exhibition games, non-contract games and scrimmage games with other schools, groups, alumni or league teams are strictly prohibited. All such games or sessions shall be on an intra-squad basis. Non-squad members may not participate in any team practice, game or contest.

4.1.2.2 Games, tournaments or meets with schools in sports that are not sanctioned by or recognized by an NFHS member association or an Affiliate NFHS member association are prohibited.

4.1.3 Absence from School

4.1.3.1 Travel Within Florida. No more than one school day or part of one school day may be missed in a week for traveling to, traveling from and participating in an athletic contest(s) unless approved by the Executive Director.

4.1.3.2 Travel Outside Florida. No more than two school days or part of two school days may be missed in a week for traveling to, traveling from and participating in an athletic contest(s) unless approved by the Executive Director.

4.1.4 Sunday Contests. No interscholastic athletic contest may be held on a Sunday except under emergency conditions in tournaments or meets which are approved by the Executive Director or the Board of Directors. The conduct of practice sessions of any kind on a Sunday is prohibited.

4.1.5 Tournaments and Meets. Tournaments/meets shall be limited to a maximum field of 32 teams. Tournaments/meets exceeding the maximum field may be subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director. Single elimination, double elimination, round robin and pool play formats are permissible. Each and every contest played by the team in a tournament, however, shall count toward the maximum contest limitations.

4.1.5.1 Penalties Assessed to Schools. Exceeding the number of contests allowed in a tournament or withdrawing from a tournament to avoid exceeding number of contests allowed will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$250.

4.1.6 Student Participants. Only students in grades 6 through 12 are allowed to practice or participate in interscholastic athletics for a member school.

4.2 Outcome of Interscholastic Contests

4.2.1 Outcome is Final. The outcome (i.e. winners and losers) of all interscholastic contests are final, and cannot be reversed, except where the rules of the sport permit or in the case where a winner must forfeit its victory or points.

4.2.2 Elimination is Final. Elimination from a FHSAA State Series competition of individuals or teams is final. Defeat by individuals or teams that are later ordered to forfeit their victory, place and/or points, or are vacated from the bracket, will not bring about reinstatement or advancement in the FHSAA State Series competition on the part of the individual or team that has been eliminated.

4.2.3 Championship is Final. Championships or other placements in FHSAA State Series competitions are final. Championships or other placements ordered vacated by individuals or teams, will not bring about advancement in placements or receipt of awards for those placements.

4.3 GENDER IDENTITY PARTICIPATION

All eligible students should have the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity and expression, irrespective of the gender listed on a student's birth certificate and/or records. Should any situation arise regarding a student's request to participate in a gender-segregated athletic event consistent with his/her gender identity and expression, a student may seek review of his or her eligibility for participation through the procedures set forth below:

4.3.1 Notice to the School. The student and parent(s) or guardian(s) shall contact the school administrator or athletic director, prior to the official start date of the sport season as listed on the FHSAA Website, indicating the student has a consistent gender identity and expression different than the gender listed on the student's school registration records and the student desires to participate in a gender-segregated athletic sport in a manner consistent with his/her gender identity and expression.

4.3.2 Documentation. The appealing student must provide the principal or athletic director, and the FHSAA, the following documentation and information:

- 4.3.2.1 Current transcript and school registration information;



4.3.2.2 All information required for participation and eligibility in FHSAA athletics (i.e. birth certificate, proof of residency, EL2, EL3 and EL3CH);

4.3.2.3 A written statement from the student affirming the consistent identity and expression to which the student self-relates;

4.3.2.4 Documentation from individuals such as, but not limited to, parents /legal guardians appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, friends and/or teachers, which affirm that the actions, attitudes, dress and manner demonstrate the student's consistent gender identification and expression;

4.3.2.5 A complete list of all the student's prescribed, non-prescribed or over the counter, treatments or medications;

4.3.2.6 Written verification from an appropriate health-care professional (doctor, psychiatrist, and psychologist) of the student's consistent gender identification and expression; and

4.3.2.7 Any other pertinent documentation or information which the student or parent(s) /legal guardian(s) appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction believe relevant and appropriate.

4.3.3 Notice to the FHSAA. The school administrator shall contact the FHSAA, which will assign a facilitator who will assist school and student in preparation and completion of the FHSAA "Gender Identity Eligibility Review Process".

4.3.4 First Level of Review. The student will be scheduled for a review hearing before a committee specifically established to preside over gender identity reviews. The FHSAA will schedule a hearing as expeditiously as possible but in no case later than fifteen (15) school/business days after the first practice date for the sport which is the subject of the petition, or within a reasonable time thereafter in cases of emergencies or extenuating circumstances. The Gender Eligibility Review Committee will render a written determination of the student-athletes eligibility to participate in a gender-segregated athletic sport consistent with his or her gender identity and expression.

4.3.4.1 The Gender Identity Eligibility Committee. The committee will be comprised of a minimum of three of the following categories, one of which must be from the physician or mental health profession category:

- (a) Physician with experience in gender identity health care and the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) Standards of Care.
- (b) Psychiatrist, psychologist or licensed mental health professional familiar with the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) Standards of Care
- (c) School administrator from outside the member school's FHSAA administrative district
- (d) Athletic Director from outside the member school's FHSAA administrative district
- (e) An athletic coach, of the sport in which participation is desired, from outside the member school's FHSAA administrative district
- (f) An Individual selected by the FHSAA familiar with Gender Identity and Expression issues

4.3.5 Second Level of Review. Any school, on behalf of a student-athlete, which was denied participation at the First Level of Review wishing for a Second Level of Review of the Gender Identity Eligibility Committee's decision shall file notice with the Executive Director of the FHSAA on or before the tenth (10th) school/business day following the date of receipt of the written decision of the Gender Identity Eligibility Committee. The Executive Director shall schedule a Second Level of Review hearing to commence on or before the fifteenth (15th) school/business day following the date of receipt of the written notice, or within a reasonable time thereafter in cases of emergencies or extenuating circumstances. Written notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be delivered to petitioner's school, for personal delivery to the student-athlete and parent(s) /legal guardian(s) appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

4.3.6 Final Determination of Review. When there is sufficient documentation and confirmation of a student's consistent gender identity and expression, the eligibility committee will affirm the student's eligibility to participate in FHSAA athletics consistent with the student's gender identification and expression. Once the student has been granted eligibility consistent with his/her gender identity and expression, the eligibility is granted and binding for the duration of the student's participation in every sport season of every school year. All discussion and documentation will be kept confidential, and the proceedings will be sealed unless the student and family make a specific request.

The Florida High School Athletic Association will assist and facilitate the provision of resources and training for any member school seeking assistance regarding gender identity and expression procedures and requirements.



MEMBERSHIP

5.1 Attendance at Compliance Seminar

5.1.1 Senior High School Required to attend. Member senior high schools are required to attend a compliance seminar held in their administrative section.

5.1.2 Rotating Seminars Every Two Years. Compliance seminars will be conducted every school year in two of the four administrative sections. Seminars in administrative sections 1 and 3 will occur in odd years, and compliance seminars in administrative sections 2 and 4 will occur in even years.

5.1.3 Continuing Full Member Schools. A continuing full member senior high school required to attend a compliance seminar must be represented by its principal or athletic director or FHSAA representative.

5.1.4 First Year Provisional Member Schools. A senior member high school in its first year of provisional membership must be represented at a compliance seminar by its principal and athletic director and FHSAA representative.

5.1.5 Continuing Provisional Member Schools. A continuing provisional member senior high school must be represented at a compliance seminar by its principal or athletic director or FHSAA representative until full membership is achieved.

5.1.6 First Time Athletic Directors. Schools that have an athletic director who is in the position for the first time in the state of Florida will be required to attend a compliance seminar that year. Attending a compliance seminar in an administrative section that is not the same as the school's will not alter the rotation for required attendance at future compliance seminars.

5.1.7 Unlisted Athletic Director. Schools that do not have an athletic director listed on its application for continuing membership and have not alerted the FHSAA an athletic director has been hired by July 1 must send its principal or FHSAA representative to a compliance seminar that year. Attending a compliance seminar in an administrative section that is not the same as the school's will not alter the rotation for required attendance at future compliance seminars.

5.1.8 Choice of Seminar Site. Schools attending a compliance seminar may choose from any compliance seminar held in the state that year.

5.1.9 Required Attendance. Schools attending a compliance seminar in a year not required to attend will not alter the rotation for required attendance at future compliance seminars.

5.1.10 Failure to Attend. Failure to attend a required compliance seminar will subject the school to a minimum \$250 monetary penalty.

5.2 Membership Applications

5.2.1 Continuing Membership. A completed membership packet must be on file at the FHSAA office on or before April 30 to avoid a late fee. A school whose form is not received by May 31 may not be considered for reelection to membership for the following school year.

5.2.2 First-Time Membership. A completed membership packet must be on file at the FHSAA office on or before April 30 for the school to be considered for admission the following school year.

5.3 Approved Accrediting Agencies

5.3.1 Accreditation for purposes of membership will be accepted from any of the following agencies:

- (a) Association of Christian Schools International;
- (b) Association of Christian Teachers and Schools;
- (c) Association of Independent Schools of Florida;
- (d) Christian Schools of Florida;
- (e) Council of Bilingual Schools;
- (f) Episcopal Diocese of Florida;
- (g) Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools;
- (h) Florida Catholic Conference;
- (i) Florida Coalition of Christian Private Schools;
- (j) Florida Conference of Seventh Day Adventist Schools;
- (k) Florida Council of Independent Schools;
- (l) Florida League of Christian Schools;
- (m) Lutheran Schools Florida-Georgia District;



- (n) National Independent Private School Association;
- (o) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

5.4 Suspension of Membership

5.4.1 Penalties Due to Suspension. Schools whose membership has been suspended for any reason will lose all privileges listed in Bylaw 3.9.1 for the duration of the suspension.

POLICY 6

SPORTS SEASONS LIMITATIONS

The following guidelines shall govern season limitations, contest limitations and individual student limitations for all member schools participating in FHSAA-sponsored sports.

6.1 General Principles.

6.1.1 Season Limitations. A member school shall not organize its teams for interscholastic practice or interscholastic competition in a sport outside of the dates listed for that sport. The Board of Directors will establish the dates for the first day of allowable practices/tryouts, pre-season contests, first and last days of regular season contests and the state championship series for each sport. These dates will be published on the FHSAA Website. There will be no further practices following the date of the last regular season contest or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.1.1.1 Spring Practice. Competitive Cheerleading and football may engage in spring practice for a maximum of 20 sessions conducted exclusively during month of May or the last 20 days of the school year, whichever comes first. The varsity team and each individual student may compete in 1 jamboree or 1 spring classic game during final week, which must be counted as one of the 20 sessions.

6.1.1.2 Restrictions for Football and Wrestling

6.1.1.2.1 Football. Due to the protective equipment required in football, these procedures apply for both fall and spring practices:

- (a) the first two (2) days of practice are restricted to helmets only,
- (b) days 3-5 can introduce shoulder-pads with shorts,
- (c) beginning day six (6) of practice, full gear can be utilized and body-to-body contact is permitted.

Student-athletes who begin practice with a team after the start of official practice will be required to follow this same 6 day procedure. During the initial five (5) days, the use of arm shields, tackling and blocking dummies, sleds and other devices can be used for instructional purposes, however, deliberate body-to-body contact is prohibited.

6.1.1.2.2 Wrestling. Each student must participate in minimum of 10 practice sessions on 10 separate days prior to first competition (except a student who participates in a fall sport may compete after participating in 5 practice sessions on 5 separate days).

6.1.1.3 Penalties to School. Failure to comply with this policy will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$250.

6.1.2 School Contest Limitations. School contest limitations are for regular season contests only and are not inclusive of permissible preseason or postseason contests. Each sport will have the following game/meet/match limitations for each level (i.e. varsity, junior varsity, freshman, etc.) regardless of how many teams participate at each level, which will be inclusive of all games/meets/matches played in tournaments (for the sports of bowling, tennis and wrestling, each tournament counts as 2 matches):

- (a) Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball and Water Polo – 25 games/matches
- (b) Bowling, Lacrosse, Tennis and Wrestling – 18 games/matches
- (c) Cross Country, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field and Weightlifting – 13 meets
- (d) Flag Football – 12 games
- (e) Football and Competitive Cheerleading – 10 games, high school varsity level; 8 games, all other levels
- (f) Golf – 14 matches

6.1.2.1 Levels of Participation. A member school is limited to one varsity team per sport but may have multiple sub-varsity teams, including, but not limited to, one or more freshman teams, one or more junior varsity teams, etc., each of which has the limits as specified in 6.1.2.



6.1.2.2 Penalties to School. Failure to comply with this policy will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$250.

6.1.3 Individual Limitations. An individual student shall not exceed the established contest limitations, as listed in Policy 6.1.2 (except for football), during any school year, regardless of whether the student transfers attendance to a different school, moves back and/or forth between varsity and sub-varsity levels or competes at the high school or middle/junior high school level. An individual student cannot participate as a member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.1.3.1 Football. The season limitation for football is 11 games, inclusive of all games played. After the conclusion of the sub-varsity season, sub-varsity players may complete the varsity regular season. A student-athlete can participate in only one (1) football contest during the same school week; Monday through Saturday (exclusive of the state series).

6.1.4 Standardized Calendar. All FHSAA Sports Seasons will be determined by dates established in accordance with the standardized calendar developed by the National Federation of State High School Associations. This calendar will number the weeks of the year, with Week One (1) being the first full week of July (Sunday through Saturday). Hereinafter, this calendar will be referred to as the FHSAA Standardized Calendar.

POLICY 7

MULTI-SCHOOL, SPECIAL AND SANCTIONED ATHLETIC EVENTS

The Board of Directors has established the following policy for the approval of interscholastic multi-team athletic events, tournaments and sanctioned events. Multi-team athletic events and tournaments in recognized sports do not require approval by the FHSAA Office.

7.1 Definitions.

7.1.1 Multi-Team Event. A multi-team event is an event of convenience in scheduling due to time, site or facility constraints by the participating schools.

7.1.2 Tournament. A tournament is any event in which any, but not limited to, of the following occur:

7.1.2.1 Brackets of any type for the event are established (i.e. Round Robin, Single Elimination, Double Elimination, Shoot-outs, etc.); or

7.1.2.2 Awards of any type are given for placement in the event (i.e. 1st Place, 2nd Place, etc.); or

7.1.2.3 Sponsorship of any part of the event is secured, including, but not limited to, corporate sponsors, booster clubs or titled events; or

7.1.2.4 Entry fees are charged.

7.1.3 Special Events. A special event is, but not limited to, a preseason jamboree game or tournament, preseason classic game or tournament, spring football jamboree or classic, football post season game, and third party organized or sponsored games or tournaments (i.e. KSA Events, ESPN, Paragon Sports, etc.).

7.1.4 Sanctioned Events. A sanctioned event is any event that requires a sanction application (i.e. regular season multi-school meets or tournaments, interstate and international multi-school meets or tournaments, etc) by the FHSAA and/or the NFHS as part of the requirement for the event.

7.2 Multi-Team Events and Tournaments.

7.2.1 Application. Any athletic event hosted by an FHSAA member senior high school in a sanctioned sport which involves three or more schools such as a tournament or meet; preseason classic tournament; preseason jamboree; fall or spring football jamboree or classic; or any tournament or meet which is held to determine the champion of a city, county, conference or league, must be approved by the FHSAA Office. Approval is not required for multi-team regular season events, such as tri-meets and quad-meets, in individual sports or for any event hosted by a member middle school or junior high school. The host member school is responsible for making application for approval on the forms entitled "Application for Approval of Athletic Event": Form AT2. See Policy 9.5 and 9.9 for administrative fees and required revenue sharing for these events. The application for approval must be submitted to the FHSAA Office utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director, with a time stamp bearing a date not later than 30 days prior to the first day of the event to avoid, in addition to the standard administrative fee, the following late processing fees:

7.2.1.1 Fewer than 30 days prior to the first day of the event: \$50;

7.2.1.2 Fewer than 10 days prior to the first day of the event: \$100; and

7.2.1.3 After the first day of the event: \$200.



7.2.2 Events Between Middle/Junior and Senior High Schools. Independent middle schools and/or junior high schools shall not be permitted to enter teams into tournaments or meets in which senior high school teams participate.

7.2.3 Sub-Varsity Restrictions. No junior varsity, middle/junior high or other sub-varsity team may participate in a tournament involving a varsity team. Junior varsity, junior high and other sub-varsity tournaments, if held, must be held as separate events.

7.2.4 Preseason. A varsity team may participate in either a preseason jamboree or classic, but not both. Sub-varsity preseason jamborees and classics are prohibited.

7.3 Interstate Sanctions. A member school which hosts a multi-school athletic event in which an out-of-state school(s) is invited to participate may be required to submit to the NFHS an online application for "Sanction of Interstate Athletic Event" in addition to the FHSAA form entitled "Application for Approval of Athletic Event" (Forms AT2 or AT3). NFHS procedures regarding application for sanction of interstate athletic events are available at NFHS.org.

7.3.1 Non-NFHS Member Association and Affiliate Member Association Members. If the out-of-state school is not a member of an NFHS member association or an Affiliate NFHS member association, an AT2S or AT3S ("Application for Approval of Athletic Event-Supplement") Form must be submitted in addition to the FHSAA form AT2 or AT3 entitled "Application for Approval of Athletic Event".

7.4 International Sanctions. A member school which hosts any multi-school athletic event or single athletic contest involving a team from another country or affiliate member of the NFHS must submit to the FHSAA an AT2S or AT3S ("Application for Approval of Athletic Event-Supplement") Form, in addition:

7.4.1 NFHS Online Application. Member schools must submit an online NFHS application for "Sanction of International Event". NFHS procedures regarding application for sanction of international athletic events are available at NFHS.org.

7.4.1.1 Exception. Two (2) and three (3) school competitions with a school or schools from Canada or Mexico which are a member in good standing of associations that are members of NFHS or affiliate members of the NFHS and/or which necessitates a round trip of less than 600 miles are not required to submit the NFHS application.

7.5 Participation by Member School in Out-of-State Event or Contest. A member school which is invited to participate in a multi-team athletic event or single athletic contest which is to be conducted outside the neighboring states of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi is required to submit an AT16 form which must be submitted to the FHSAA Office within 60 days of travel. A member school is not required to submit an application for sanction for this event or contest to the FHSAA Office. Such application must be submitted by the host school through its state association to the National Federation of State High School Associations and approved by the FHSAA Office. No member school may participate in any event or contest in which any school that is not a member in good standing of associations that are members of NFHS or affiliate members of the NFHS and which regulates interscholastic athletic competition within its state is scheduled to participate. Out-of-state events which do not adhere to the FHSAA policy will not be approved by the FHSAA Office.

7.6 Participation in Unsanctioned Events or Contests. Member schools are prohibited from hosting or otherwise participating in multi-team athletic events or single athletic contests on an intrastate, interstate or international basis which are not sanctioned or approved by the FHSAA and the National Federation of State High School Associations.

7.7 Penalty for Violation of Sanction Policy. A minimum financial penalty of \$100 and probation, administrative and/or restrictive, will be assessed against any member school which violates any provision of this Sanction Policy.

7.8 Third Party Special Events. Member schools that enter into an agreement with a for profit third party entity (i.e. but not limited to, KSA Events, ESPN, Paragon Sports, etc.) who sponsors or organizes a game or tournament involving one or more FHSAA member schools must obtain permission to participate a minimum of 90 days prior to the event by filing a Form AT2 or AT3 along with the required supplemental form AT2S or AT3S. All such events hosted within the state of Florida must include the FHSAA as a party to the contract with the third party promoter and the administrative fee due to FHSAA shall be individually negotiated for each event with a minimum fee equivalent to 20% of gate receipts for non-televised events, or a minimum fee equivalent to 25% of gate receipts for televised events unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director. A member school who files a form AT2 or AT3 on behalf of a promoter is fully responsible for all financial obligations of the event in regard to payment to the FHSAA. This policy applies only to national promoters and does not apply to locally televised regular season events.



POLICY 8

MEMBER SCHOOL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

All member school principals must certify on the membership application that all of the coverage referenced below has been obtained, and must also provide a certificate of coverage from their insurance carrier or broker for the catastrophic accident medical, catastrophic disability and general liability coverage. The Board of Directors has established the following requirements with regard to insurance coverage for member schools:

8.1 Athletic Medical Base Plan. Up to \$25,000 limit is required for medical expenses for each participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged by the school. The member school principal will be allowed to accept certification from parents that the coverage is in place for the student-athlete on a family plan that meets this requirement. If the student-athlete is not covered under his/her parents' family plan, then the school must provide a plan for the student that will satisfy these requirements. The student may purchase this plan individually or the school may purchase a blanket plan for all members of its athletic teams. The principal must certify on the membership application that each student has the minimum coverage.

8.2 Athletic Catastrophic Accident Medical Plan. Minimum limits of \$1,000,000 is required for medical expenses for each participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged in by the school. This coverage is to be in excess of the athletics base plan medical policy limits or the policy can include the base plan medical coverage within the policy. The policy must provide no fault coverage.

8.3 Athletic Catastrophic Disability. Minimum limits of \$500,000 is required for total disability of any participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged in by the school. Structured pay-out benefits may vary. Coverage must also include some limited benefits for partial disability. The policy must provide no fault coverage.

8.4 General Liability. A general liability plan with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 is required.

8.5 FHSAA Additional Insured. The FHSAA shall be named as an additional insured under all of the above coverage. Member schools shall require the insurance companies to give the FHSAA thirty (30) days prior notice in the event of policy lapse, non-payment of premiums or non-renewal.

POLICY 9

FINANCES

9.1 Definitions

9.1.1 Gross Receipts. All revenue derived from gate receipts and entry fees charged in conjunction with an athletic event. Gross receipts do not include revenue derived from food and beverage concessions, souvenir merchandise sales (except as stipulated in Policy 42, Licensing and Royalties), parking fees, corporate support or other contributions, or any other form of revenue.

9.1.2 Gate Receipts. All revenue derived from the sale of all forms of tickets (including advanced, reserved, general admission, etc.), passes or other forms of special admissions (i.e. day passes, event passes, tournament, etc.), and any and all other forms of paid admission to an athletic event.

9.1.3 Entry Fees. All revenue derived from any fees or other charges paid by any school and/or individual to participate in an athletic event.

9.2 Membership Dues and Fees

9.2.1 Membership Dues.

9.2.1.1 Continuing Senior High School Members. Dues for the current school year are 55 cents per student in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades as reported by the school to the FHSAA Office the previous October. Minimum dues are \$330 and maximum dues are \$1,100. Dues will be billed on or before July 1. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by September 30. The Executive Director is authorized to reduce membership fees up to 50%.



9.2.1.2 First-Time Senior High School Members. Dues for the current school year are 55 cents per student in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades as reported by the school to the FHSAA Office the previous October. Minimum dues are \$330 and maximum dues are \$1,100. Dues will be billed after the Fall Student Population Report is received. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by January 31. The Executive Director is authorized to reduce membership fees for first time members by an amount equivalent to the application fee.

9.2.1.3 Continuing Middle/Junior High Schools. Dues for the current school year, regardless of school size are \$220. Dues will be billed on or before July 1. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by September 30. The Executive Director is authorized to reduce membership fees up to 50%.

9.2.1.4 First-Time Middle/Junior High Schools. Dues for the current school year, regardless of school size are \$220. Dues will be billed on or after the beginning of the school year. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by January 31. The Executive Director is authorized to reduce membership fees for first time members by an amount equivalent to the application fee.

9.2.2 Membership Fees.

9.2.2.1 Application Fee for First-Time Members. A school applying for first-time membership must pay a non-refundable \$150 application fee. The fee will be credited toward the school's first year membership dues if the school is admitted to membership.

9.2.2.2 Application Fee For Continuing Members. Application for continuation of membership is due in the FHSAA Office by April 30. A continuing member school will be assessed a \$50 late fee for applications received by the FHSAA after the deadline.

9.2.3 Re-admission of Former Member School. A former member school that applies for re-admission will be assessed an administrative fee of \$500 for high schools and \$150 for middle/junior high schools (this is in addition to the member application fee as per Bylaw 3.6.1.2).

9.3 Legal Fees

9.3.1 Senior High Schools (Full Members).

9.3.1.1 Renewing Members. The legal fee assessment for a senior high school renewing its full membership for the current school year shall be determined by taking the total legal expense incurred by the FHSAA during the previous school year, subtracting the total flat fee assessed junior high school and middle school members, and dividing the balance equally by the total number of senior high school members at the close of the previous school year. The total legal expense includes all attorney's fees, court costs, settlements and judgments.

9.3.1.2 New Members. A senior high school joining the Association effective with the current school year will not be assessed a legal fee in its initial year of membership.

9.3.2 Junior High Schools. The legal fee assessment for a renewing junior high school member shall be \$25.

9.3.3 Middle Schools. The legal fee assessment for a renewing middle school member shall be \$25.

9.4 Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Dues

Junior, middle and senior high schools which are full members of the FHSAA shall be required to hold membership in the Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (FIAAA). Annual dues are \$25 regardless of school size.

9.5 Administrative Fees:

9.5.1 A non-refundable administrative fee shall be assessed each school making an application on Form AT2 for approval in the following sports. Refer to Policy 7 for filing deadlines and late filing financial penalties. There are no financial reporting requirements for these events.

9.5.1.1 The administrative fee in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer and softball shall be as follows:

- (a) Preseason classic tournaments and jamborees: \$100; Preseason classics and jamborees exceeding four (4) teams are subject to additional fees of \$50 per team and conditional approval by the Executive Director;
- (b) Tournaments – 4 or fewer teams: \$100; 5 to 8 teams: \$250; 9 to 16 teams: \$500; 17 to 20 teams: \$750; 21 to 24 teams: \$1,000; 25 to 32 teams: \$1,500;
- (c) Tournaments exceeding 32 teams are subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director.

9.5.1.2 The administrative fee in the sport of girls volleyball and wrestling shall be as follows:

- (a) Preseason classic tournaments: \$75; Preseason classics and jamborees exceeding four (4) teams are subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director;
- (b) Tournaments – 8 or fewer teams: \$100; 9 to 16 teams: \$150; 17 to 32 teams: \$250;
- (c) Tournaments exceeding 32 teams are subject to additional fees of \$50 per team and conditional approval by the Executive Director and will be assessed \$250, plus an additional \$50 per team in excess of 32.



9.5.1.3 The administrative fee in the sports of boys weightlifting, track & field, cross country, swimming & diving shall be as follows:

- (a) Preseason classic tournaments: \$50; Preseason classics and jamborees exceeding four (4) teams are subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director;
- (b) Tournaments – up to 4 teams: Sanction approval is not necessary and there are no administrative fees; 16 or fewer teams: \$50; 17 to 32 teams: \$100; Tournaments exceeding 32 teams are subject to \$250 fee and conditional approval by the Executive Director. Any tournament held on a College or University Campus will be assessed a \$500 fee if public is admitted free and \$1,000 if tickets are sold.

9.5.1.4 There is no prior approval process or administrative fee or financial reporting requirements for school participation in multi-team events in the sports of tennis or golf or in the recognized sports (bowling, flag football, water polo, boys volleyball, lacrosse, and girls weightlifting). See Policy 9.9 for fees and reporting requirements for football classics and jamborees. See Policy 7 for deadlines for filing and late filing financial penalties. See Policy 9.9 for financial reporting requirements.

9.6 Admission to Special Events

9.6.1 Preseason and Post Season Jamborees, Classics, Tournaments and Meets. The admission price to preseason and post season Jamborees, Classics, Tournaments, Meets and Bowl Games in all sports shall be determined and stated within the contest contract by the host school.

9.7 Admission to State Series Events

The FHSAA reserves the right to establish ticket prices for all FHSAA State Series contests. The Executive Director reserves the right to increase the ticket price for any contest up to an additional \$3.00 per ticket for tickets purchased at the gate when pre-sale ticket sales have been made available for that contest. The Executive Director also reserves the right to establish premium seating ticket prices for an FHSAA State Series contest when the venue can provide for such seating, unless otherwise stipulated below. The following admission prices shall be charged by the host school/organization for all FHSAA State Series contests unless waived in writing by the Executive Director or his/her designee in advance of the event. In the event a waiver is granted to not charge for admission, a financial report must still be submitted and the Host is not eligible for loss reimbursement funding.

9.7.1 Baseball, Cross Country, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field, Girls and Boys Volleyball and Wrestling. The admission price to tournament sessions in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: district tournaments/meets, \$6; regional tournaments/meets, \$7; FHSAA Finals, general admission \$9.

9.7.2 Girls and Boys Basketball. The admission price to tournament sessions in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: district tournaments, \$6; regional tournaments, \$7; FHSAA Finals, general admission \$10, reserved seating \$15.

9.7.3 Football. The admission price to games in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: district tie-breakers, \$7; regional tournament games, \$8 general admission, \$9 reserved seating; state semifinal games, \$9 general admission, \$10 reserved seating; FHSAA Finals, general admission \$12, reserved seating \$17, premium seating packages \$27.

9.7.4 Girls Weightlifting and Boys Weightlifting. The admission price to meets in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: FHSAA Finals, \$9.

9.7.5 Bowling, Flag Football, Lacrosse and Water Polo. The admission price to tournament sessions in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: district tournaments/meets, \$6; regional tournaments/meets, \$7; FHSAA Finals, \$8.

9.7.6 Golf and Tennis. No admission shall be charged to FHSAA State Series events in these sports.

9.7.7 Cheerleading. The admission price to the FHSAA State Series meets shall be as follows: district meets \$5; regional level meets \$6; FHSAA Finals \$10.

9.8 Ticket Policy for State Series Events

9.8.1 Host school/organizations for all FHSAA State Series contests shall adhere to the following guidelines with regard to the sale of tickets at such contests:

9.8.1.1 Numbered tickets or arm bands shall be sold at each FHSAA State Series game, tournament or meet at which admission is required to be charged. Children age 3 and under may be admitted free of charge.

9.8.1.2 Each ticket must be torn in half by ticket-takers so that they cannot be resold. Torn tickets cannot be accepted for re-entry. Arm bands or hand stamps may be used for re-entry where monitored and permitted by the host. The host has the authority to enforce a no re-entry policy at their discretion.

9.8.1.3 All tickets sold must be accounted for on the financial report form.

9.8.1.4 Host school/organizations may sell pre-numbered arm bands in lieu of tickets provided the bands are applied to each person at the time of purchase and cannot be removed for resale.



9.8.1.5 Allocation of Tickets. The visiting school for a regional, quarterfinal, semifinal or final game may request from the host school up to 40 percent of the available tickets to be sold for the game. This request must be made by noon of the day following the previous round game. Any unsold tickets shall be returned to the host school not later than noon on the day of the game.

9.9 Special Events Financial Reporting and Revenue Sharing

9.9.1 Football Preseason and Spring Jamborees. A financial fee of \$150 per Spring Jamboree and \$450 for Fall Jamboree must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event.

9.9.2 Preseason and Spring Classics. The FHSAA will not require a financial report following the event or receive any percentage of the gross receipts from preseason classic tournaments in any sports other than football. Refer to Policy 7.8 if the event involves a Third Party promoter. Flat rate administrative fees may be required on sports other than football (refer to policy 9.5). In the sport of football only, the FHSAA shall receive 20 percent of the gross receipts of all football classic games or a flat fee as listed below, whichever is less:

Classification	Fall Classic Fee	Spring Classic Fee
8A, 7A, 6A, 5A	\$1,150	\$600
4A,3A,1A	\$ 750	\$350
2A, Independent	\$ 450	\$200

The visiting school shall receive 35 percent of the net profit after the host pays expenses, including the FHSAA share, unless a mutual agreement is reached for an alternative split prior to the event. Financial Report Form FB4 must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, \$50; 61 to 90 days late, \$75; beyond 90 days late, \$100.

9.9.3 Postseason Football Bowl Games. The FHSAA shall receive eight (8) percent of the gross receipts of all postseason football bowl games. Refer to Policy 7.8 if the event involves a Third Party promoter. The balance of gross receipts shall be divided between the participating schools in accordance with the agreement between them. Financial Report Form FB3 must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, \$50; 61 to 90 days late, \$75; beyond 90 days late, \$100.

9.10 State Series Games, Tournaments & Meets Financial Reporting and Revenue Sharing

9.10.1 Football. Each district tie-breaker, regional tournament game and state semifinal game shall be financially independent. The total gate receipts of each district tie-breaker, regional tournament game and state semifinal game shall be divided as follows: FHSAA shall receive 25 percent of gate receipts or the total net profit after host expenses, whichever is less. The amounts remaining after host expenses and FHSAA share are paid shall be divided 55 percent to the host school and 45 percent to the visiting school(s). If, however, a district tie-breaker, regional tournament game or state semifinal game shows a net profit of \$250 or less, the host school shall retain the net profit and no percentage shall be paid to the visiting school(s) or the FHSAA. In the event the host school reports a net profit of \$250 or less, the host school must provide supporting documentation for all expenses claimed. The net profit is determined by subtracting total expenditures from the total gate receipts on the financial report form. If a district tie-breaker, regional tournament game or state semifinal game shows a net loss on the financial report form, the FHSAA shall compensate the host school up to \$350 for the loss, subject to the provisions of 9.10.5. Financial Report Form FB5 for district tie-breakers, regional and state semifinals must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, \$50; 61 to 90 days late, \$75; beyond 90 days late, \$100.

9.10.2 Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Girls Volleyball. Each district tournament and regional tournament contest shall be financially independent. The total gate receipts of each district tournament and each regional tournament contest shall be divided as follows: FHSAA shall receive 15 percent of gate receipts or the total net profit after host expenses, whichever is less. The amounts remaining after host expenses and FHSAA share are paid shall be divided 55 percent to the host school and 45 percent to the visiting school(s). If, however, a district tournament or regional tournament contest shows a net profit of \$250 or less, the host school shall retain the net profit and no percentage shall be paid to the visiting school(s) or the FHSAA. The net profit is determined by subtracting total expenditures from the total gate receipts on the financial report form. If a district tournament or regional tournament contest shows a net loss on the financial report form, the FHSAA shall compensate the host school up to \$350 for the loss, subject to the provisions of 9.10.5. Financial Report Form FN2 for district and regional tournaments must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, \$50; 61 to 90 days late, \$75; beyond 90 days late, \$100.

9.10.3 Bowling, Cross Country, Flag Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, Boys Volleyball, Water Polo, Weightlifting and Wrestling. The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from district tournaments or meets or FHSAA Finals first- and second-round play-in games. Host schools of district tournaments or FHSAA Finals play-in games in these sports do not need to file a financial report.



9.10.4 Net Loss Reimbursement. To be eligible to receive the \$350 maximum compensation for a net loss shown on the financial report forms FB5 and FN2, a host school must:

- 9.10.4.1 Charge the full admission price established in Policy 9.7;
- 9.10.4.2 Sell numbered tickets and account for all tickets sold as stipulated in Policy 9.8;
- 9.10.4.3 File a financial report form for the game, tournament or meet as stipulated in Policy 9.10;
- 9.10.4.4 Submit with the financial report form the FHSAA State Series Contest Pass Gate Sign-In Form(s) as stipulated in Administrative Procedure 3.11;
- 9.10.4.5 Provide supporting documentation for all expenses reported; and
- 9.10.4.6 Be in compliance with all policies for the event.

9.10.5 Hosting a State Series Tournament at Multiple Sites. Regardless of number of sites required to play a District or Regional State Series Tournament, there shall be one recognized host school that is responsible for filing the FN2 financial report along with FHSAA payment. Only one report shall be submitted for the sum total of all satellite sites that comprise a District or Regional Tournament. All games or matches played in a tournament are combined into one report for determining the share to be paid to the FHSAA and for purposes of determining a profit or loss. The overall profit or loss is determined by combining ticket revenues from all locations and deducting qualifying expenses from all locations. District Planning meetings should determine how satellite sites will report to the District Host and how the District Host should distribute overall profits or loss. In Regional Tournaments and in the absence of District Planning Meeting guidance on how to split profits and losses, the Host School is fiscally responsible for all losses at the satellite site(s) and must redistribute profits as stated in policy 9.10.2 and 9.10.3.

9.10.6 Entry Fees for State Series. Entry fees may only be charged to participating teams in a State Series event in the following situations:

- (a) Cross Country event held on property that does not permit ticket sales. Fees may be assessed to cover reasonable costs of the event
- (b) Tennis and Golf event where fees are assessed to share reasonable costs of the event with the host
- (c) Swimming & Diving events where host incurs a pool rental fee and splits the cost of the rental with participating schools (see policy 14 for maximum rental fees)
- (d) Sharing shortfalls on a District State Series event after FHSAA loss reimbursement, when authorized by the District Planning Meeting
- (e) Upon prior written permission from the Executive Director or his/her designee

9.10.7 State Series Awards

- (a) In the sport of football, the FHSAA will provide District Championship trophies at no cost to the District Host. Football Regional Championship trophies may be purchased by the Host from the FHSAA authorized award vendor and reported as an expense on the FB5 financial form.
- (b) In the sports of Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Girls Volleyball, the Host may elect to purchase District Championship trophies, and if so, must purchase these from the FHSAA authorized award vendor and report the expense on the FN2 financial report for the event.
- (c) In all sports, other than football, Regional Championship trophies may be purchased by the Champion school from the FHSAA authorized award vendor after the event. The cost of Regional Championship trophies may not be claimed by the Host as an expense on the FN2 form.

9.11 Compensation to Schools Participating in FHSAA Finals State Championship Events

9.11.1 Football. When net profits after expenses allow, the FHSAA shall pay to each school an amount based upon its mileage from the site of the FHSAA Finals as follows: \$4,250 plus \$5 per mile. Neither the FHSAA nor the host organization shall assume responsibility for any other team expenses of any kind except for those expenses specified above. When net profits after expenses do not allow for the payment of this schedule, participating teams shall divide 100 percent of the net profit based on their pro-rata share of the formula. In such cases, the FHSAA will not retain any share of the net profit. At no time shall participating schools be paid reimbursement for expenses when the FHSAA Finals do not show a net profit after expenses.

9.11.2 Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Girls Volleyball. When net profits after expenses allow, the FHSAA shall pay to each school an amount as follows: \$2,000 plus \$2.50 per mile. Neither the FHSAA nor the host organization shall assume responsibility for any other team expenses of any kind except for those expenses specified above. When net profits after expenses do not allow for the payment of this schedule, participating teams shall divide 100 percent of the net profit based on their pro-rata share. In such cases, the FHSAA will not retain any share of the net profit. At no time shall participating schools be paid reimbursement for expenses when the FHSAA Finals do not show a net profit after expenses.



9.11.3 Cross Country, Golf, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Bowling, Flag Football, Lacrosse, Boys Volleyball and Water Polo. No reimbursement of any kind shall be paid to schools which qualify teams and/or individual contestants to the FHSAA Finals. Neither the FHSAA nor the host school or organization shall assume responsibility for any participating school or individual contestant expenses of any kind.

9.12 Athletic Events Not Held Due to Unusual Circumstances, Including Inclement Weather

9.12.1 If severe weather occurs in the area prior to the start of, or during, any scheduled outdoor game, tournament or meet and the event is delayed, postponed, suspended or canceled, special rules apply. If for other unforeseen reasons, a game, tournament or meet is delayed, postponed, suspended or canceled, special rules apply.

9.12.2 If tickets have been sold for the event and any revenue related to the event is retained by the school, then the regular financial reporting process must be completed with payments to the FHSAA and to the participating school(s). If free entry is given for a future event, the revenue received and retained should be reported for the event. If money is refunded and not retained, then it should not be included as revenue reported for the event. If tickets were presold for the event and the event was canceled before it was to begin, then the revenue received and retained (not refunded) from the presold tickets should be reported on the financial report.

9.12.3 If a financial hardship results from the inclement weather and the related loss of playing time, the host school should submit a written request for waiver of financial share payments. Requests should be submitted to the Executive Director or his/her designee. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

9.13 Invoices Charged to Member Schools' Accounts

9.13.1 Invoices. Invoices charged to the school's account with the FHSAA are due and payable within 30 days of the invoice date. The only exception to this rule is the annual membership dues invoice payment that must be postmarked no later than September 30 of each year.

9.13.2 Waiver of Monetary Penalties. Request for waiver of a monetary penalty must be received in the FHSAA Office no later than 30 days from the date of the invoice. Request for a waiver of a monetary penalty must be submitted, in writing, to the FHSAA Office, along with any related documentation supporting the request. The FHSAA Office will notify the school of the decision on the waiver request. The school's account will be adjusted if the waiver is approved. If a school receives a waiver on a monetary penalty that previously has been paid, a reimbursement will be sent to the school.

POLICY 10

STATE SERIES

10.1 Participation in State Series

10.1.1 Participation is Voluntary. Participation in the FHSAA State Series in each sport by a school is voluntary and is limited to varsity participation only. It, however, is the preference of the Board of Directors that every eligible school that can and should participate, do so.

A school for legitimate reasons may exercise the option of independence. Such reasons include, but are not limited to: a newly opening school; a school that has consistently been unable to compete in the classification to which it is assigned; a school that is geographically isolated and chooses not to participate for financial reasons; a school whose educational philosophies prohibit such extended athletic participation; or a school that does not or cannot compete for religious reasons. The option of independence is not intended for use by one or more schools organizing in protest of the Association's policies and/or to establish a postseason championship competition separate from the FHSAA state championship series.

To this end, any such effort by a group of member schools to declare independence in a sport and organize a conference or league with the intent of conducting any form of playoff to determine a champion(s) after the conclusion of FHSAA-approved regular season competition is prohibited unless approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors.

All competitions to determine a champion(s) that are conducted by conferences or leagues whose members also are members of the FHSAA must be conducted as part of the FHSAA-approved regular season.

10.1.2 Participation is for Full Member Senior High Schools. Participation in the FHSAA State Series is limited to varsity participation and only to those full member senior high schools that are members of the Association. Compensation for expenses of schools competing in a State Series is not guaranteed.



10.2 Team Participation

10.2.1 Eligibility for Participation. To be eligible for participation in the FHSAA State Series in any sport:

- (a) For team a sport, a school successfully sponsors a varsity program in the previous school year (i.e. schedules and completes a minimum of four contests).
- (b) The school files a commitment (team sports) or intent (individual sports) to participate in the state series with FHSAA by the specified deadline.
- (c) A varsity team shall engage in a minimum of four (4) interscholastic contests (games, matches or meets) or the required number of district contests as determined in the district meeting, whichever is greater, in the sport. To count as a contest, the school's team actually shall participate in and complete the contest. Scheduled contests that are canceled or not completed (in accordance with the playing rules of the sport in question) may not be counted.
- (d) A varsity team must play not less than 60 percent of its regular season contests in the sport against FHSAA member schools.
- (e) A varsity team must not take more than one trip per school year in the sport beyond the neighboring states of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi.

10.2.2 Only One Varsity Team May Enter. A school may enter only one varsity team in the FHSAA State Series in a sport.

10.2.3 First Time Members Not Eligible. A first-time member senior high school shall not be eligible to enter a team into the FHSAA State Series in any sport in its two years of provisional membership, unless the school is created from the consolidation or division of existing member high schools and remains under the control of the same governing board.

10.2.4 Continuing Members Starting a New Program. A continuing member senior high school that is starting a program in a team sport for the first time, or resuming a program in a team sport that was previously discontinued, shall not be eligible to enter a team into the FHSAA State Series in that sport until the school has fielded a team in that sport and participated in a representative schedule against other member schools for a minimum of one school year. A representative schedule in a sport is defined in 10.2.1.

10.3 Individual Participation

10.3.1 Minimum 4 Contest Requirement. To be eligible for participation in the FHSAA State Series in a sport, an individual student-athlete shall participate in a minimum of four (4) interscholastic contests in that sport for the current season, unless a written request for a waiver is approved by the Executive Director or his/her designee. A student-athlete who is academically ineligible at the beginning of a sports season and who regains his/her eligibility during that sports season, but is unable to participate in the minimum of four (4) interscholastic contests in that sport, shall be exempted from this provision.

10.3.2 Individual Honors Requirements. In an individual sport, to be eligible for individual honors on the regional and state levels, a student-athlete shall compete for individual honors on the district level. To be eligible for individual honors on the state level, a student-athlete shall compete for individual honors on the district and regional levels.

10.4 Mixed Gender Restrictions. Boys may not participate on a girls team or in the girls division in the FHSAA State Series in any sport. In a team sport, a girl may participate on a boys team in the FHSAA State Series only if the school does not sponsor a girls team in that sport. In an individual sport, a girl may not participate in the boys division in the FHSAA State Series if competition is conducted in a girls division in that sport. However, for a girl to participate in the girls division of the state series in a sport, the school must file a "Declaration of Intent to Participate in FHSAA State Series" form in that sport.

10.5 Commitment to Participate Form for Team Sports

10.5.1 Commitment Form. Each member school that elects to participate in a State Series competition in a team sport must notify the FHSAA Office of its intent to do so on the "Commitment to Participate in FHSAA State Series" form. The FHSAA issues commitment forms on a biennial basis. A commitment made using this form is for the following two school years.

10.5.2 Signatures Required. A commitment form, to be valid, must bear the signature of the member school principal and athletic director or FHSAA Representative.

10.5.3 Binding Agreement. A properly executed commitment form is a binding agreement between the member school and the Association. A school that elects to withdraw from its commitment in a team sport shall notify the FHSAA Office of its decision using the form provided for that purpose. Upon approval of the FHSAA Office, the school shall be assessed a \$250 administrative fee. If, however, the school fails to notify in writing, and secure the approval of, the FHSAA Office of its decision to withdraw from its commitment in a sport prior to the deadline for filing the Official Entry List in the sport, that school shall be assessed an additional \$250 monetary penalty (\$500 total) and its program in that sport placed on administrative probation.

10.5.4 Failure to Commit before Deadline. A school that does not commit to participate in the FHSAA State Series in a team sport by the commitment deadline, and later submits a request in writing to the FHSAA Office to participate to the FHSAA Office in that sport shall be assigned to the appropriate classification and district and shall be assessed a mandatory, non-refundable \$100 administrative fee. It shall be the responsibility of the school to schedule the necessary contest(s) with every other school in



the district to which it is assigned. If, however, the school is unable to secure the necessary contest(s) with every other school in the district, the school shall not be eligible to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport.

No school, however, under any circumstance, shall be assigned to a classification and district in the FHSAA State Series in a team sport if its request for such assignment is received in the FHSAA Office on or after the date of the district tournament planning/scheduling meeting.

10.5.5 Commitment Agreement. By committing to participate in an FHSAA State Series, a member school agrees to participate in accordance with and abide by all the procedures, guidelines, policies and regulations for that FHSAA State Series as approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors in accordance with the Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

10.6 Notice of Intent to Participate Form for Individual Sports

10.6.1 Commitment Form. Each member school that elects to participate in a State Series competition in an individual sport must notify the FHSAA Office of its intent to do so on the “Declaration of Intent to Participate in FHSAA State Series” form. The FHSAA issues intent forms on a biennial basis. A commitment made using this form is for the following two school years.

10.6.2 Signatures Required. An intent form, to be valid, must bear the signature of the member school principal and athletic director or FHSAA Representative.

10.6.3 Non-Binding Agreement. A properly executed intent form is non-binding on the member school. A school that elects to withdraw from its intent to participate in an individual sport may do so without penalty, prior to the beginning of the fifth (5th) week of competition in the sport, by notifying the FHSAA Office of its decision using the form provided for that purpose. If, however, the school fails to notify in writing the FHSAA Office of its decision to withdraw from its intent to participate in an individual sport prior to the beginning of the fifth (5th) week of competition, that school shall be assessed a \$250 monetary penalty and its program in that sport placed on administrative probation.

10.6.4 Failure to Declare Intention before Deadline. A school that does not file notice of its intent to participate in the FHSAA State Series in an individual sport by the deadline, and later submits a request in writing to the FHSAA Office to participate in that sport shall be assigned to the appropriate classification and district and shall be assessed a mandatory, non-refundable \$100 administrative fee.

No school, however, under any circumstance, shall be assigned to a classification and district in the FHSAA State Series in an individual sport if its request for such assignment is received in the FHSAA Office on or after the deadline for filing the Official Entry List in that sport.

10.6.5 Intention Agreement. By filing notice of intent to participate in an FHSAA State Series, a member school agrees to participate in accordance with and abide by all the procedures, guidelines, policies and regulations for that FHSAA State Series as approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors in accordance with the Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

10.7 Failure to Appear

10.7.1 Team Failure to Appear. In the event a team fails to appear at the state series event site to play at the scheduled time for its contest, the contest shall be declared forfeited to the team’s opponent, and that team shall advance to the next round. In this event, the FHSAA Office must be notified immediately. If a team’s arrival is delayed due to mechanical problems or inclement weather, every reasonable effort must be made by the local manager in consultation with the FHSAA Office to make adjustments, if possible, in the starting time of the contest to accommodate the absent team. Otherwise, failure to appear shall subject the school to a \$250 monetary penalty.

10.7.2 Student Athlete Failure to Appear. A student-athlete who qualifies in a state series meet as an individual is expected to compete on successive levels of the state series unless ill, injured, suspended due to disciplinary action, or for any other reason acceptable to the Executive Director. If the student-athlete does not compete on a successive level, the student-athlete will not be permitted to compete in any other event in the State Series in that sport. Personnel on relay teams may be changed in accordance with the rules governing those sports. A school must submit in writing to the FHSAA Office the name of the student-athlete and an explanation for the inability to compete in advance of the competition whenever situations make it possible to do so. Failure to participate in the district/regional meet by an individual or relay team is a violation of FHSAA policy and shall subject the school to a \$50 penalty unless the reason for failure to participate is approved by the FHSAA Office.

10.8 Neutrality

10.8.1 Neutrality. It is the responsibility of the host school to ensure that an atmosphere of neutrality is maintained in all state series events. Such events are not “home contests” for the host schools. Special festivities held as part of, or in conjunction with, regular season home contests (i.e., pregame activities designed to rally support for the home team, such as light shows, or giving special recognition to members of the home team) are not permitted during the state series.



10.9 Allegations and Protests

10.9.1 Allegations and Protests. Allegation and/or protesting actions of another school received less than forty-five (45) days prior to the beginning of state series competition in a sport may not be concluded prior to the conclusion of the sport's championship series (corresponding with Bylaw 10.3).

10.9.2 Withholding Information. Member schools (or persons defined in Bylaw 1.4.18) who intentionally withhold information impacting state series participation shall be considered unethical and unsportsmanlike and addressed in accordance with Policy 44.

POLICY 11

OFFICIAL STATE ENTRY LIST (SEL)

The following policy shall govern Official State Entry Lists (SEL) for the FHSAA State Series:

11.1 Submission Required. Each member school that commits to and qualifies to participate in State Series competition in a sport must generate and submit to the tournament/meet manager (regional opponent in football) an Official State Entry List (SEL) utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director. The tournament/meet manager (regional opponent in football) will receive the SEL via e-mail and may also download the SEL utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director. The SEL must contain the names of those student-athletes who will represent the member school in State Series competition in that sport. All student-athletes must be eligible in accordance with all FHSAA rules and regulations in order to be placed on a team roster and the SEL. Permitting a student-athlete to compete in an FHSAA State Series contest who was not submitted to the FHSAA Office on the SEL for that sport will be subject to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$50.

11.2 Requirements. The SEL must contain only the names of those student-athletes who have been previously reported to the FHSAA Office on an Annual Eligibility List electronically by use of utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director. Only those student-athletes who meet the requirements of Bylaw 9 for a school prior to the following:

11.2.1 Team Sports. The last permissible date for a district contest in team sports (i.e. baseball, basketball, flag football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball and water polo); or

11.2.2 Competitive Cheerleading and Football. As specified on the FHSAA Website for competitive cheerleading and football; or

11.2.3 Individual Sports. The Saturday that is immediately prior to the Monday on which the SEL is due in individual sports (i.e. bowling, cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, weightlifting, wrestling).

11.3 Number of Participants. The number of student-athletes whose names may be placed on an SEL in a given sport by a member school shall be limited to the following:

- (a) Baseball and Softball – twenty (20) student-athletes;
- (b) Basketball, Cross Country and Volleyball – fifteen (15) student-athletes;
- (c) Bowling – Eight (8) student-athletes;
- (d) Competitive Cheerleading, Flag Football, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field and Wrestling – no limit;
- (e) Football – sixty (60) student-athletes;
- (f) Golf – ten (10) student-athletes, of which any five (5) may participate on a given level of the State Series;
- (g) Lacrosse – twenty-five (25) student-athletes;
- (h) Soccer – twenty-two (22) student-athletes;
- (i) Tennis – twelve (12) student-athletes;
- (j) Water Polo – eighteen (18) student-athletes;
- (k) Weightlifting – three (3) student-athletes in each weight class;

The terms and conditions governing the state championship series in each respective sport shall stipulate the number of student-athletes who may actually dress in uniform/participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) in a state series contest.

11.4 Authorization Required. To be valid, the SEL must be authorized by the principal and the FHSAA representative or the athletic director.



11.5 Additional Administrative Fees. To avoid additional administrative fees, the SEL must be submitted utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director not later than 5 p.m. local time on the Monday of the week immediately prior to the week during which the tournament/meet is to be held (except football). In the sport of football, the SEL must be submitted utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director not later than 5 p.m. on the Wednesday of the week of the eleventh (11th) football playing date. Schools involved in District Tiebreaker contests must submit a SEL to all tiebreaker participants by 12:00 noon on the day of the tiebreaker contest. A late filing administrative fee of \$50 will be assessed a member school that does not submit its SEL by this deadline. The late filing administrative fee will increase to \$100 if the SEL is not submitted utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director by 5 p.m. local time on the Friday of the week immediately prior to the week during which the tournament/meet is to be held (in the sport of football, Wednesday of the week of the 1st round of regional play-off contests). A school that fails to submit its SEL utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director prior to the scheduled starting time of the first competition (i.e. game, match or event) in the tournament/meet (regional contest in the sport of football) that directly involves the school's team or individual representative may be permitted to participate in competition only with the approval of the FHSAA Office. The school, however, will be assessed a minimum administrative fee of \$250. Under no circumstances shall the manager of a tournament/meet (regional contest in the sport of football) permit a team for which he/she has no SEL to participate in the tournament/meet (regional contest in the sport of football) without the approval of the FHSAA Office.

11.6 Changes. A member school may add previously unlisted student-athletes to, or change or replace existing student-athletes on its SEL according to the following procedure:

11.6.1 Resubmission. Resubmission to the tournament/meet manager (regional opponent in football) utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director is required after any change is made.

11.6.2 Team Sports. For team sports, except football (i.e. baseball, basketball, competitive cheerleading, flag football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball and water polo), the addition or change must be submitted to the tournament/meet manager utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director prior to the scheduled starting time of the school's contest in the district, regional or state tournament. No change may be made to an SEL for a contest once that contest begins. Changes in football must be submitted to the regional opponent utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director prior to the scheduled starting time of the school's game in a regional contest, state semi-final contest or state final contest.

11.6.3 Individual Sports. For individual sports (i.e. bowling, cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, weightlifting, wrestling), the addition or change must be submitted to the tournament/meet manager utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director prior to the time agreed to in the tournament/meet planning meeting for submitting to the tournament/meet manager the times, marks, records, etc. for the seeding of individual competitors into flights, heats, matches, etc. No change may be made to an SEL after this deadline, with the exception of swimming & diving and track & field in which changes may be made only for members of relay teams that qualify from the district meets to the regional/state meets and from the regional meets to the state meets.

11.6.4 Submission of a Change. The principal or the FHSAA representative or the athletic director must resubmit the SEL with the by the same process as submitting the original SEL. The principal, FHSAA representative, or athletic director must authorize the change and provide a reason why the student was added or removed after the deadline. Changes made prior to the SEL Deadline will not incur a fee.

11.6.5 Administrative Fee. The member school will be assessed an administrative fee of \$50 for each addition or change made to its SEL after the filing deadline. This penalty will increase if it is later determined that the student-athlete(s) added to the school's SEL was ineligible. This fee will be waived for changes due to academic eligibility changes from the first semester to the second semester (see Bylaw 9.4.6).

POLICY 12

CLASSIFICATION

12.1 General

12.1.1 Membership Classification. Membership classifications will be applied for administrative and FHSAA State Series purposes. A member school may not participate in a classification above or below that to which it is assigned on the basis of its student population, except as provided herein.

12.1.2 Senior High Only. Only senior high schools and combination schools with senior high school grade levels (i.e. grades 9, 10, 11, and/or 12) shall be classified.

12.1.3 Classification Term. Schools shall be classified on a biennial basis for the following two school years. The current classification term is for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years.



12.1.4 Each Sport Classified. Each sport shall be classified according to the guidelines and criteria herein.

12.2 Classification Criteria

12.2.1 Existing Member Schools. An existing full member senior high school shall be classified on the basis of the school's standard and non-standard student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades combined as reported during the week in October designated by the Florida Department of Education for the fall semester FTE survey of public schools. Each member school shall be responsible for reporting to the FHSAA its student population as required. The FHSAA may spot-check and/or audit the student population report submitted by any member school. Student populations for schools that enroll girls only or boys only (i.e. one gender comprises greater than 90 percent of the student body) shall be doubled for classification purposes.

12.2.1.1 Traditional Students. Traditional students are students that are enrolled in and physically attend the school at which they participate.

12.2.1.1.1 Exceptions.

- (a) Dual Enrolled and Early Admission student as per Bylaw 9.2.2.3
- (b) Youth Exchange and International students are classified as Non-traditional students due to the need of being approved on an annual basis as per Policy 17

12.2.1.2 Non-Traditional Students. Non-traditional Students are students that are not enrolled in and physically attend the school at which they participate, including, but not limited to; Home Education Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.1 and, Charter School Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.2, Special School Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.4 and Non-Member Private School Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.5 and FLVS-FT Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.6.

12.2.1.2.1.1 Exception. Youth Exchange and International students are classified as Non-traditional students due to the need of being approved on an annual basis as per Policy 17.

12.2.1.3 Population Count of Non-traditional Students. The count of non-traditional students, with the exception of Foreign Exchange and International Student, will be the average of the number of students in each category for each of the previous number of years as the number of years in the classification term as defined in 12.1.3.

12.2.2 New Member Schools. A senior high school applying for new full membership in the Association shall be classified in its initial year of membership on the basis of the school's student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades combined at the conclusion of the previous school year as reported to the FHSAA on the school's application for membership.

12.2.3 New Schools. A newly opening senior high school applying for new full membership in the Association shall be classified in its initial year of membership on the basis of the school's projected student population in the grades with which the school will open. This projected student population must be submitted by the district superintendent for a public school or the senior administrator for a private school, and must be certified with their respective signatures. If the actual student population reported for the school in October of the school year would place it into a classification lower than that of its projected student population, the school shall be required to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the higher classification. If, however, the school's actual student population would place it into a classification higher than that of its projected student population, the school shall not be eligible to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the lower classification. An error margin of 10 percent will be allowed for discrepancies between the projected student population and actual student population of a school that is so classified. If the school's actual student population is greater than 10 percent of its projected student population, the school shall immediately be reclassified on the basis of its actual student population.

12.2.4 Significant Increase or Decrease in Student Population. An existing full member senior high school that expects to incur a significant increase or decrease in student population the following school year due to the opening of a new school or to the redrawing of attendance zone boundaries by the district school board may request to be classified on the basis of the school's projected student population for the following school year rather than the school's actual student population reported in the current school year. This projected student population must be submitted by the district superintendent for a public school or the senior administrator for a private school, and must be certified with their respective signatures. If a school requesting to be classified on such a projection reports an actual student population in October of the following school year that would place it into a classification lower than that of its projected student population, the school shall be required to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the higher classification. If, however, the school's actual student population would place it into a classification higher than that of its projected student population, the school shall not be eligible to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the lower classification.

12.2.5 Missing Grade Levels. In the event an existing member senior high school does not have each of the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades, its student population for classification purposes shall be adjusted as follows:

12.2.5.1 For a three-year senior high school (grades 10, 11 and 12 only) that does not have a 9th grade, the percentage of the total membership's student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades that is constituted by the 9th grade shall be added to the school's student population in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades.

12.2.5.2 For a senior high school in its initial year of existence that opens with the 9th, 10th and 11th grades only or in its second or third year of existence with the 9th, 10th and 11th grades only, the percentage of the total membership's student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades that is constituted by the 12th grade shall be added to the school's student population in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades.



12.2.5.3 For a senior high school in its initial year of existence that opens with the 9th and 10th grades only, the percentage of the total membership's student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades that is constituted by the 11th and 12th grades shall be added to the school's student population in the 9th and 10th grades.

12.2.5.4 For a senior high school in its initial year of existence that opens with a 9th grade only, the percentage of the total membership's student population in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades that is constituted by the 10th and 11th grades shall be added to the school's student population in the 9th grade.

12.2.6 **Executive Director Powers.** The Executive Director, at his/her discretion, may administratively assign a school to the next classification lower than the classification to which it would otherwise be assigned if the school is geographically isolated from other schools in the classification to which it would be assigned and the school has a student population that is within 10 percent of the dividing line between the classification to which it would be assigned and the next lower classification.

12.2.7 **Geographically Isolated Schools.** A school that is geographically isolated from other schools in the classification to which it is assigned may submit in writing to the Executive Director a request that it be administratively reassigned to the next higher classification. The Executive Director may honor such a request if, in his/her opinion, there are other schools in the higher classification that are in closer geographic proximity to the school submitting the request for reassignment.

12.2.8 Re-Classification. A school may be reassigned in classification for the subsequent year(s) of the classification term under the following circumstances:

12.2.8.1 A school that reports in the subsequent year(s) of the classification term an increase in student population that equals or exceeds 20 percent of the student population number that was used to assign the school to its current classification shall be reassigned to a higher classification if:

- (a) the higher student population would place the school into a higher classification; and
- (b) every other school in the current classification that has not experienced an equal or greater percentage increase in student population has a student population that is less than the higher student population of the school in question.

12.2.8.2 A school that will experience an increase in student population in the subsequent year(s) of the classification term due to the addition of one or more grades shall be assigned to a higher classification if:

- (a) the higher student population computed in accordance with this policy would place the school into a higher classification; and
- (b) every other school in the current classification that is not similarly adding one or more grades has a student population that is less than that of the school in question.

12.2.8.3 A school that reports in the subsequent year(s) of the classification term a decrease in student population that equals or exceeds 20 percent of the student population number that was used to assign the school to its current classification shall be reassigned to a lower classification if:

- (a) the lower student population would place the school into a lower classification; and
- (b) every other school in the current classification that has not experienced an equal or greater percentage decrease in student population has a student population that is more than the lower student population of the school in question.

12.2.8.4 A school that will experience a decrease in student population in the subsequent year(s) of the classification term due to the opening of a new school or the redrawing of school attendance boundaries shall be assigned to a lower classification if:

- (a) the lower student population projected by the district school board office would place the school into a lower classification; and
- (b) every other school in the current classification that is not similarly decreasing in student population because of these reasons has a student population that is more than that of the school in question.

12.3 Football

12.3.1 Number of Classifications. The FHSAA State Football Series for the **current classification term** shall be conducted in eight (8) classifications. The eight classifications are 8A, 7A, 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A.

12.3.2 Division of Classifications.

12.3.2.1 The total number of existing member schools that committed to participate in the FHSAA State Football Series for the **current classification term** shall be ranked in descending order of student population and divided into eight basic classifications (8A, 7A, 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A). The highest two-thirds of schools, by student population, will be as evenly divided as possible into the top four classifications (8A, 7A, 6A and 5A) and the remaining one-third of schools, by student population, will be as evenly divided as possible into the bottom four classifications (4A, 3A, 2A and 1A). Schools located in geographic areas that are eligible as determined by Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI), population density by zip code and median family income by zip code and have an enrollment up to 600 students may be placed in 1A. The student population of the smallest school in each classification shall form the dividing line between that classification and the next lowest classification. Schools that have the same student population as a school whose student population forms the dividing line between classifications shall be placed with that school into the higher



classification. The requisite number of schools then shall be assigned to each successive classification. Once the dividing lines between classifications for a classification term are determined, they shall not be changed during that classification term.

12.3.2.2 The dividing lines between the classifications are listed under “Assignments” on the football sport page on the FHSAA Website.

12.3.2.3 A new member school that requests to participate in the FHSAA State Football Series at the time of joining, and is eligible to do so, shall be assigned to the appropriate classification according to its student population or projected student population beginning with the next two-year scheduling cycle.

12.3.3 Assignment to Districts. Schools in each classification shall be assigned to districts on a geographic basis with an effort to balance the number of schools in the districts when possible. The larger four classifications shall be divided into sixteen (16) districts with the top two teams advancing to the regional complex. Schools in the smaller four classifications shall be divided into eight (8) districts with the top two teams advancing to the regional complex.

12.4 Baseball, Girls & Boys Basketball, Softball, Girls Volleyball

12.4.1 Number of Classifications. The FHSAA State Series in the sports of baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, softball and girls volleyball for the current classification term shall be conducted in eight (8) classifications. The eight classifications are 8A, 7A, 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A.

12.4.2 Division of Classifications.

12.4.2.1 The total number of existing member senior high schools which commit to participate in boys basketball (which is the team sport with the most participation) shall be ranked in order of student population and shall be assigned to basic classifications as follows: schools shall be ranked in order of student population and divided into eight basic classifications (8A, 7A, 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A, and 1A). Schools located in geographic areas that are eligible as determined by Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI), population density by zip code and median family income by zip code and have an enrollment up to 600 students may be placed in 1A. The remaining schools shall be evenly distributed among the basic classifications beginning with the lowest classification and working up. The student population of the smallest school assigned to each classification shall form the dividing line between that classification and the next lowest classification. Schools that have the same student population as a school whose student population forms the dividing line between classifications shall be placed with that school into the higher classification. The requisite number of schools then shall be assigned to each successive classification. Once the dividing lines between classifications for a term are determined, they shall not be changed during that classification term.

12.4.2.2 The dividing lines between the basic classifications are listed under “Assignments” on each sport page on the FHSAA Website.

12.4.2.3 A new member school that requests to participate in the FHSAA State Series in the sports of baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, softball and girls volleyball at the time of joining, and is eligible to do so, shall be assigned to the appropriate classification according to its student population or projected student population.

12.4.3 Assignment to Districts. Schools in each classification – regardless of the sports in which they sponsor programs – shall be assigned to basic districts on a geographic basis. The actual competitive districts in each sport then shall be determined by deleting from each basic district the schools that do not commit to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport. For baseball and softball, if there is a significant inequity in the balance and/or geography of the districts, the Executive Director may make adjustments accordingly.

12.5 Girls & Boys Soccer

12.5.1 Number of Classifications. The FHSAA State Series in the sports of girls soccer and boys soccer for the current classification term shall be conducted in five (5) classifications. The five classifications are 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A.

12.5.2 Division of Classifications.

12.5.2.1 The total number of member high schools with boys soccer programs will be used for the classification of both boys and girls soccer. These shall be ranked in order of student population and shall be assigned to basic classifications as follows; shall be ranked in order of student population and evenly divided across the five basic classifications (5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A). Any remainder shall be evenly distributed among the basic classifications beginning with the lowest classification and working up. The student population of the smallest school assigned to each classification shall form the dividing line between that classification and the next lowest classification. Schools that have the same student population as a school whose student population forms the dividing line between classifications shall be placed with that school into the higher classification. The requisite number of schools then shall be assigned to each successive classification. Once the dividing lines between classifications for a term are determined, they shall not be changed during that classification term.

12.5.2.2 The dividing lines between the classifications are listed under “Assignments” on each soccer sport page on the FHSAA Website.

12.5.3 Assignment to Districts. Schools in each classification – regardless of the sports in which they sponsor programs – shall be assigned to districts on a geographic basis. The actual competitive districts in each sport then shall be determined by deleting from each basic district the schools that do not commit to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport.



12.6 Bowling, Cross Country, Flag Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, Boys Volleyball, Water Polo, Weightlifting and Wrestling

12.6.1 Number of Classifications.

12.6.1.1 The maximum number of classifications in any individual sport shall not exceed four (4).

12.6.1.2 The number of classifications in the FHSAA State Series for the **current classification term** shall be determined by the number of member senior high schools sponsoring varsity interscholastic programs in those sports. If 200 or more of the member senior high schools sponsor a varsity interscholastic program in a sport, there may be two (2) classifications; if 300 or more of the member senior high schools sponsor a varsity interscholastic program in a sport, there may be three (3) classifications; and if 400 or more of the member senior high schools sponsor a varsity interscholastic program in a sport, there may be four (4) classifications. The number of classifications in a sport shall not be changed except in the first year of a classification term.

12.6.1.3 Sports shall be classified together without regard to gender, unless otherwise stipulated by the Board of Directors.

12.6.1.4 The number of classifications in each sport for the **current classification term** are as follows: cross country, four classifications (4A, 3A, 2A, 1A); golf, two classifications (2A, 1A); swimming & diving, three classifications (3A, 2A, 1A); tennis, four classifications (4A, 3A, 2A, 1A); track & field, four classifications (4A, 3A, 2A, 1A); boys weightlifting, two classifications (2A, A); wrestling, three classifications (3A, 2A, 1A), a single classification in the sports of bowling, flag football, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, boys volleyball, water polo and girls weightlifting and multiple divisions in competitive cheerleading.

12.6.2 Division of Classifications.

12.6.2.1 Once the total number of classifications in a sport is determined according to the criteria above, the total number of schools that commit to participate in the State Series in the sport shall be ranked in order of student population and evenly divided across the total number of classifications determined for that sport. Any remainder shall be evenly distributed among the classifications beginning with the lowest classification and working up. The student population of the smallest school assigned to each classification shall form the dividing line between that classification and the next lowest classification. Schools that have the same student population as a school whose student population forms the dividing line between classifications shall be placed with that school into the higher classification. The requisite number of schools then shall be assigned to each successive classification. Once the dividing lines between classifications for a classification term are determined, they shall not be changed during that classification term.

12.6.2.2 A new member school that requests to participate in the FHSAA State Series in an individual sport at the time of joining, and is eligible to do so, shall be assigned to the appropriate classification according to its student population or projected student population.

12.6.3 Assignment to Districts. Schools in each classification shall be assigned to districts on a geographic basis with an effort to balance the number of schools in the districts when possible.

POLICY 13

DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT MEETINGS, SCHEDULING, SEEDING, BRACKETING AND TOURNAMENTS/MEETS

13.1 District Assignments. Schools that commit to participate in the State Series in a sport shall be assigned on a geographical basis to a district in the appropriate classification. A tournament/meet shall be conducted in each district following the conclusion of the regular season on the dates set by the Board of Directors to determine the two schools that shall represent that district in the remainder of the FHSAA State Series.

13.1.1 District Coordinator. One school in each district will designated as the district coordinator. The FHSAA representative or his/her designee at the district coordinator school shall be responsible for hosting, conducting and reporting to the FHSAA Office results of the district scheduling/planning meeting. The tournament/meet manager is responsible for all aspects of the district tournament/meet, including the seeding of teams, upon conclusion of the district planning meeting and receipt of the meeting's minutes.

13.2 District Scheduling/Tournament Planning

13.2.1 District Schedule. Each school assigned to a district in a team sport shall be required to schedule one or two regular season contests with every other school in that district to be eligible to participate in the district tournament. The results of the district contests shall be used to determine seeding for the district tournament. The decision to play a one-contest district schedule, rather than two, must be by majority vote of representatives present at the district meeting. If a majority cannot agree to play a one contest schedule, then a two-contest schedule shall be played. If a district votes to play a one-contest district schedule and two district opponents



elect to play each other more than once, then the results of the contest listed on the master schedule, as scheduled at the scheduling an planning meeting, will count toward district seeding. A school, however, shall not schedule a district contest to be played later than Saturday two weeks prior to the week in which the district tournament is scheduled to be played. If a scheduled district match is postponed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen and unavoidable situations and can only be played after the deadline, the FHSAA Office may grant permission for the match to be played after the deadline and counted. This exception, however, will be granted only if the match was originally scheduled to be played prior to the deadline. Any school that does not comply with this requirement shall not be permitted to participate in the district tournament.

13.2.2 Scheduling and Planning Meeting. A district scheduling/planning meeting shall be conducted in each sport to determine a site and make arrangements for the district tournament/meet, including the selection of officials, to make arrangements for the district tournament/meet for the following season and for team sports, to determine the number of district contests to be played by district members and to schedule those necessary district contests, according to the following basic guidelines:

13.2.2.1 The meeting in each district shall be conducted by the FHSAA representative of the member school that is designated the coordinator for that district on a date to be determined by the FHSAA Office. The site and time of the meeting shall be determined by the district coordinator, except that the time of the meeting should cause no loss of time from school for any attendee. The district coordinator shall give written notice to the FHSAA representative, athletic director and appropriate head coach of each school in his/her district as to the date, time and site of the meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of the date of the meeting. If, however, the FHSAA representative, athletic director and appropriate head coach at a given school has not received written notification from the district coordinator as to the date, time and site of the meeting, it is his/her responsibility to contact the district coordinator for the arrangements.

13.2.2.2 The athletic director or FHSAA representative of each school in the district is encouraged to attend or otherwise to send a representative to attend the meeting and vote on behalf of the school on all matters pertaining to plans for the district tournament. A school that is not represented at the meeting shall be assessed a \$100 penalty. If a school wishes to submit an invitation to host the district tournament at the meeting and its representative present is not the principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director, the representative must have in his/her possession a letter of invitation signed by one or more of the principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director. A district coordinator may request of the Executive Director or his/her designee permission to conduct a district scheduling/ planning meeting by teleconference if his/her district is spread over a large geographic area.

13.2.2.3 For team sports, no regular season contest for the following season may be scheduled in advance of the district scheduling meeting. Agreements or contracts to play a contest that is entered into in advance of the meeting are null and void.

13.2.2.4 The decision to play a one- contest district schedule, rather than two, shall be by majority vote of representatives present at the meeting. In the event of a tie vote, a two- contest district schedule shall be mandatory. If a district votes to play a one-contest schedule, but two or more district members opt to schedule and play each other more than once during the regular season, then only the results of the contest listed on the master schedule, as scheduled at the scheduling and planning meeting, between district opponents shall be counted for seeding purposes.

13.2.3 Postponed Contests. If a scheduled district contest is postponed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen and unavoidable situations and can only be played after the deadline, the Executive Director may grant permission for the contest to be played after the deadline and counted. This exception, however, will be granted only if the contest was originally scheduled to be played prior to the deadline.

13.2.4 Satisfaction of Requirements. The manner in which any two schools within a district satisfy these requirements is at the discretion of the two schools, provided the contests are part of the regular season schedule of both schools and not contests played between the two schools as part of a tournament. It is not necessary that the two contests be played on a home-and-home basis. It is acceptable for the two schools to play either or both contests at a neutral site or both contests at either school's facility. If, however, two schools in a district cannot agree to any alternative arrangement, then they must play each other on a home-and-home basis.

13.3 Seeding and Bracketing

13.3.1 Bracket Seeding. Each school in a district shall be seeded and placed on the bracket for its district tournament according to the following provisions:

13.3.1.1 In the sports of baseball, basketball, flag football, lacrosse, softball, volleyball and water polo, each school shall be seeded based on its win-loss record in the contests played against all district opponents during the regular season. The school with the best district record shall be seeded No. 1; the school with the second-best district record shall be seeded No. 2; etc.

13.3.1.2 In the sport of soccer, each school shall be seeded based on the district points it accumulates in the games played against all district opponents during the regular season. Three (3) points shall be awarded for each victory over a district opponent. One (1) point shall be awarded for each tie with a district opponent. The school with the most district points shall be seeded No. 1; the school with the second-most district points shall be seeded No. 2; etc.

13.3.1.3 In the event two or more schools within the district are unable to play the required district contests due to inclement weather or other unforeseen and unavoidable situations which are deemed acceptable by the Executive Director, all schools within that district shall be seeded according to the percentage of district contests won (average of points accumulated in soccer).



The school with the highest percentage of district contests won (average points in soccer) shall be seeded No. 1; the school with the second-highest percentage of district contests won (average points in soccer) shall be seeded No. 2, etc.

13.3.2 Two Schools Tied. When two schools are tied for a seed, the following procedure shall be used in the following order until the tie is broken:

- (a) Won-loss results of head-to-head district competition between the two schools;
- (b) Won-loss record (points in soccer) in district competition of the two schools versus the highest-seeded school (and proceeding through the lowest-seeded school, if necessary);
- (c) Number of district victories (points in soccer) on the road in district games/ matches;
- (d) Number of district victories (points in soccer) at home in district games/ matches; and
- (e) Coin toss or blind draw by the district tournament/meet manager.

13.3.3 Three (or more) Schools Tied. When three or more schools are tied for a seed, the following procedure shall be used in the following order until the tie has been reduced to two schools, then the two-school tiebreaker formula shall be used:

- (a) Total won-loss record (points in soccer) of district contests played among the tied schools;
- (b) Won-loss record (points in soccer) in district competition of the tied schools versus the highest-seeded school (and proceeding through the lowest seeded school, if necessary);
- (c) Number of district victories (points in soccer) on the road in district games/ matches;
- (d) Number of district victories (points in soccer) at home in district games/ matches; and
- (e) Blind draw by the district tournament/meet manager.

13.3.4 Bracketing. In the sports of baseball, basketball, girls and boys soccer, softball and girls volleyball, every district member shall be placed on the tournament bracket according to seed. In the sports of flag football, boys volleyball, lacrosse and water polo, the top four seeds only shall be placed on the tournament bracket. A single-elimination, standard progression bracket shall be used. The No. 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 seeds shall be placed in the upper half of the bracket and the No. 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 15 seeds shall be placed in the lower half of the bracket. Byes, if any, shall be awarded to the higher-seeded schools. The higher-seeded team of the bracket in each tournament contest shall be designated the home school for that contest.

13.3.5 Seeding Report. Each school in the district shall report to the tournament/meet manager its final district win-loss record (points in soccer) not later than 10 a.m. Monday of the week immediately preceding the week in which the district tournament is to be played. The tournament/meet manager then shall seed the schools, place the schools on the bracket according to their seed, and assign contest dates and times in accordance with the provisions herein and the arrangements agreed upon during the district scheduling/tournament planning meeting. A copy of the finalized bracket shall then be faxed by the tournament/meet manager to all schools in the district, as well as to the FHSAA Office.

POLICY 14

MINIMUM FACILITY SPECIFICATIONS FOR STATE SERIES CONTESTS

14.1 General Principles. The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following minimum specifications for facilities in which FHSAA State Series contests in basketball, football and girls volleyball are to be held. These specifications do not preclude a school with inadequate facilities from hosting a State Series contest in either sport. However, the school will be required, at its own expense, to host the contest in a neutral facility which does meet the necessary specifications. Rental expenses involved in securing an adequate facility for all sports State Series contests can only be claimed as a host expense if both the host and visitor schools have inadequate facilities and no reasonable alternative is available. The maximum host expense that can be claimed for costs involving an off campus facility (rent, utilities, cleaning, etc) on the FHSAA financial report is \$1,000 for all sports, except Swimming & Diving. In the sport of Swimming and Diving, the host may offset a maximum of \$2,000 facility cost with entry fees from participants without approval of the Executive Director. If a school in line to host a contest has inadequate facilities and chooses not to host the contest at another site, the visiting school will be given the opportunity to host the event in its facilities, if adequate, or at an adequate neutral site, if not. A basketball district in which no school has a facility that meets these minimum specifications must either play its district tournament at an adequate neutral facility or place it at the district school whose facility is closest to these minimum specifications. Only those schools that have filed the necessary facility specifications reports with the FHSAA Office will be eligible to host a State Series contest in the sports of basketball, football and girls volleyball. Schools that cannot meet the specifications can appeal to the Executive Director or his/her designee for relief.



14.2 Determination of Host School. Determination of a host school is not absolute. In all cases, the FHSAA reserves the right to select an alternate site.

14.3 AED Recommended. It is strongly recommended that an automated external defibrillator (AED) be present and available for use if needed at the site of every preseason and regular season interscholastic athletic contest in which member schools participate. The presence and availability of an automated external defibrillator (AED) shall be mandatory at the site of every FHSAA state championship series contest on the district, regional, sectional and state levels.

14.4 Minimum Facility Requirements.

14.4.1 Basketball.

14.4.1.1 The facility must be adequately constructed to control the entry and exit of spectators for the purpose of charging admission.

14.4.1.2 The facility must have a minimum of two restrooms (one male and one female) for public use.

14.4.1.3 The facility must have an electronic clock and scoreboard clearly visible to both team bench areas and spectators.

14.4.1.4 The facility must have a public address system.

14.4.1.5 The facility must have separate dressing rooms for both home and visiting teams, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.

14.4.1.6 The facility must have a separate dressing area for officials, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.

14.4.1.7 The facility must have a playing surface which is not fewer than 84 feet from end line to end line and not fewer than 50 feet from sideline to sideline. The court must be properly marked according to National Federation rules, including the proper markings for both teams' coaching boxes.

14.4.1.8 The facility must have a minimum of three feet of unobstructed space from sidelines to seating, walls or other obstacles and a minimum of six feet of unobstructed space from end lines to seating, walls or other obstacles.

14.4.1.9 It is recommended, but not required, that the facility have spectator seating on both sides of the court. In any case, however, the facility must meet the following minimum seating capacities:

- (a) Class 8A – 1,300 seats;
- (b) Class 7A – 1,100 seats;
- (c) Class 6A – 900 seats;
- (d) Class 5A – 700 seats;
- (e) Class 4A – 700 seats;
- (f) Class 3A – 500 seats;
- (g) Class 2A – 300 seats;
- (h) Class 1A – 300 seats.

14.4.2 Football.

14.4.2.1 The facility must be adequately constructed to control the entry and exit of spectators for the purpose of charging admission.

14.4.2.2 The facility must have a minimum of two restrooms (one male and one female) for public use.

14.4.2.3 The facility must have adequate artificial lighting to accommodate night games.

14.4.2.4 The facility must have an electronic clock and scoreboard clearly visible to both team bench areas and spectators.

14.4.2.5 The facility must have a public address system.

14.4.2.6 The facility must have separate dressing rooms for both home and visiting teams, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.

14.4.2.7 The facility must have a separate dressing area for officials, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.

14.4.2.8 The facility should have a minimum of five yards of unobstructed space outside the playing field along each sideline and end line.

14.4.2.9 The facility must have restraining cables, fences, walls, etc. from goal line to goal line to separate spectators from each team box along the sideline.

14.4.2.10 The facility must have bleachers having masonry or metal understructure with footboards and seating properly maintained for both visitor and home fans.



14.4.2.11 It is recommended, but not required, that the facility have equal or near equal spectator seating on both sides of the field. In any case, however, the facility must meet the following minimum seating capacities:

- (a) Class 8A – 2,500 seats;
- (b) Class 7A – 2,000 seats;
- (c) Class 6A – 1,500 seats;
- (d) Class 5A – 1,000 seats;
- (e) Class 4A – 1,000 seats;
- (f) Class 3A – 750 seats;
- (g) Class 2A – 500 seats;
- (h) Class 1A – 500 seats.

A facility with seating capacities less than these minimums may set up portable seating at its own expense in order to satisfy these minimum requirements. Rentals, delivery, set up, and take down expenses involved in securing portable seating cannot be claimed as a host expense on the FHSAA financial report for the event.

14.4.3 Girls Volleyball.

14.4.3.1 The facility must have a minimum seating capacity of 300 seats.

POLICY 15

FHSAA STATE SERIES PASSES

15.1 FHSAA State Series Pass. State series passes may be used at district, regional and FHSAA Finals state championship events. Each member school receives two complimentary passes each school year for use by the principal and the FHSAA representative or athletic director issued in their names. Each school has the option to purchase additional as follows:

15.1.1 1 pass purchased – must be issued in the name of a specific individual;

15.1.2 Passes may be issued in the school's name (generic) with all the other passes issued in the names of specific individuals; for every four (4) passes purchased, one (1) generic pass may be ordered, with a limit of five (5) generic passes per school.

15.1.2.1 A lost or stolen state series pass issued as a school pass (generic) will not be reissued.

15.1.3 Each individual who registers as a contest official with the FHSAA also shall be permitted at the time of his/her registration to purchase one state series pass.

15.1.4 The following restrictions shall apply to all state series passes regardless of whether they are issued in the names of specific individuals or in the names of schools (generic):

15.1.4.1 The principal is responsible for the generic passes. The person bearing the generic pass is considered a representative of the school's athletic interest.

15.1.4.2 All pass users shall be 18 years of age or older.

15.1.4.3 Passes are not intended for use by students and must not be issued to students.

15.1.4.4 Each pass will admit only the bearer. Spouses, children and other family members or friends accompanying the bearer of the pass must purchase a ticket of admission to the event.

15.1.4.5 The bearer of the pass must present a valid government-issued photo ID (i.e. driver's license) along with the pass to the pass gate attendant. If the bearer is unable to present a valid photo ID at the pass gate, the pass shall not be honored.

15.1.4.6 The bearer of the pass must make an entry into a "State Series Event Pass Gate Log" when entering the pass gate. The bearer must record his/her name, position with member school, type of pass and state series pass number.

15.1.4.7 If the manager of a state series event determines the event is sold out, state series passes cannot be honored at that event.

15.1.4.8 Exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the Executive Director.

15.1.4.9 Improperly used passes will be confiscated by the event manager and returned to the FHSAA. Once confiscated, the pass or passes will not be valid for the remainder of the school year. A minimum monetary penalty of \$100 will be assessed for misuse and offending schools may be restricted from purchasing passes in future years.

15.1.4.10 The state series pass only allows admittance into the contest. It does not grant access to the field, court, or pool deck.



15.5 FHSAA Lifetime State Series Pass. FHSAA Lifetime State Series Passes are issued by the Executive Director to individuals who serve the Association as members of its Board of Directors; office staff upon their retirement; and inductees into its Hall of Fame. This pass will provide the bearer and one (1) guest with complimentary general admission to regular season events at the discretion of the host school, and to all FHSAA State Series events on the district, regional and state level. The FHSAA Lifetime State Series Pass only allows admittance into the contest. It does not grant access to the field, court, or pool deck. The bearer will be required to show a picture I.D. with the Lifetime State Series Pass and provide a signature on an official FHSAA State Series Contest Pass Log to be provided to each host site by the FHSAA Office.

POLICY 16

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

16.1 GPA Calculation.

16.1.1 Middle School GPA Calculation. For grades 6 through 8, the semester GPA will be calculated at the conclusion of each semester by taking the sum of quality points earned (as per Bylaw 9.4.2) divided by the number of credits attempted during that semester.

16.1.2 High School GPA Calculation. For grades 9 through 12, the cumulative GPA will be calculated at the end of the first semester, including high school level grades earned while in grades 6 – 8, and the end of the school year (including summer school or its equivalent, if applicable) by taking the sum of all quality points earned (as per Bylaw 9.4.2) divided by the number of all credits attempted since the student began taking senior high school level courses and adjusting for forgiveness grades as per Bylaw 9.4.3.1.

16.1.2.1 Exception. Senior high school level courses taken prior to the initial first semester of 9th grade will not be calculated in the cumulative GPA until the conclusion of the initial first semester of 9th grade.

16.1.2.2 End of Course Exams. Grades earned in courses in which an “End of Course Exam” is administered must be included in the cumulative GPA. At the conclusion of the first semester, schools must include the grade the student earned in all “End of Course Exam” courses up to that point; this might necessitate a hand calculation of the GPA for student athletes if the course has not been concluded at the end of the first semester. Upon conclusion of the course or the school year, schools must include the final grade the student would have earned in all “End of Course Exam” courses, including the percentage of the grade from the “End of Course Exam” as mandated by state statute. A Student whose cumulative GPA falls below the minimum 2.0 due to the final results of “End of Course Exam” courses will not subject the school to penalties due to that student’s participation in contests during the previous semester(s) regarding academic requirement.

16.1.3 Rounding off GPA. No rounding of calculated values will be used in determining the GPA.

16.2 Schools with Alternate Scheduling Formats.

16.2.1 Grading Period. A grading period is defined as one semester. A semester is defined as one half of a school year (approximately 18 school weeks or 90 school days). This definition is applicable to all member schools regardless of the type of scheduling format (i.e. block, traditional, trimester, etc.) they use.

16.3 Special Schools and Special Programs.

16.3.1 Evaluation of Athletes. A student-athlete attending any special school or special program must be evaluated on a semester that is consistent with the semester for all other students attending the member school which the student-athlete represents.

16.3.2 Grade Point Average. The minimum grade point average requirement as stated in s.1006.15(3)1, Florida Statutes, and the Association’s Bylaws must be maintained each semester by all student-athletes attending special schools or special programs regardless of the nature of the special school or special program.

16.4 U.S. Students Studying Abroad

While the FHSAA acknowledges the benefits of U.S. students studying abroad as youth exchange program students, a student who studies abroad will do so at his/her own jeopardy in relation to the following:

16.4.1 Bylaw 9.4, as the student must include grades from all coursework attempted while studying abroad in his/her cumulative GPA. For athletic eligibility purposes, the school must include all such course work on the official transcript of the student.

16.4.2 Bylaw 9.5, as the student may not gain an additional year of eligibility due studying abroad for a semester or full school year.



16.5 Home Education Program Cooperatives

16.5.1 Requirements of Cooperatives. A cooperative of home education programs may become a member of this Association provided:

- (a) the cooperative establishes a Board of Directors or governing body which appoints a designated representative to the FHSAA so far as the obligations of the cooperative to this Association are concerned;
- (b) the cooperative pays membership dues and other such fees as established by the FHSAA Board of Directors under the authority of these Bylaws;
- (c) each participating student has basic medical insurance coverage and has catastrophic insurance coverage provided by the cooperative or independently secured;
- (d) the cooperative purchases and maintains liability insurance coverage which names the FHSAA as an insured party;
- (e) the FHSAA representative at the conclusion of each semester certifies to the Executive Director on a form to be provided by the FHSAA Office that each student participating in interscholastic athletics in the cooperative meets the minimum grade point average standards which are required of all students; and
- (f) each student participating in interscholastic athletic competition is considered a “Non-Traditional” student and must be registered as a home education student with the school district in which the student resides, complete and submit an EL7 Form (Registration Form for Home Education Students), be registered with this association as per Policy 16.7 and comply with FHSAA eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility.

16.5.2 Ineligibility. A student who withdraws from a regular school program to enroll in a home education cooperative and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the regular school program due to his/her failure to meet academic or behavioral eligibility standards shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition as a member of the home education cooperative until he/she has successfully completed one full semester (see Bylaw 1.4.14) and has met all other eligibility requirements of this association. In determining the academic eligibility of a student who withdraws from a regular school program prior to the normal conclusion of the current semester and subsequently enrolls in a home education program, the grades as posted in each subject for that student on the date of his/her withdrawal from the regular school program shall be used.

16.5.3 Transfers. A student who is attending a school and transfers to a home education cooperative, who is representing a member school as a “Non-Traditional” student (as defined in 16.6.1) and transfers to a home education cooperative or who is representing a home education cooperative and transfer to a different home education cooperative shall be ineligible to represent that cooperative in interscholastic athletic competition for the duration of that school year unless the student meets one of Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2, 9.3.2.3, 9.3.2.4, 9.3.2.5 or 9.3.2.6.

16.5.4 Athletic Competition. Home education cooperatives which become members of this Association may participate in interscholastic athletic competition as per Bylaw 8.3. Home education cooperatives shall be classified for State Series competition based on the total number of students participating in the cooperative in grades 9 through 12.

16.6 Non-Traditional Student Participation at Member Schools

16.6.1 Eligibility for Participation. Non-Traditional students, as defined in Bylaw 1.4.30, are eligible to participate at the public school to which the student would be assigned according to district school attendance area policies or, except Non-Member Private School Students, the public school which the student could choose to attend pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment provisions, (completion of the EL14 Form – “Verification of Student Controlled Open Enrollment Option with Public School District” is required) provided these specific requirements are met:

16.6.1.1 Charter School Students. The student must attend a charter school that does not sponsor an interscholastic athletic program in a sport in which the student desires to participate.

16.6.1.2 FLVS-FT Students. The student must be a full time student of the statewide Florida Virtual School Full Time program (DOE #71-0300 or #71-0400).

16.6.1.3 Home Education Students. The student must be registered as a home education student with the school district in which the student resides. The student is also eligible to participate with a Home Education Program Cooperative or a private school. Completion of an EL7 Form (Registration Form for Home Education Students) is required.

16.6.1.4 Non-Member Private School Students. The student must attend a non-FHSAA member private school consisting of 125 students or fewer in grades 6 through 12 and does not offer an interscholastic or intrascholastic (i.e. intramural) athletic program. Completion on an EL12 Form (Registration Form for Non-Member Private School Students) is required. The student is only allowed to participate at the public school the student is zoned for the physical address at which the student resides.

16.6.1.5 Special/Alternative School Students. The student must attend an alternative school or a special school operated by a school district identified by the Superintendent and does not offer an interscholastic athletic program.

16.6.2 Requirements for Participation. A Non-Traditional student is eligible to participate provided:

- (a) the student meets the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he/ she participates; and



- (b) the student meets the same standards of acceptance, behavior and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities; and
- (c) the student registers with the school his/her intent to participate in interscholastic athletic competition as a representative of the school, utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director, as outlined in Administrative Procedure 1.2; and
- (d) the student complies with all FHSAA regulations, including eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility, and local school regulations during the time of participation; and
- (e) the student provides proof of basic medical insurance coverage and both independently secured catastrophic insurance coverage and liability insurance coverage which names the FHSAA as an insured party in the event the school's insurance provider does not extend coverage to such students; and
- (f) the student provides his/her own transportation to and from the school; and
- (g) the student provides to school authorities all required forms and provisions.

16.6.3 Ineligibility. A student who withdraws from a regular school program to establish school residence as a "Non-Traditional" student (as defined in 16.6.1) and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the regular school program due to his/her failure to meet academic or behavioral eligibility standards shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition under the provisions of 16.6.2 until he/she has successfully completed one full semester (see Bylaw 1.4.14) and has met all other eligibility requirements of this association. In determining the academic eligibility of a student who withdraws from a regular school program prior to the normal conclusion of the current semester and subsequently establishes school residence as a "Non-Traditional" student (as defined in 16.6.1), the grades as posted in each subject for that student on the date of his/her withdrawal from the regular school program shall be used.

16.6.4 Transfers. A student who, after the beginning of the school year (see Bylaw 1.4.5), transfers from any school and establishes school residence as a "Non-Traditional" student (as defined in 16.6.1), transfers school residence as a "Non-Traditional" student (as defined in 16.6.1) to any member school or transfers school residence as one type of "Non-Traditional" student (as defined in 16.6.1) and establishes school residence as "Non-Traditional" student of the same or different type (as defined in 16.6.1) is considered a transfer student and is subject to the provisions of Bylaw 9.3. Unless the student meets one of Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2, 9.3.2.3, 9.3.2.4, 9.3.2.5 or 9.3.2.6, the student will be ineligible to represent a member school in interscholastic competition.

16.6.4.1 Exception. A student, who after making a transfer as described in 16.6.4, does not change his/her affiliation with the member school, will continue to be eligible to represent the member school in interscholastic competition, provided all other eligibility requirements are met.

16.7 Registration of Non-Traditional Students

16.7.1 Non-Traditional Student Defined. Non-traditional Students are students that are not enrolled in and physical attend the school at which they participate, including, but not limited to; Home Education Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.1, Charter School Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.2, Special School Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.4, Non-Member Private School Students as per Bylaw 9.2.2.5 and Florida Virtual School-Full Time Public Program Students (FLVS-FT) as per Bylaw 9.2.2.6.

16.7.2 Student Registration Process. The student must register with the school by completing and submitting the EL2, EL3, EL3CH, GA4, EL7 (if applicable, including the EL7V), EL12 (if applicable) and EL14 (if applicable).

16.7.2.1 Returning Non-Traditional Students. A student who has previously registered intent for a sport or sports by submitting a GA4 and an EL7 (if applicable) or EL12 (if applicable) and an EL14 (if applicable) to participate for a member school and is going to continue to participate for that school in the sport or sports in which he/she originally registered intent need only submit the EL2, EL3 and EL3CH forms for subsequent school years.

16.7.2.1.1 Home Education Student Exception. A home education student must provide the school each year with a completed and signed EL7V Form.

16.7.3 School Registration Process. The school must register each Non-Traditional Student with this association, utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director each year before adding the student to a roster and allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest. It remains the responsibility of the school to verify the eligibility of all returning non-traditional students.

16.8 Use of Ineligible Students.

The intentional or inadvertent use of ineligible students is strictly prohibited by this association and should be reported immediately upon discovery.

16.8.1 Ineligible Student Defined. An ineligible student is one who has been found to have violated one or more the bylaws or policies of this association such as, but not limited to:

- (a) Age (Bylaw 9.6)



- (b) Academic requirements (Bylaw 9.4)
- (c) Attendance requirements (Bylaw 9.2)
- (d) Limit of eligibility (Bylaw 9.5)
- (e) Transfer regulations (Bylaw 9.3)
- (f) Amateurism (Bylaw 9.9)
- (g) Sport season limitations (Policy 6)
- (h) Non-approved Youth Exchange/International/Immigrant students and non-registered Non-Traditional students (Policy 12.2.1.2, 16 and 17)
- (i) Participation in All-Star games (Policy 26)
- (j) Suspended students due to unsportsmanlike acts (Policy 30 and 31)
- (k) Recruited students (Policy 36)

16.8.2 Penalties for Use of Ineligible Students. Schools found to have used ineligible students could be subject to one or more of, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Forfeiture of contests
- (b) Forfeiture of playoff advancement
- (c) Monetary penalties
- (d) Reprimand
- (e) Probation; administrative, restrictive or suspension
- (f) Expulsion or restricted membership

16.9 Penalties Assessed to Schools.

16.9.1 Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without a completed EL2 form (Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation, see Bylaw 9.7) will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$500 per student.

16.9.2 Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without a completed EL3 form (Consent and Release from Liability Certificate, see Bylaw 9.8) will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$500 per student.

16.9.3 Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without a completed and approved EL4 form (Registration of Youth Exchange, Other International or Immigrant Student, see Policy 17) will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$100 per student.

16.9.4 Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without properly registering a non-traditional student (see Policy 16.7.3) will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum \$100 per student.

16.9.5 Use of an ineligible student when not self-reported, will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$2,500 per contest.

16.9.6 Use of an ineligible student when self-reported, will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$100 per contest.

POLICY 17

ELIGIBILITY OF YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM, INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT STUDENTS

The FHSAA acknowledges the importance of permitting foreign-born and U.S. students to experience the benefits of participation in interscholastic athletics. The following policy and procedures shall govern the eligibility of foreign-born students who attend member schools and U.S. students wishing to study abroad.

17.1 Students in Youth Exchange Programs

Youth exchange program participants, like all non-immigrant visitors to the United States, are subject to U.S. immigration laws. Educational institutions, including high schools, are subject to immigration regulations with regard to non-immigrant students who visit the United States as F-1 academic students and J-1 exchange visitors. The FHSAA will adhere to the standards adopted by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) and will permit a youth exchange student to participate in interscholastic athletic competition under the following conditions:



17.1.1 U.S. Nonimmigrant Registration. Youth exchange students must be registered through one of the following:

17.1.1.1 The F-1 youth exchange student must have a “Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status-For Academic and Language Students” (Form I-20A-B) for the high school at which the student is receiving instruction as required by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

17.1.1.2 The J-1 youth exchange student must have a “Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status” (Form DS-2019) and be sponsored and placed with a U.S. host family by a “bona fide” international student exchange program that has been accepted for listing by CSIET and recognized by the U.S. Department of State.

17.1.2 Placement with Host Family. A student is considered placed with a host family when:

- (a) the school that the student attends had no input into the selection or assignment of the student; and
- (b) no member of the school’s coaching staff; and
- (c) no representative of the school’s athletic interest, as defined in Bylaw 1.4.18(c-h), who is associated with the same sport as the youth exchange student, serves as the host family; and
- (d) the host family placement is approved by the national headquarters of the sponsoring organization for J-1 youth exchange students; and
- (e) the student does not reside in the U.S. with any other individual(s) from his/her home country with whom he/she has not lived continuously for the previous 365 consecutive days; and

Note: certain CSIET agencies, including but not limited to the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, allow or require exchange students to change their host families mid-way through their stay, which will require the student to re-submit a portion of the EL4 Form. If this change requires a change of schools the student will be classified a transfer student (see 17.1.5 below).

17.1.2.1 Host Family Restriction. A host family that wishes to host more than one youth exchange student per school each year, for the same gender and sport, must have approval of the Executive Director.

17.1.2.1.1 Exception. Youth exchange students approved by this office during the 2012-13 school year may remain with their host family for the remainder of their stay.

17.1.3 Visa Requirements. The youth exchange student must possess either an F-1 or a J-1 visa issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or Department of State, respectively. The F-1 academic student program is a non-immigrant visa category intended for the use by nonresident students whose primary purpose for visiting the United States is to study full-time at an approved institution. The J-1 exchange visitor program is a non-immigrant visa category designed to promote mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through bona fide educational and cultural exchange.

17.1.3.1 Exception: Citizens of Bermuda or Canada. In general, citizens of Bermuda and Canada do not need a visa to travel in the United States. However, these students must meet 17.1.1.1 and have a completed I-20 A-B Form as per the requirements of the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP).

17.1.4 Attendance. The student must be in attendance at the school within the first twenty (20) days of the school year and must be enrolled in a full-year program, rather than a program of shorter duration such as a six-week, three-month or six-month program, etc.

17.1.5 Transfer. Any subsequent transfer by the student to a different school during the school year must meet one of the provisions in Bylaw 9.3.2.

17.1.6 Eligibility for One Year Only. The J-1 youth exchange student may be eligible for a maximum of one year at any school or combination of schools in this or any other of the United States commencing with his/her initial date of enrollment in a U.S. school. The F-1 youth exchange student, pursuant to federal law, attending a public school is eligible to remain in the U.S. for a maximum of one year and must reimburse the public school for the cost of his/her U.S. education

17.1.6.1 A youth exchange student (J-1 or F-1) is not permitted to return for any additional years using a different youth exchange Visa (i.e. J-1 or F-1) and participate in interscholastic athletics.

17.1.7 Placed in Academic Track. The student must be placed in a traditional academic track that leads to a high school diploma by the member school.

17.1.8 Must Not Have Been Recruited. The student must not have been recruited to attend the member school for athletic reasons by any individual or agency, whether or not associated with the school’s athletic interest, or selected or placed in the school on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities. The student must complete and submit a GA4 Form with the school, in addition to the requirements in Policy 17.3, before the student added to a roster and allowed to participate in an interscholastic contest.

17.1.9 Financial Assistance. No individual or agency associated with the school’s athletic interest may provide financial assistance to the international student in gaining necessary visas, assist in the payment of the student’s transportation to the U.S., or contribute to the student’s living expenses while in the U.S.

17.1.10 Must not be a Graduate. The youth exchange student must not have completed the terminal grade in either the U.S. or his/her home country. Youth exchange students will not be eligible once they have completed the terminal grade in either the U.S. or their home country. The terminal grade of the student is based on the compulsory education requirements of the student’s home country.



17.1.11 FHSAA Eligibility. The student must meet all other eligibility standards of the FHSAA Bylaws while a student at a member school. Limit of eligibility (Bylaw 9.5) is based on the compulsory education requirements of the student's home country.

17.2 Other International and Immigrant Students

A "nonimmigrant" student who does not possess an F-1 or a J-1 visa or an "immigrant" student may be eligible to represent an FHSAA member school in interscholastic athletic competition under the following conditions:

17.2.1 Previous School Attendance. The student must have started and completed the 8th grade, or earlier, for the first time in a U.S. school and have the appropriate school records to verify this fact.

17.2.2 Placed in Academic Track. The student must be placed in a traditional academic track that leads to a high school diploma by the member school.

17.2.3 Must Not Have Been Recruited. The student must not have been recruited to attend the member school for athletic reasons by any individual or agency, whether or not associated with the school's athletic interest, or selected or placed in the school on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities. The student must complete and submit a GA4 Form with the school, in addition to the requirements in Policy 17.3 (if applicable), before the student added to a roster and allowed to participate in an interscholastic contest.

17.2.4 Financial Assistance. No individual or agency associated with the school's athletic interest may provide financial assistance to the student in gaining necessary visas or other immigration documents, assist in the payment of the student's transportation to the U.S., or contribute to the student's living expenses while in the U.S.

17.2.5 Residence. The student must have resided with his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) duly appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction for a minimum of the previous two (2) consecutive full school years.

17.2.6 Must not be a Graduate. The international student must not have completed the terminal grade in either the U.S. or his/her home country. International students will not be eligible once they have completed the terminal grade in either the U.S. or their home country. The terminal grade of the student is based on the compulsory education requirements of the student's home country.

17.2.7 FHSAA Eligibility. The student must meet all other eligibility standards of the FHSAA Bylaws while a student at a member school. Limit of eligibility (Bylaw 9.5) is based on the compulsory education requirements of the student's home country.

17.3 Registration Procedures

All youth exchange students (J-1 and F-1), in addition to any other international or immigrant students that do not meet the requirements of Policy 17.2, must be registered with this association, utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director, prior to participation at a member school. Requested with this registration, including a scanned copy of the EL4 Form (Registration Form for Youth Exchange, Other International or Immigrant Students) and e-mailed to the association include, but not limited to:

17.3.1 Proof of Age. A scanned copy of the student's original passport or original birth certificate (including translation, if necessary) or U.S. Visa or U.S. Permanent Resident Card;

17.3.2 U.S. Customs Documentation

17.3.2.1 Youth Exchange Students. A scanned copy of the F-1 or J-1 "Eligibility Certificate" (Form I-20 A-B or Form DS-2019, respectively).

17.3.2.2 Other International and Immigrant Students. A scanned copy of the original U.S. Nonimmigrant Visa or a scanned copy of the "Arrival-Departure Record" (Form I-94, which is attached to the student's passport).

17.3.3 Original Language Transcripts. A scanned copy of the original official transcripts from the school(s) in the foreign country, in the original language (un-translated), of grades since entering the 8th grade (or its equivalent);

17.3.4 Translated Transcripts. A scanned copy of the **verbatim** translated transcripts of grades since entering the 8th grade, including but not limited to analysis and evaluation of the transcripts performed by:

- (a) an individual employed by the school or school district who is qualified to provide such services; or
- (b) an independent organization or agency used to translate and analyze the transcripts from foreign countries.

Note: through the translation, analysis and evaluation of the youth exchange or international student's transcript, the appropriate grade in which the student should be placed in the member school must be determined, **recognizing that this association uses the compulsory education requirements of the home country as a basis for determining limit of eligibility**. It must be demonstrated that the student is on track to receive a high school diploma. It must also provide an explanation or description of the educational system in the student's home country. The cost of this service, if any, must be borne either by the student or the member school.

Additionally: For athletic eligibility purposes, after the first semester of attendance at a member school, the school must include all transfer courses on an official transcript of the student and these courses must be reflected in the cumulative GPA for the student.



17.3.5 Returning Students. Returning, previously approved, youth exchange and any other international or immigrant students that still do not meet Policy 17.2, must submit, via e-mail, a scanned copy of their I-20A-B Form or I-94 Form, respectively, a complete official transcript from the member school and change of host family residency information (where applicable). **For athletic eligibility purposes, after the first semester of attendance at a member school, the school must include all transfer courses on an official transcript of the student and these courses must be reflected in the cumulative GPA for the student.**

17.4 U.S. Students Studying Abroad

While the FHSAA acknowledges the benefits of U.S. students studying abroad as youth exchange program students, a student who studies abroad will do so at his/her own jeopardy in relation to the association's limit of eligibility bylaw (Bylaw 9.5.1) and the student will not gain an additional year of eligibility.

POLICY 18

PRACTICES AND SCRIMMAGES

18.1 General Practices

18.1.1 Only those student-athletes who are attending a member school, or who are either home education program or charter school program students registered with a member school, may participate in the practice of an athletic team which represents that member school.

18.1.2 Practice sessions, practice games or exhibitions/exhibition games in which students from two or more schools participate are prohibited.

18.1.3 The conduct of practice sessions, practice games or exhibitions/exhibition games of any kind on a Sunday is prohibited.

18.1.4 Violation of this policy could result in a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$250 per occurrence.

18.2 Spring Football Practice

18.2.1 Spring Football practice is a continuation of the regular fall football season. Consequently, a student who transfers schools and does not meet one of the provisions in Bylaw 9.3.2, is not eligible to participate in a spring jamboree or spring classic game in the new school.

18.2.2 Spring practice is confined to a maximum of 20 sessions exclusively during the month of May or the last 20 days of the school year, whichever comes first, inclusive of the spring jamboree or classic.

18.2.3 Students who are seniors may not participate in spring football practice.

18.2.4 Students who are not enrolled and in attendance in a school cannot participate in spring football practice at that school.

18.2.5 Eighth grade students may participate in spring football practice at the public high school for which the students are zoned and will attend as ninth-graders in the following school year under the following conditions:

18.2.5.1 The students may practice on or in the high school facility only if such practice is approved in writing to the FHSAA Office by the district school superintendent.

18.2.5.2 The students may be instructed in practice by high school coaches only if such instruction is approved in writing to the FHSAA Office by the district school superintendent.

18.2.5.3 The principals of both schools must give their permission in writing to the FHSAA Office for the students to participate in such practice.

18.2.5.4 The students must have catastrophic insurance coverage for such practice.

18.2.5.5 The students must have the written permission of their parents or legal guardians to participate in such practice on file in the school office.

18.2.5.6 The students must have undergone a physical examination within the last calendar year.

18.2.5.7 The students must not suffer any loss of time from school.

18.2.5.8 The students may not participate in a spring football jamboree or spring classic game.

18.2.5.9 The students may not participate in practice or have physical contact in any manner with student-athletes in the 9th, 10th or 11th grades who are members of the high school team.

18.3 Spring Competitive Cheerleading Practice

18.3.1 Spring Competitive Cheerleading practice is a continuation of the regular fall competitive cheerleading season.

18.3.2 Spring practice is confined to a maximum of 20 sessions exclusively during the month of May or the last 20 days of the school year, whichever comes first.

18.3.3 Students who are seniors may not participate in spring practice.

18.3.4 Students who are not enrolled and in attendance in a school cannot participate in spring practice at that school.

18.3.5 Incoming 9th grade students cannot participate in spring practice.

18.4 Scrimmages

18.4.1 Bona Fide Students Only. Only those student-athletes who are attending a member school, or who are either home education program or charter school program students registered with a member school, may participate in the scrimmage of an athletic team which represents that member school.

18.4.2 Multi-Schools Prohibited. Scrimmages and scrimmage games or exhibitions and exhibition games in which students from two or more schools participate are un-contracted interscholastic contests and are prohibited except for FHSAA-sponsored officials clinics (only those students who meet all of the FHSAA eligibility requirements are allowed to participate). Such scrimmages and scrimmage games may be on an intra-squad basis only.

18.4.3 Non-School Groups Prohibited. Scrimmages and scrimmage games involving groups, alumni teams, league teams, etc., comprised in whole or in part of individuals who are not bona fide students of the member school are prohibited. Such scrimmages and scrimmage games may be on an intra-squad basis only.

18.4.4 Violation of this policy could result in a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$250 per occurrence.

POLICY 19

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

19.1 Advisory Committees. The Board of Directors has established a number of advisory committees comprised of individuals – experts in their field – who work with the various programs of the Association. These advisory committees shall operate according to the following guidelines:

19.2 Purpose, Authority and Compensation

19.2.1 An advisory committee exists solely for the purpose of evaluating the FHSAA program(s) with which it is charged. In achieving its purpose, the committee shall review FHSAA regulations which govern the program(s); offer to the Board of Directors recommendations for change to such regulations as it deems appropriate; and offer advice and guidance to the Board of Directors and staff.

19.2.2 An advisory committee shall have no direct authority to establish guidelines, regulations, policies or procedures; and its decisions and recommendations shall not be final unless adopted by the Board of Directors in general session.

19.2.3 An item must pass an advisory committee by simple majority vote to be referred to the Board of Directors. A tie vote among voting members on any item shall defeat the item.

19.2.4 An item first passed by an advisory committee shall be publicized for one year until the next regularly scheduled meeting of that advisory committee in the following school year. At this meeting, the advisory committee will reconsider the item for second passage. Upon second passage, the item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director, however, may authorize that a recommendation be fast-tracked through the process if he/she determines the recommendation to be essential to the betterment of the program. Any item not passed may not be re-introduced for a minimum of two calendar years.

19.2.5 Should a vacancy occur in any seat with an unexpired term on an advisory committee the Executive Director shall appoint a qualified individual from the represented group to fill the vacant seat for the duration of the term.

19.2.6 An advisory committee may introduce a proposed amendment to the FHSAA Bylaws for consideration.

19.2.7 No member of the Board of Directors can serve on an advisory committee.

19.2.8 An individual can serve on only one advisory committee.

19.2.9 All advisory committee members, and chaperone for student-athlete members, will be reimbursed for travel following the State of Florida Employee travel regulations and rates.



19.3 Athletic Directors Advisory Committee

19.3.1 Composition. The Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall be comprised of 15 individuals – two Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (FIAAA) District Directors from each of the Association’s four administrative sections; three executive committee members of the FIAAA (i.e. president, president-elect, immediate past president, etc.); one Florida Athletic Coaches Association (FACA) athletic director representative appointed by the FACA Executive Director; one school district level athletic director/administrator, unless currently elected as one of FIAAA District Directors positions for which the Executive Director will appoint an additional at-large current, active school athletic director or school district level athletic director/administrator; and two at-large current, active school athletic directors appointed by the FHSAA Executive Director.

19.3.2 Elections. Each FIAAA District Directors representative will be elected by their peers from amongst the four or five FIAAA District Directors in each of the Association’s four administrative sections. Each FIAAA District Director is elected by their peers biennially. Elections will be conducted by the FIAAA.

19.3.3 Term. The eight elected athletic directors from the four administrative sections, the FACA athletic director representative and the at-large appointments by the Executive Director shall serve a term of three years and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves. A rotation of terms shall be established to ensure that not more than one-half of the elected members’ terms expire concurrently.

19.3.4 Meetings. The Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall meet three times annually – once following each season’s round of sports advisory committee meetings to review the recommendations brought forward by those committees; and to evaluate the entire FHSAA interscholastic athletic program, making such recommendations of its own as it deems necessary. In reviewing the recommendations brought forward by the various sports advisory committees, the Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall either give its endorsement or withhold its endorsement on each recommendation, but shall not have the authority to defeat any recommendation.

19.3.5 Chairperson. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

19.3.6 Quorum. Eight (8) of the voting members of the Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum.

19.4 Sports Advisory Committees

19.4.1 Committees. There shall be an advisory committee in each sport in which the FHSAA sanctions a State Series competition. Currently, these sports are baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, girls volleyball, boys weightlifting and wrestling.

19.4.2 Composition. Each sport advisory committee shall be comprised of 10 individuals – two member school head coaches from each of the Association’s four administrative sections, the Florida Athletic Coaches Association (FACA) state chairperson in that sport if he/she is not elected to represent a section, and a member of the Officials Advisory Committee in an ex-officio capacity. In sports in which there are both girls and boys teams, representation on the committee shall be one-half girls team coaches and one-half boys team coaches. The FHSAA staff shall establish a rotation to ensure such equitable gender representation.

19.4.3 Elections. Each sport advisory committee member will be elected by their peers from each of the Association’s four administrative sections.

19.4.4 Term. Each elected member and the FACA representative of the committee shall serve a term of three years and shall not be eligible to succeed himself/herself. A rotation of terms shall be established to ensure that not more than one-half of the elected members’ terms expire concurrently.

19.4.5 Meetings. Each sports advisory committee shall meet once annually following the conclusion of its respective State Series to evaluate the FHSAA program for that sport.

19.4.6 Chairperson. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

19.4.7 Quorum. Five (5) of the voting members of an advisory committee shall constitute a quorum.

19.5 Officials Advisory Committee

19.5.1 Composition. There shall be an Officials Advisory Committee comprised of 28 members: four officials from each of the sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, volleyball and wrestling, one from each of the four administrative sections.

19.5.2 Elections. All committee members shall be elected by those officials who are registered and in good standing in that sport and who are in attendance at the mandatory FHSAA Rules Clinics.

19.5.3 Term. Each elected member of the committee shall serve a term of three years and shall not be eligible to succeed himself/herself. A rotation of terms shall be established to ensure that not more than one-half of the elected members’ terms expire concurrently.

19.5.4 Meetings. The Officials Advisory Committee shall meet at least once annually to evaluate the FHSAA officials program.



19.5.5 Chairperson. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

19.5.6 Quorum. Fourteen (14) of the voting members of the Officials Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum.

19.6 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

19.6.1 Charge. There will be a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to provide a voice in the FHSAA governance structure to the Association's largest constituency – the more than 200,000 participating student-athletes. The committee will focus on the following areas: current issues facing student-athletes, input regarding rules and regulations, input on FHSAA special initiatives (e.g., sportsmanship program), and promoting a positive image of the student-athlete.

19.6.2 Composition. The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will be comprised of 16 members: four student-athletes from Administrative Section 1; four student-athletes from Administrative Section 2; four student-athletes from Administrative Section 3; and four student-athletes from Administrative Section 4.

19.6.3 Nominations. Each member school will be allowed to nominate one male and one female student-athlete for consideration. To be eligible for nomination, the student-athlete must meet the following requirements:

- 19.6.3.1 Must be an active student-athlete participating in at least one FHSAA- sponsored sport at his/her school;
- 19.6.3.2 Must be a sophomore (rising junior) or junior (rising senior) in good academic and disciplinary standing;
- 19.6.3.3 Must show commitment toward representing the interests of all student-athletes;
- 19.6.3.4 Must display strong character and commitment to sportsmanship and integrity; and
- 19.6.3.5 Must demonstrate leadership in his/her school.
- 19.6.3.6 Juniors may serve a second year on the committee if they still fulfill the requirements above.

19.6.4 Selection. Committee members will be selected by the FHSAA staff. The selection process will take into consideration gender, racial and sport diversity to ensure a well-rounded committee.

19.6.5 Meetings. The committee will meet once or twice annually.

19.6.6 Quorum. Eight (8) of the voting members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum.

19.7 Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

19.7.1 Composition. There shall be a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee comprised of:

- Eight physicians licensed under chapters 458 or 459 of Florida Statutes, with at least one member licensed under chapter 459; and
- One chiropractor licensed under chapter 460 of Florida Statutes; and
- One podiatrist licensed under chapter 461 of Florida Statutes; and
- One dentist licensed under chapter 466 of Florida Statutes; and
- Three athletic trainers licensed under part XIII of chapter 468 of Florida Statutes; and
- One member who is a current or retired head coach of a Florida high school.

19.7.2 Meetings. The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee shall meet at least once annually to review the interscholastic athletic program and make recommendations on safety and other health-related issues.

19.7.3 Chairperson. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

19.8 Public Liaison Advisory Committee

19.8.1 Composition. Pursuant to s. 1006.20(6), Florida Statutes, the Association shall establish, sustain, fund and provide staff support to a Public Liaison Advisory Committee appointed by the Executive Director and composed of the following:

- The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee;
- A member public school principal;
- A member non-public school principal;
- A member school principal who is a member of a racial minority;
- An active athletic director;
- An active coach, who is employed full time by a member school;
- A student athlete;
- A district school superintendent;
- A district school board member;



- A member of the Florida House of Representatives;
- A member of the Florida Senate;
- A parent of a high school student;
- A member of a home education association;
- A representative of the business community; and
- A representative of the news media.

19.8.2 **Restrictions.** No member of the Board of Directors, a Sectional Appeals Committee or the Representative Assembly is eligible to serve on the Public Liaison Advisory Committee.

19.8.3 **Authority and Duties.** The authority and duties of the Public Liaison Advisory Committee are as follows:

19.8.3.1 To act as a conduit through which the general public may have input into the decision-making process of the Association and to assist the Association in the development of procedures regarding the receipt of public input and disposition of complaints related to high school athletic and competition programs.

19.8.3.2 To conduct public hearings annually in each of the four administrative sections during which interested parties may address issues regarding the effectiveness of the rules, operation, and management of the organization.

19.8.3.3 To conduct an annual evaluation of its findings, organization as a whole and recommendations to the Board of Directors, to the Executive Director of Education, and to the respective education committees of the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives. The recommendations must delineate policies and procedures that will improve the implementation and oversight of high school athletic programs by the organization.

19.8.4 **Meetings.** The Public Liaison Advisory Committee shall meet four times annually. Additional meetings may be called by the committee chairperson, the Association president, or the Executive Director.

19.8.5 **Chairperson.** The Public Liaison Advisory Committee shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among its members.

19.8.6 **Quorum.** Eight (8) of the members of the Public Liaison Advisory Committee in attendance shall constitute a quorum.

POLICY 20

SUMMER ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

20.1 Policy

20.1.1 **Not Regulated in Summer.** The FHSAA does not regulate the athletic activities of member schools held with their own students during the summer as defined herein with the exception of football and lacrosse. The individual member school principal, district school superintendent, district school board or private school governing body are responsible for adopting regulations governing the activities of their respective schools during this period of time.

20.1.2 **Football and Lacrosse.** A member school shall not permit student-athletes in its football and lacrosse programs to wear helmets or pads or engage in physical contact in any activity sponsored by or under the supervision of the school during the summer. This shall not preclude the school from issuing school-owned equipment to a student-athlete for his/her use at a summer football camp, provided the camp is organized, operated and conducted by a third-party entity. Camps hosted by a third party, which allow the use of helmets or pads or engage in physical contact, may not be held at a participating member school's facility.

20.2 Summer Defined. The summer season is defined as that period of time outside the FHSAA sports year. This period for each member school is defined as beginning the day following the school's last day of classes for the spring semester or the day following the school's last day of spring athletic activities (including spring football practice), whichever is later, or June 1 for schools whose last day of classes for the spring semester occurs on May 31 or thereafter, and concluding with the Saturday of Week 5 in the FHSAA standardized calendar for the following school year.



OFF-SEASON CONDITIONING

21.1 Definitions.

21.1.1 Off-season. “Off-season” means the period of time during the regular school year but outside the defined sport season for a specific sport.

21.1.2 Sports Season. “Sports season” means the period of time for a specific school team in each respective sport that begins with the first permissible date of practice in that sport and ends either with

21.1.2.1 the last permissible date for a regular season contest (if not participating in state series competition) in that sport; or

21.1.2.2 the date of the team’s elimination from state series competition in that sport; or

21.1.2.3 the state championship game in that sport, whichever first occurs for that team.

21.1.3 Conditioning. Weight training is the use of free weights and stationary apparatus. Cardiovascular conditioning is distance and interval training. Plyometrics is the use of pre-set conditioning programs. Conditioning IS NOT teaching sport specific skills and drills, and DOES NOT involve the use of sport specific equipment (i.e. starting blocks, hurdles, rebounders, ball machines, bats, balls, rackets, etc.).

21.2 Off-season conditioning programs conducted by a school shall only be open to participation by all students attending that school or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3, 9.2.2.4, 9.2.2.5 or 9.2.2.6.

21.3 All preseason and/or postseason conditioning program participants shall file with the school the “FHSAA Consent and Release of Liability Certificate” and the “FHSAA Pre-participation Physical Evaluation” form.

21.4 Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

21.5 Supervision by school personnel is required.

21.6 Schools shall provide information in the following areas:

21.6.1 Proper use of weight room equipment;

21.6.2 Proper weight training techniques;

21.6.3 Proper nutrition;

21.6.4 Proper cardiovascular conditioning techniques;

21.6.5 Ergogenics.

21.7 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 44:

21.7.1 Assessment of a minimum monetary penalty of \$2,500 per violation.

21.7.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

21.7.3 Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement of a minimum of \$500 to each affected school and the FHSAA.

21.7.4 Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.

21.7.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.



NON-SCHOOL TEAMS AND OFF-SEASON PARTICIPATION

22.1 Definitions.

22.1.1 Off-Season. “Off-season” means the period of time during the regular school year but outside the defined sport season for a specific sport.

22.1.2 Sports Season. “Sports season” means the period of time for a specific school team in each respective sport that begins with the first permissible date of practice in that sport and ends either with

22.1.2.1 the last permissible date for a regular season contest (if not participating in state series competition) in that sport; or

22.1.2.2 the date of the team’s elimination from state series competition in that sport; or

22.1.2.3 the state championship game in that sport, whichever first occurs for that team.

22.1.3 Coach. “Coach” means any person, regardless of whether he/she is employed by the school or volunteer, who instructs, supervises, or otherwise manages student-athletes in conjunction with a practice, tryout, drill, workout, evaluation or competitive activity.

22.1.4 “Involved In Any Respect.” “Involved in any respect” means engaged in anything to do with a non-school team, including but not limited to coaching, scheduling, transporting, officiating and the hiring of officials, training, taping, managing team expenses, purchasing of uniforms and equipment, etc.

22.2 During the off-season, a coach shall not have contact with students outside the normal teacher-student classroom environment except to:

22.2.1 make arrangements for and assist in the conduct of physical examinations; or

22.2.2 explain eligibility regulations; or

22.2.3 solve insurance problems; or

22.2.4 review films; or

22.2.5 conduct off-season conditioning as defined in the “Off-Season Conditioning Guidelines” as per Policy 21.

22.3 During the off-season, a coach, prospective coach of any member school or any individual involved in any respect may not be involved with a non-school team in a sport unless the non-school team meets the following requirements:

22.3.1 The team must be affiliated with an outside agency promoting athletic participation opportunities such as, but not limited to:

- Baseball – Babe Ruth, American Legion, city/county leagues
- Basketball – AAU, USA, USOC
- Football –USA Football
- Golf – USGA, AJGA
- Lacrosse – US Lacrosse
- Soccer – FIFA, Youth leagues
- Softball – ASA, USSSA
- Swimming & Diving – USS, NISCA, ASCA, CSCAA, AAU
- Tennis – FTA, USTA, USOC, ITF
- Track & Field – USA, AAU
- Volleyball – USVBA, USOC, USA, AVA
- Wrestling – USA, AAU

22.3.2 Participation must include competition in the published scheduled events of the outside agency.

22.3.3 Student athletes and coaches, where applicable, are not permitted to wear any portion of a school’s athletic uniform.

22.3.4 All fees or assessment for participation must be documented.

22.3.5 Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

22.3.6 Member schools may make their gymnasiums and other athletic facilities available to outside groups or organizations provided a fully executed usage agreement is provided and available upon request.



22.3.7 The personnel affiliated with the non-school team, including, but not limited to, any coach, assistant, director, manager, supervisor, organizer, etc., must provide notification in writing to the student athletes that participation with the team could jeopardize their eligibility to participate in high school interscholastic athletics and verification of such notification must be made utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director (GA6 Form – Affidavit of Compliance with Policy on Non-School Teams and Off-Season Participation).

22.4 Participation by a student in non-school athletic activities (i.e. AAU, American Legion, club teams, travel teams, etc.) that is affiliated with any school other than the school which the student attends, or attended the previous school year, followed by the establishment of school residence by that student at the affiliated school, shall render the student ineligible at the school which that student established school residence. The student shall be ineligible to represent that school in interscholastic athletic competition for a period of 365 consecutive days from the date of his/her establishment of school residence at that school. A team affiliated with a school is one that is supervised by, organized by and/or coached by any member of the coaching staff at, or any other person who is a representative of that school's athletic interests; and/or on which the majority of the members of the team (participants in practice and/or competition) are students who attend that school (Bylaw 9.2.4.1).

22.4.1 Coaches. A coach at a member school that has had more than one (1) appeal denied to waive the above policy or Bylaw 9.2.4 through the due process procedures as per Bylaw 10.4, and did not provide evidence of the written notification to the student athlete as specified in Policy 22.3.7 or by some other effective means by the school, shall not be permitted to coach in any state series contest for one or more years.

22.5 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 44:

22.5.1 Assessment of a minimum monetary penalty of \$2,500 per violation.

22.5.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

22.5.3 Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement of a minimum of \$500 to each affected school and the FHSAA.

22.5.4 Reduced number of regular season home contests.

22.5.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

POLICY 23

OPEN FACILITIES PROGRAM

23.1 During the school year, member schools may open their gymnasiums and other athletic facilities only to their students without being in violation of FHSAA Bylaws under the following guidelines:

23.1.1 The facility must be open to all students who are bona fide students in that school as defined in Bylaw 9.2.1 or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3, 9.2.2.4, 9.2.2.5 or 9.2.2.6. Opening facilities to a select group of students to practice individual skills for a specific sport is a violation of this policy.

23.1.2 A student may participate in open facility activities only in the school in which he/she is a bona fide student as defined in Bylaw 9.2.1 or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3, 9.2.2.4, 9.2.2.5 or 9.2.2.6.

23.1.3 A middle school student cannot participate in open facilities activities offered by a senior high school unless the middle school student is a bona fide student in that senior high school as defined in Bylaw 9.2.1 or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3, 9.2.2.4, 9.2.2.5 or 9.2.2.6 and as defined in 3.2.2.3.

23.1.4 Supervision by school personnel is required. School personnel, including faculty and non-faculty coaches in attendance, however, shall not provide coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport. Their presence may be in a supervisory capacity only.

23.1.5 Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

23.1.6 No sport-specific tasks or drills shall be taught or assigned to students to perform during open facility activities.

23.1.7 Open facility activities in a specific sport (with the exception of the fall sports) shall be concluded a minimum of two weeks prior to the first permissible date of interscholastic practice in that sport.

23.2 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 44:



- 23.2.1 Assessment of a minimum monetary penalty of \$2,500 per violation.
- 23.2.2 Loss of permissible practice time.
- 23.2.3 Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement of a minimum of \$500 to each affected school and the FHSAA.
- 23.2.4 Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.
- 23.2.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

POLICY 24

COACHING SCHOOLS, CAMPS, CLINICS, COMBINES OR WORKSHOPS BY MEMBER SCHOOLS

Member schools, coaches or other athletic department employees of member schools, and individuals, groups or organizations related to or affiliated with member schools may conduct coaching schools, camps, clinics, combines or workshops provided:

24.1 The event is conducted only during the summer as defined in the “Policy on Summer Athletic Participation.”

24.1.1 Exception. Coaches may participate in camps, clinics, workshops provided the following criteria are met:

24.1.1.1 The event is hosted by a third party (not-for-profit organization), of which the coach is not an organizer, supervisor, owner, etc.; and

24.1.1.2 The coach participates in an instructional capacity only; and

24.1.1.3 The coach does not wear any school paraphernalia which identifies the school with which the coach is affiliated; and

24.1.1.4 Students participating in the camp are two grade levels below the lowest grade level of the member school with which the coach is affiliated (i.e. for 9-12 member schools the grade levels would be 7th grade and below, for 6-12 member schools the grade levels would be 4th grade and below);

24.1.1.5 The coach is subject to the provisions of Policy 36; and

24.1.1.6 The event is not held on the coach’s school campus.

24.1.2 Exception. Representatives of member schools athletic interests may provide personal instruction provided:

24.1.2.1 The individual providing instruction owns or is employed by a company which provides instruction of athletic skills; and

24.1.2.1.1 Instruction provided to students who attend the school with which the representative of the school’s athletic interests is affiliated may not exceed more than two students during the time of instruction, if the instruction takes place on that school’s campus.

24.1.2.2 The company which the individual owns or is employed by is a licensed business, containing a current tax identification number; and

24.1.2.3 Properly executed facility usage agreement, if instruction is provided on a member school’s campus and made available upon request; and

24.1.2.4 All fees or assessment for participation must be documented; and

24.1.2.5 Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team; and

24.1.2.6 The personnel affiliated with the non-school team, including, but not limited to, any coach, assistant, director, manager, supervisor, organizer, etc., must provide notification in writing to the student athletes that participation with the team could jeopardize their eligibility to participate in high school interscholastic athletics and verification of such notification must be made utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director (GA6 Form – Affidavit of Compliance with Policy on Non-School Teams and Off-Season Participation); and

24.1.2.6.1 Owners, managers, etc. who have a general administrative and/or instructional function in the activity are considered to have contact with all students receiving instruction through this activity.

24.1.2.6.2 Individuals who work in an instructional capacity only, are considered to have contact with only the students he/she directly contact through his/her instructional capacity. However, this does not exempt instructors from compliance with Policy 36.

24.1.2.7 The representative of the school’s athletic interests is subject to the provisions of Policy 36.



24.2 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 44:

24.2.1 Assessment of a minimum monetary penalty of \$2,500 per violation.

24.2.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

24.2.3 Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement of a minimum of \$500 to each affected school and the FHSAA.

24.2.4 Reduced number of regular season home contests.

24.2.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

POLICY 25

PARTICIPATION BY STUDENT-ATHLETES AND TEAMS IN COACHING SCHOOLS, CAMPS, CLINICS, COMBINES OR WORKSHOPS

The following guidelines govern participation of students of FHSAA member schools in coaching schools, camps, clinics, combines or workshops for an interscholastic sport.

25.1 **Individuals.** Students from FHSAA member schools may participate as individuals in coaching schools, camps, clinics, combines or workshops at any time of the school year without jeopardizing their interscholastic athletic eligibility, provided:

25.1.1 Students participating in the event do not, in any way, represent their school.

25.1.2 Fees for the students who participate in the event are not paid by the school, coach or school district; however, internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used.

25.1.3 Students provide their own transportation or are provided transportation by their own school. No student may be transported to or from the event by an employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of any school other than the school that the student currently attends.

25.2 **Teams.** FHSAA member schools may permit their athletic teams to participate in coaching schools, camps, clinics, combines or workshops without jeopardizing their interscholastic athletic eligibility, provided:

25.2.1 The coaching school, camp, clinic, combine or workshop takes place only during the summer as defined in the “Policy on Summer Athletic Participation.” Participation by school teams in coaching schools, camps, clinics or workshops held during the school year is strictly prohibited.

25.2.2 Fees for the students or team who participate in the event are not paid by the school, coach or school district; however, internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used.

25.2.3 Participation in the event by students is not an actual or implied prerequisite to their membership on the team.

25.3 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 44:

25.3.1 Assessment of a minimum monetary penalty of \$2,500 per violation.

25.3.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

25.3.3 Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement of a minimum of \$500 to each affected school and the FHSAA.

25.3.4 Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.

25.3.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.



POLICY 26

PARTICIPATION BY STUDENT-ATHLETES IN ALL-STAR GAMES AND SHOWCASES

The following guidelines govern participation of students of FHSAA member schools in all-star games and showcases for an interscholastic sport. The FHSAA recognizes Florida Athletic Coaches Association (FACA) sponsored All-Star Classics. The FACA meets the provisions of this policy which govern student participation in its All-Star classics. The following guidelines govern participation of students of FHSAA member schools in any all-star games or showcases for an interscholastic sport:

26.1 All-Star Teams. A high school all-star team is a team comprised of athletes who are selected as team members or invited to participate in a tryout for membership on the team as the result of the athletes' performance as high school athletes. No student at a member school shall participate on a high school all-star team in a sport as a result of his/her performance as a high school athlete until the student completes his/her interscholastic athletic eligibility in that sport.

26.1.1 Showcases. Showcases are events comprised of athletes who are selected or invited to participate as a result of the athletes' performance as an athlete. Any student athlete who participates in, but not limited to, combines and showcases do so at his/her own peril as it relates to Bylaw 9.2.4.1 and Policy 36.

26.2 All-Star Games. Students from FHSAA member schools may participate as individuals in all-star games without jeopardizing their interscholastic athletic eligibility, provided:

26.2.1 The all-star game, or tryouts or practices for the all-star game, may not be conducted prior to the completion of the regular season in the sport in which the all-star game is to be conducted. An all-star game, however, shall not be played on any date on which an FHSAA Series contest in that sport is scheduled.

26.2.2 The student-athlete has exhausted his/her eligibility in the sport in which the all-star contest is to be conducted.

26.2.3 Fees for the student-athlete who participates in the all-star contest are not paid by the school, coach or school district; however, internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used.

26.3 A student-athlete who participates in an all-star contest in a sport in which he/she has not exhausted his/her eligibility will be ineligible to represent any FHSAA member school in that sport for a period of one calendar year from the date of participation in the contest.

POLICY 27

SCHOOLS' RESPONSIBILITIES TO FHSAA OFFICIALS

Member schools have the following responsibilities relative to FHSAA officials when serving as host for an athletic contest to which the officials are assigned:

27.1 An authorized representative of the host school shall greet the officials upon their arrival.

27.2 The host school should provide a private, secure place for the officials to park.

27.3 The host school should provide a secure dressing facility which affords privacy.

27.4 The host school should provide the officials access to private shower facilities with hot water whenever possible.

27.5 The host school should provide the officials with refreshments (i.e., water and/or sports drinks) during the halftime intermission, following the conclusion of the contest and other appropriate times.

27.6 The host school must provide pregame, halftime and postgame security for the officials. A school official or principal's designee must escort the officials to and from the playing field or court to prevent harassment.



27.7 The host school principal, principal's designee or game administrator must indicate to the referee or umpire-in-chief his/her seat location should a situation develop where assistance is needed during the contest. The contest coaches should not serve as the principal's designee or game administrator.

27.8 School personnel, including coaches, shall not enter the officials dressing facility while the officials are in attendance except when requested by the officials.

27.9 The host school for state series contests beyond the district level shall provide contest officials with a secure and adequate dressing room (one each for mixed gender crews) with properly operating bathroom facilities including showers with warm water at the site of the contest. If the site does not have such facilities, the host school shall obtain and provide at its expense an appropriate hotel/motel room(s) reasonably close to the site. The host school is required to complete dressing room arrangements and have the information available to the head referee at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest. It is the responsibility of the head referee or umpire-in-chief to contact the school administration at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest to verify the arrangements for the contest. The referee or umpire-in-chief shall report to the FHSAA Office the failure of any host school to provide dressing facilities as required.

POLICY 28

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR FHSAA OFFICIALS

A violation of any one of these provisions may subject an offending official to a monetary penalty, suspension as an official, or both.

28.1 All FHSAA officials shall conduct themselves on and off the athletic field in a manner conducive to the best interests of the FHSAA, its member schools, and the interscholastic athletic program in general. No FHSAA official shall pursue a course of action which is detrimental to the welfare of the FHSAA or its member schools.

28.2 All FHSAA officials shall comply with all FHSAA guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures as contained in the FHSAA Officials Guidebook.

28.3 All FHSAA officials shall be neatly dressed in the appropriate uniform as prescribed in the Officials Guidebook, and project a physically fit appearance, when officiating a contest involving an FHSAA member school.

28.4 All FHSAA officials are expected to arrive on time for the contest as required by the rules of the applicable sport.

28.5 All FHSAA officials should be in good physical condition, mentally ready to work the best possible contest and be fully cognizant of the sport's rules. Officials are expected to make each call as they see it without fear or favor, regardless of the score, and hustle at all times.

28.6 No FHSAA official should fraternize with athletes, coaches, or spectators before, during or after a contest.

28.7 No FHSAA official may officiate a contest involving a school which his/her child currently attends, a relative currently works, or from which the official himself/herself attended or graduated within the last 7 years. No FHSAA official who is employed by a member school shall officiate a contest involving a team from that school except as provided in Bylaw 8.9.5 of the FHSAA Bylaws, which states, "Coaches or other persons connected with competing schools shall not officiate in contests except with the consent of all competing schools."

28.8 No FHSAA official shall arrive or appear at the contest site with the odor of an alcoholic beverage on his/her breath.

28.9 No FHSAA official shall use tobacco or tobacco-like products during the contest or in the vicinity of the athletic field.

28.10 No FHSAA official shall engage in unsportsmanlike conduct.



28.11 No FHSAA official shall refuse to officiate any contest with another FHSAA official because that same other FHSAA official is or is not also a registered member of a national or international officials organization.

28.12 No FHSAA official shall officiate a contest or part of a contest which is classified as an exhibition or practice game between two or more member schools. Such games are prohibited by the FHSAA Bylaws. This provision, however, does not preclude an FHSAA official from officiating an intra-squad contest or scrimmage in which all participants are students at the same one school.

28.13 No FHSAA official shall publicly criticize or berate a coach or other employee of a member school. Professional ethics require that officials use proper channels to report their problems rather than airing them publicly.

POLICY 29

CROWD CONTROL

29.1 **Home/Host School.** The home/host school administration is responsible for the control of spectators before, during and after an athletic contest. The FHSAA recommends that the home/host school administration secure uniformed security to assist with this responsibility.

29.2 **Visiting School(s).** The visiting school administration is encouraged to assist with the control of its own spectators. Visiting school administrators (i.e., principal, FHSAA representative, assistant principals, athletic director, assistant athletic director, assistant coaches, etc.) who are required by their principal to attend the event for supervisory purposes upon presentation of a photo I.D. must be provided complimentary admission to the event, provided the visiting school submits their names to the home/host school administration by fax in writing on school stationery not less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the event.

29.3 **State Championship Series.** Participating school administration (i.e., principal, FHSAA representative, assistant principals, athletic director, assistant athletic director, assistant coaches, etc.) must be present at district, regional, and state events when their school is competing. Administration must enforce appropriate behavior of their student/adult fan base.

29.4 Officials. The officials assigned to officiate a contest are responsible for the on-the-court or on-the-field conduct of the contest itself. In the event a spectator or spectators interfere with the conduct of a contest or cause an official to become distracted through continual, unrelenting verbal abuse, the official should immediately stop the action and report the spectator or spectators to the home/host school administration or the nearest uniformed security officer. If the home/host school administration or uniformed security is unwilling or unable to resolve the situation and the official does not believe the contest can be safely continued, the official must declare the contest ended at that point. Under no circumstance should an official ever confront, challenge, rebuke or threaten a spectator, or make gestures of any kind toward a spectator before, during or after a contest.

29.5 **Reports.** Both the officials assigned to officiate a contest and the home/host school administration are required to file with the FHSAA Office within 24 hours a written report on any contest that is terminated due to interference by a spectator(s).

POLICY 30

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

30.1 Sportsmanship and Ethics

Student-athletes, coaches, administrators, spectators and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with a member school, as well as contest officials, shall adhere to the principles of good sportsmanship and the ethics of competition before, during and after all contests in which they participate and/or attend.

30.1.1 Penalties Assessed the School.

30.1.1.1 Storming the playing field, court, or pool by spectators and students during or at the conclusion of an athletic contest may result in a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$250 for indoor events or \$500 for outdoor events and may be increased depending on the severity of the incident.



30.1.1.2 Removal by a coach or school personnel of a team or individual from an athletic contest prior to its normal conclusion will subject the school to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$250.

30.1.1.3 Vandalism by a team, student-athlete, coach or school personnel may result in a minimum \$250 monetary penalty, or any other penalties as outlined in Bylaw 10.1, in addition to the school being financially responsible for restitution of the item(s) vandalized.

30.2 Unsportsmanlike Act by a Student-Athlete

30.2.1 Penalties Assessed the Student-Athlete. Student-athletes who commit unsportsmanlike acts before, during or after a contest will be subject to the following suspension levels as determined by the designee of the Executive Director:

30.2.1.1 Level 1 Suspension. A student-athlete who commits an unsportsmanlike act or a flagrant foul for which he/she is ejected from the contest will be ineligible to compete for the remainder of that contest and for a minimum of the next two (2) contests, at the same level of participation in the sport of the suspension and in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, during the period of suspension, in all sports except football. For football, the student will be ineligible for a minimum of one (1) football game, at the same level of participation, and any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport during the period of suspension. If the unsportsmanlike act or flagrant foul occurs in the last contest of a season, the student will be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates; or

30.2.1.2 Level 2 Suspension. A student-athlete who receives a second Level 1 Suspension or commits an unsportsmanlike act, as defined in Bylaw 7.2.1, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, for a period of up to six (6) weeks; or

30.2.1.3 Level 3 Suspension. A student-athlete who receives a second Level 2 Suspension or commits an egregious unsportsmanlike act, as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive Director, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for a period of up to one (1) year; or

30.2.1.4 Level 4 Suspension. A student-athlete who receives three (3) or more Level 2 Suspensions or commits an egregious unsportsmanlike act, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for the duration of the student-athlete's high school career.

30.2.1.5 It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure this policy is enforced. When an ineligible student is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This policy applies to all regular season and State Series contests.

30.2.2 Penalties Assessed the School.

30.2.2.1 In the event that more than three (3) students from the same school have been charged with any suspension level, as defined in 30.2.1, in any one sport, beginning with the fourth suspension, the school will be immediately placed on administrative probation in that sport for one or more years, and will be assessed a minimum financial penalty of \$100 per suspension in that sport for the remainder of that sport's season.

30.2.2.2 On the first Level 2 suspension or higher, as defined in 30.2.1, of a student in any sport, a written warning shall be issued to the school that each subsequent suspension, at Level 2 or higher, in any sport will subject the school to a minimum financial penalty of \$250 per occurrence. Beginning with the next suspension of a student, at Level 2 or higher, the minimum financial penalty of \$250 will be assessed.

30.2.2.3 Participation by one or more student-athletes in an altercation in the bench area, or by leaving the bench and entering the court or playing field (i.e., bench-emptying) or by leaving their designated position on the court or playing field to engage in an altercation will subject the school to a minimum \$100 per student monetary penalty.

30.3 Unsportsmanlike Act by a Coach or Other Representative of the School's Athletic Interests

30.3.1 Penalties Assessed the Coach or Other Representative of the School's Athletic Interests. Coaches or other representatives of the school's athletic interests (see Bylaw 1.4.18) who commit unsportsmanlike acts before, during or after a contest will be subject to the following suspension levels as determined by the designee of the Executive Director:

30.3.1.1 Level 1 Suspension. A coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests (see Bylaw 1.4.18) who commits an unsportsmanlike act for which he/she is ejected from the contest, will be ineligible to coach or attend the remainder of that contest and for a minimum of the next two (2) contests, at the same level of participation in the sport of the suspension and in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, during the period of suspension, in all sports except football. For football, the coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests will be ineligible for a minimum of one (1) football game, at the same level of participation, and any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport during the period of suspension. If the unsportsmanlike act occurs in the last contest of a season, the coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests will be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the coach participates; or



30.3.1.2 **Level 2 Suspension.** A coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests (see Bylaw 1.4.18) who receives a second Level 1 Suspension or commits an unsportsmanlike act, as defined in Bylaw 7.2.1, will be ineligible to coach or attend any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, for a period of up to six (6) weeks; or

30.3.1.3 **Level 3 Suspension.** A coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests (see Bylaw 1.4.18) who receives a second Level 2 Suspension or commits an egregious unsportsmanlike act, as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive Director, will be ineligible to coach or attend any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for a period of up to one (1) year.

30.3.1.4 When a coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests is disqualified (ejected) from a contest, the coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests shall immediately leave the premises or facility (i.e. gymnasium in basketball, volleyball and wrestling; stadium/field in baseball, football, soccer and softball, etc.) to a place where the coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests is not visible to either student-athletes, officials, spectators or other coaches; and to where the contest itself is not visible to the coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests. A disqualified (ejected) coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests shall not have any further contact with or give instruction to athletes or other members of the coaching staff for the remainder of the contest, including halftime intermission, breaks between quarters, periods or innings and post-contest activities.

30.3.1.5 A coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests who is suspended from the next contest or number of contests after having been disqualified (ejected) from a previous contest shall not attend the contest(s) from which he/she has been suspended in any capacity and shall not be present at the site(s) of such contest(s). A suspended coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests also shall be prohibited from accompanying his/her team to the site(s) of such contest(s).

30.3.1.6 All coaches or other representatives of the school's athletic interests who have been disqualified (ejected) from a contest must complete the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Fundamentals of Coaching Course. This course is accessible from the eClassroom on the FHSAA website. This course must be completed by the end of the coach's or other representative of the school's athletic interest's suspension. A copy of the certificate of completion must be forwarded to the FHSAA Office.

30.3.2 Penalties Assessed the School.

30.3.2.1 A school whose coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests commits an unsportsmanlike act before, during or after a contest shall be assessed a minimum financial penalty of \$100. Additional minimum monetary penalties up to \$250 (per occurrence) may be imposed for unsportsmanlike conduct such as, but not limited to, use or profanity or other such gutter language or gestures, continuing to give instruction to his/her student-athletes or other members of the coaching staff after having been ejected, pursuit of officials with intent following a contest by a coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests, refusal of a coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests to leave the court, playing field or team area after being ejected, physical contact by a coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests with an official and premature termination of contest by an official due to unsportsmanlike conduct.

30.3.2.2 It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure this policy is enforced. When a coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests is allowed to coach in a or attend contest from which he/she has been suspended, the school shall face additional penalties. This policy applies to all regular season and State Series contests.

30.4 Public Criticism of Officials. No coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests may publicly criticize or berate an official prior to, during or following a contest. Professional ethics require that coaches or other representatives of the school's athletic interests use proper channels, as per Bylaw 10.3.2, to report their complaints about officials rather than airing them publicly. A minimum monetary penalty of \$50 shall be assessed a school whose coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests are in violation of this provision.

30.5 Appeals

The decision to disqualify (eject) a student-athlete, coach or other representative of the school's athletic interests (see Bylaw 1.4.18) from a contest is a decision of the contest official or FHSAA Administrator. Any penalties imposed may be appealed to the Executive Director, using the AT15 Form, and, from there, through the normal appeals procedures. All periods of ineligibility (suspensions) remain in effect during any such appeal unless and until they are modified or reversed.



POLICY 31

USE OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER SUBSTANCES

31.1 Use of Alcohol and Tobacco. The use of alcohol, tobacco or tobacco-like products by student-athletes, coaches and officials is prohibited during the contest and in the vicinity of the playing field or court. A coach or student-athlete in violation of this policy is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, will be ejected from the contest and will be suspended from subsequent contests for a period of up to six weeks in accordance with the FHSAA Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct. Additionally, the official must report any violation of this policy by either a student-athlete or coach to the FHSAA Office. Violation of this policy by a student-athlete or coach will subject the school to a monetary penalty. Violation of this policy by an official will subject the official to a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$100 or suspension or both.

31.2 Use of Steroids and Performance Enhancing Drugs. The use of anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs by a student-athlete is not permissible and is considered to be an act of unsportsmanlike conduct. A student-athlete discovered to be using such substances will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic contest until such time as medical evidence can be presented that the student's system is free of those substances.

POLICY 32

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND SUSPENDED CONTESTS

32.1 Storms. If a thunderstorm or electrical storm occurs in the area prior to the start of or during any outdoor contest, the officials must immediately contact the principal or his/her designee of each school involved in the contest to determine if the contest should be played as scheduled, delayed, suspended or postponed. If the principal or his/her designee of either of the schools involved requests that the contest be interrupted or postponed, with the exception of FHSAA State Final events, the officials must immediately honor such request. If the principal or his/her designee of only one of the competing schools is available, with the exception of FHSAA State Final events, his/her request must be honored.

32.2 Safety is Paramount. The safety and welfare of all concerned is of paramount importance. In no case may an official deny a request by a principal or his/her designee to delay, suspend or postpone an outdoor contest due to inclement weather or imply that the contest will be forfeited as a result of such a request.

32.3 Suspended Contests. A suspended contest shall be resumed from the point of interruption, unless National Federation Rules, FHSAA Bylaws and/or Policies determine that the contest is a completed contest based on where the contest is at the point of interruption.

POLICY 33

SIDELINE CHEERLEADING

As per s.1006.18, Florida Statutes, the "Spirit Rules," published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, shall be the statewide uniform safety standards for sideline cheerleading.

33.1 General Regulations

33.1.1 Cheerleaders are prohibited from building pyramids higher than two tiers during any routine in practice or during a performance in conjunction with an interscholastic contest. Host school principals are responsible for the enforcement of this regulation during regular season contests. Tournament/Meet managers and directors will be responsible for the enforcement of the regulation during FHSAA State Series contests.

33.1.2 Prior to a student's participation in cheerleading tryouts, practice or performance, the student must secure a physician's certificate to the effect that the student is physically fit for participation.



33.2 Indoor Contests

33.2.1 Cheerleaders must remain in their seats along the sidelines at all times when the ball is alive or a match is in progress.

33.2.2 Officials are responsible for the enforcement of this regulation. First offense – warning; Second and subsequent offense – technical foul in basketball; awarding of point against violating school in volleyball and wrestling.

33.3 State Championship Series. Sideline cheerleading squads will be permitted to cheer at state championship series contests provided the cheerleading squads cheered at regular season contests for that sport.

POLICY 34

PHOTOGRAPHING, FILMING AND VIDEOTAPING ATHLETIC CONTESTS

34.1 Regular Season Contests

34.1.1 Representatives of a school's athletic interest, as defined in Bylaw 1.4.18, of a visiting school may not photograph, film or videotape their team's or contestants' performance in a contest without first obtaining permission from the host school principal or his/her designee. Photographers, videographers and their equipment must be positioned so that they do not block the view of any spectator.

34.1.2 No representative of a school's athletic interest of a school that is not participating in a contest may photograph, film or videotape all or any part of the contest unless permission to do so is granted by the principal or his/her designee of each school that is participating in the contest.

34.1.3 It is recommended that schools videotape injury situations, postgame handshakes and any unsportsmanlike incidents that may occur during a football game.

34.2 State Series Contests

34.2.1 State series contests are the sole property of the FHSAA and may not be reproduced and marketed or otherwise distributed or publicly displayed in any manner without the express written permission of the FHSAA. The FHSAA retains all rights to the television broadcast or cablecast, radio broadcast, internet broadcast (audio and/or video), videotaping, filming and photographing of all state series contests.

34.2.2 The FHSAA, subject to the policies of the host facility, allows still cameras and video cameras to be used at state series contests so that participants and spectators may record the event for their own personal use – not for the purposes of commercial resale or public redistribution in any form. Only those duly authorized organizations or individuals who have been granted appropriate rights by contract or by issued credential shall be permitted to sell or publicly display or otherwise redistribute images and sounds of state series contests and then only in accordance with the terms and conditions established by the FHSAA.

34.2.3 Each participating school shall be permitted to photograph, film or videotape, for archival, coaching or instructional purposes, only those state series contests in which its team or contestants perform when arrangements are made with the contest management. Photographers, videographers and their equipment must be positioned so that they do not block the view of any spectator.

34.2.4 There may be additional guidelines or restrictions for FHSAA Finals state championship events. Consult the appropriate athletic regulations manual governing a sport for additional guidelines or restrictions concerning photographing, filming and videotaping at a state championship event in that sport.

34.3 Penalty

34.3.1 A school that violates these guidelines shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct and will be subject to reprimand and the assessment of a monetary penalty of a minimum of \$100 by the FHSAA.

34.3.2 An organization or individual who violates these guidelines, and in so doing infringes upon the rights of the FHSAA as stated hereinabove, shall be subject to one or more of the following actions: remedies under breach of contract; revocation of credentials; expulsion from the site of competition; and legal action under applicable state and federal laws.



BOARDING SCHOOLS

A boarding student who attends a boarding school that does not comply fully with the provisions of this policy shall not be eligible to represent the boarding school in interscholastic athletic competition.

35.1 Boarding School Defined. A boarding school is defined as a school that has an enrolled resident boarding school population in the ninth through 12th grades of at least 25 boarding students or 10 percent of the full student enrollment in its ninth through 12th grades, whichever is greater. Schools that do not meet these enrollment requirements must satisfy the additional requirements set forth in paragraph 8 and its subparagraphs herein below.

35.2 Requirements. A boarding school must have appropriate dormitory facilities to house, feed and provide general living accommodations for boarding students. A boarding school must also employ and have on duty 24 hours a day in the dormitories appropriately trained supervisory dormitory personnel.

35.3 Must be Recognized. A boarding school must be recognized as a boarding school in its own literature and must be verified as such by the Florida Association of Academic Non-public Schools (FAANS), Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS) and/or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

35.4 Per Week Living Requirements. A boarding student must spend at least an average of five (5) days per week living and boarding on campus while school is in session.

35.5 Sport Eligibility. No more than 50 percent of the athletes on any team, sub-varsity or varsity, can be boarding school students, if the team intends to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport. In individual sports, schools with either rosters or SELs consisting of more than 50 percent students who are boarding students shall not be eligible to participate in the FHSAA state series in that sport.

35.5.1 Exception. Schools boarding student population which exceeds 50 percent of the total school population may field a team or roster in individual sports proportional to their boarding student population, provided it does not exceed 2/3 of the team membership.

35.5.2 Exception. Boarding students who travel home on the weekends and whose parent's permanent address is inside the county boundaries where the school is located shall not be calculated in the boarding student population as in 35.5 and 35.5.1.

35.6 Supervisors. Coaches or other individuals employed by or associated with a boarding school's athletic program shall not serve as dormitory supervisors or otherwise live with boarding students in school housing.

35.7 Financial Assistance. Only those schools that qualify as boarding schools, as defined herein may provide any assistance for room and board to students who participate in interscholastic athletics, and only if such assistance is based on financial need. In no other schools may room and board expense be included in the determination of school expenses and financial need.

35.8 Compliance Issues. A school that satisfies the requirements of sections 35.2 – 35.7 above, but cannot satisfy the requirements of section 35.1 above, shall comply with the following additional requirements:

35.8.1 The school shall notify the FHSAA in writing of the name of each boarding student, his/her grade in school and the interscholastic sport(s) in which he/she will participate;

35.8.2 Not more than 25 percent of the school's boarding students may be members of the school's varsity or junior varsity athletic teams in any single sport;

35.8.3 The school shall permit the FHSAA to conduct on-site inspections of the school, the full costs of such inspections to be borne solely by the school; and

35.8.4 The FHSAA at any time may disqualify the students enrolled in the school's boarding program from further interscholastic athletic participation should the Executive Director determine that the school is using the boarding program for any improper athletic purpose.



POLICY 36

ATHLETIC RECRUITING

36.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

36.1.1 **Athletic Recruiting Forbidden.** Athletic recruiting is a gross violation of the spirit and philosophy of educational athletics. Athletic recruiting is unethical and unsporting conduct, and is forbidden by FHSAA Bylaws (FHSAA Bylaw 6.3).

36.1.2 **Scope of School's Responsibility.** A school's responsibility for the conduct of its interscholastic athletic program includes responsibility for:

36.1.2.1 The acts of any employee or athletic department staff member;

36.1.2.2 The acts of third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, that is a representative of the school's athletic interests when a member of the school's administration or athletic department staff knows or should know that the person, business or organization is promoting the school's interscholastic athletic program; and

36.1.2.3 The acts of any other third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, acting at the request, direction, or otherwise on behalf of any employee or representative of the school's athletic interests.

36.1.2.4 The acts of any other third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, acting on behalf of any student athlete.

36.1.2.5 Informing student athletes and their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of potential eligibility issues related to the participation by the student athlete in non-school athletic activities (e.g. AAU team, club team, travel team, recreation league team, etc.) affiliated with the school through one of its coaches or other athletic department staff members or a representative of the school's athletic interests.

36.1.3 **Compliance Programs.** Schools are expected to educate all employees, athletic department staff members and representatives of the school's athletic interests about acts that are prohibited by this policy. Schools must immediately report to the FHSAA Office impermissible acts when they are discovered to have occurred.

36.1.4 **Academic Recruitment Permissible.** A school may conduct an academic recruitment program that is designed to attract students to the school based upon its total educational and extracurricular (athletic and activities) program. A school must not use an academic recruitment program as a disguise for athletic recruiting.

36.1.5 **Financial Assistance Permissible.** Private schools, as well as developmental research schools operated by state universities, may administer school-based financial assistance programs for students who attend those schools. Financial assistance must be totally unrelated to a student's athletic interest, potential or performance. Financial assistance based even partially on a student's athletic interest, potential or performance is not permitted.

36.1.6 Extra Benefit. Student-athletes must not receive extra benefits, which are benefits that are not offered or generally made available to all other students in the school.

36.2 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

36.2.1 **Athletic Recruiting.** "Athletic recruiting" is any effort by a school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of a school's athletic interests to pressure, urge or entice a student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

36.2.1.1 **Representative of a School's Athletic Interests.** "Representative of a school's athletic interests" refers to any independent person, business or organization that participates in, assists with and/or promotes that school's interscholastic athletic program. This includes:

- (a) A student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program, such as a team manager, student trainer, etc., at that school;
- (b) The parents, guardians or other family members of a student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program at that school;
- (c) Relatives of a coach or other member of the athletic department staff at that school;
- (d) A volunteer worker in that school or that school's athletic program;
- (e) An athletic booster organization of that school;
- (f) A member of an athletic booster organization of that school;
- (g) A person, business or organization that makes financial or in-kind contributions to the athletic department or to an athletic booster organization of that school; and
- (h) Any other person, business or organization that is otherwise involved in promoting the school's interscholastic athletic program.

36.2.2 **Improper Contact.** “Improper contact” is contact, either directly or indirectly, whether in person or through written or electronic communication, by a school employee, athletic department staff member, representative of the school’s athletic interests or third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, with a student or any member of the student’s family, in an effort to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a different school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics. See Policy 37.

36.2.3 **Impermissible Benefit.** An “impermissible benefit” is any arrangement, assistance or benefit that is not offered or generally made available to all students and/or their families who apply to or attend a school, or that otherwise is prohibited by FHSAA rules. Receipt of a benefit by a student-athlete or his/her family is not a violation of FHSAA rules if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the school’s students or family members and is not based in any way on athletic interest, potential or performance. See Policy 37.

36.2.4 **Financial Assistance.** “Financial assistance” is funds from various sources that are administered and provided by a school to students to pay or assist in paying costs directly related to their education at the school. See Policy 38.

36.3 ACADEMIC RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

36.3.1 **References to Athletic Program.** Any presentation conducted as part of a school’s academic recruitment program must promote the school’s overall educational and extracurricular programs. Any mention of the school’s interscholastic athletics program must be limited to a listing of the interscholastic sports sponsored by the school and to a description of the school’s athletic facilities. It is understood that the presentations and activities of all persons involved in the school’s academic recruitment program must avoid any references to the school’s athletic program that might pressure, urge or entice a student to attend that school for purposes of athletic participation. All such presentations and activities must be in keeping with the general spirit of the rules prohibiting athletic recruiting.

36.3.2 **Open Houses.** A school may conduct an open house for prospective students and members of their families. Information distributed and presentations made during the open house, as well as advertisements for the open house, must limit references to the school’s athletic program to a listing of the interscholastic sports sponsored by the school and to a description of the school’s athletic facilities. No information can be distributed or any statement made that in any way implies that the school’s interscholastic athletic program is better than any other school’s interscholastic athletic program, or that a student would be better served by participating in interscholastic athletics at that school as opposed to any other school.

36.4 COMPLIANCE DOCUMENTS

36.4.1 **Certification of Compliance Form.** Each member school each year must submit to the FHSAA Office, utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director, certifying that the principal, the athletic director and the president of each athletic booster organization of the school have reviewed the “FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting,” and that he/she will comply with all provisions of the policy, and will review the provisions of the policy with school employees, athletic department staff members and representatives of the school’s athletic interests. The head coach in each varsity sport offered by the school shall, utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director, certify that he/she has reviewed the “FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting,” will comply with all provisions of the policy and will review the provisions of the policy with his/her coaching staff and players electronically in a process facilitated by the FHSAA. Failure to comply will subject the school to minimum monetary penalty of \$100.

36.4.2 **Affidavit of Compliance.** A student who for any reason changes schools after beginning the 9th grade, as well as the student’s parent(s) or legal guardian(s), duly appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, must sign in the presence of a notary public an “Affidavit of Compliance with the FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting.” The affidavit will be necessary regardless of whether the student changes schools during the school year or during the summer period between school years. The affidavit will be accompanied by an explanation of the FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting, including the penalties for violating the policy, as well as the consequences of making a false statement on the affidavit. The student will not be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition at his/her new school until the school submits the affidavit, utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director (GA4S Form – Affidavit of Compliance with the FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting). Failure to comply will subject the school to minimum monetary penalty of \$100.

36.5 PENALTIES

36.5.1 **Mandatory Forfeiture.** A school that is found to have an athletically recruited student-athlete will forfeit all contests and awards won in team sports and all points earned and resulting awards won in individual sports in which the student-athlete participated. Mandatory forfeiture also will be required when it is determined that a student who received an impermissible benefit was allowed to participate.

36.5.2 **Eligibility Effect of Violation.** A student who is found to have been athletically recruited or is found to have received an impermissible benefit will be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition for one or more years at the school to which the student was athletically recruited or at which he/she received the impermissible benefit, and may be declared ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition at all member schools for one or more years.



36.5.3 Disciplinary Measures. In addition to the mandatory forfeiture of contests and awards, any one or more of the penalties described in Article 10 of the FHSAA Bylaws may be imposed against a school for violating any provisions of this policy. These include:

- 36.5.3.1 Public reprimand;
- 36.5.3.2 Financial penalty of a minimum of \$2,500;
- 36.5.3.3 A form or combination of forms of probation (administrative, restrictive and/or suspension) for one or more years;
- 36.5.3.4 Prohibition against participating in certain interscholastic competitions, including FHSAA state championship series competitions, for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
- 36.5.3.5 Prohibition against participating in any interscholastic competition for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
- 36.5.3.6 Participation in interscholastic competition at a higher classification for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
- 36.5.3.7 Restricted membership for one or more years during which time some or all of the school's membership privileges may be restricted or denied; and
- 36.5.3.8 Expulsion from membership in the Association for one or more years.

POLICY 37

IMPROPER CONTACT AND IMPERMISSABLE BENEFITS

37.3 IMPROPER CONTACT

37.3.1 General Regulation. No school employee, athletic department staff member, representative of the school's athletic interests or third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, may make contact, either in person or through any form of written or electronic communication or through any third party, with a student, or any member of the student's family, in an effort to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a different school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

37.3.2 Specific Prohibitions. Specifically prohibited contact by school employees, athletic department staff members, representatives of the school's athletic interests or third parties with a student includes, but is not limited to, the following:

37.3.2.1 Sending, or arranging for anyone else to send, any form of written or electronic communication to the student or any member of his/her family, in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a different school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

37.3.2.2 Visiting or entertaining the student or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a different school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

37.3.2.3 Making a presentation or distributing any form of advertisement, commercial or material that promotes primarily or exclusively a school's athletic program or implies a school's athletic program is better than the athletic program of any other school or suggests that the student's athletic career would be better served by attending a different school.

37.3.2.4 Answering an inquiry by the student or any member of his/her family about athletic participation opportunities at a school with any response that pressures, urges or entices the student to attend a different school. The student or family member instead should be immediately referred to the school employee responsible for registrations or admissions.

37.3.2.5 Providing transportation to the student or any member of his/her family to visit a school, to take an entrance examination for a school, to participate in an athletic tryout at a school, or to meet with a school employee, athletic department staff member, other representative of the school's athletic interests or third parties, as part of an effort to pressure, urge or facilitate the student's attendance at a different school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

37.3.2.6 Attending an elementary school, a junior high school, a middle school or a non-school athletic contest to identify prospective student-athletes who might be recruited to attend a school.

37.3.2.7 Suggesting or going along with any effort by any person, whether a school employee, other representative of the school's athletic interests or any other person, such as an alumnus of a school, a coach or other person affiliated with a non-school athletic program (e.g. AAU team, club team, travel team, recreation league team, etc.), a coach or recruiter for a collegiate athletic team, a scout for a professional team or other third parties, to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a school to participate in interscholastic athletics, or to direct or place the student at the school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

37.3.2.8 Making or arranging any other contact with the student or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

37.3.3 Contact Initiated by Prospective Student. When a school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of a school's athletic interests is contacted by a student who does not attend that school and/or any other member of his/her family, about the school's interscholastic athletic program or attending the school, the school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school's athletic interests must immediately refer the student and/or his/her family member to the appropriate school personnel who have the responsibility of registering and admitting prospective students. Only during the summer period, as defined in Policy 20, and once the student has registered, been accepted and no longer attends the previous school may the student have contact with athletic department staff members or representatives of a school's athletic interests.

37.3.4 Casual Contact with Students in Normal Community Settings. It is not considered a violation of this policy for an employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of a high school to have casual contact with a student who does not attend that school or any member of the student's family in a normal community setting. At no time during such contact, however, may the employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of the high school pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a high school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

37.4 IMPERMISSIBLE BENEFIT

37.4.1 General Regulation. No school employee, athletic department staff member, representative of the school's athletic interests or third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, may be involved, directly or indirectly, in promising, offering or giving an impermissible benefit to any student or any member of his/her family for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics, or to any student-athlete who already attends a school.

37.4.2 Specific Prohibitions. Specifically prohibited arrangements, assistance or benefits include, but are not limited to, the following:

37.4.2.1 School-based financial assistance of any kind that exceeds the amount for which a student has been approved by an independent financial needs assessment company that is recognized by the FHSAA or otherwise is in excess of any supplemental assistance provided by a school to each and every student who qualifies for financial assistance.

37.4.2.2 Cash or like items, such as credit cards, debit cards, gift cards, gift certificates, coupons or vouchers.

37.4.2.3 Gift of clothing, equipment, merchandise or other tangible items.

37.4.2.4 Loans or assistance in securing a loan of any kind.

37.4.2.5 Payment for any work or service that is not performed or that is in excess of the amount normally paid for such work or service.

37.4.2.6 Free or reduced-cost transportation.

37.4.2.7 Living on a full- or part-time basis, regardless of whether rent is paid, with any school employee, athletic department staff member, representative of the school's athletic interests or other individual(s) who are not the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) duly appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

37.4.2.8 Free or reduced-cost rent for housing, vehicles or other items.

37.4.2.9 Full or partial payment of moving expenses or assistance of any kind with an actual physical move.

37.4.2.10 Employment or assistance in securing employment or contractual arrangement of any kind for which compensation may be paid.

37.4.2.11 Promise of a position on an interscholastic athletic team or playing time as a member of the team.

37.4.2.12 Promise of guaranteeing a college athletic scholarship.

37.4.2.13 Free or reduced costs to attend a sport or skills camp.

37.4.2.14 Any other form of arrangement, assistance or benefit that is not generally available to other students in the school or their families or that is based in any way on athletic ability.

37.3 PENALTIES

37.3.1 Disciplinary Measures. Any one or more of the penalties described in Article 10 of the FHSAA Bylaws may be imposed against a school for violating any provisions of this policy. These include:

37.3.1.1 Public reprimand;

37.3.1.2 Financial penalty of a minimum of \$2,500;

37.3.1.3 A form or combination of forms of probation (administrative, restrictive and/or suspension) for one or more years;

37.3.1.4 Prohibition against participating in certain interscholastic competitions, including FHSAA state championship series competitions, for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;

37.3.1.5 Prohibition against participating in any interscholastic competition for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;



37.3.1.6 Restricted membership for one or more years during which time some or all of the school's membership privileges may be restricted or denied; and

37.3.1.7 Expulsion from membership in the Association for one or more years.

POLICY 38

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

38.1 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

38.1.1 School-Administered Financial Assistance. Financial assistance provided by a school must be administered by the school; meaning that the school, through an established process that conforms to this policy, makes the final determination of the student who is to receive the assistance and the amount of assistance to be given. No student-athlete may accept financial assistance from any other person, business or organization unless it is received from one upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent or is received through established and continuing programs to assist students that are administered by the State of Florida.

38.1.1.1 Criteria for Providing Financial Assistance. School-based financial assistance must be based entirely on financial need as determined by an independent financial needs assessment company that is approved by the FHSAA. A school may supplement the amount of financial assistance for which a student is determined to qualify provided the same form of supplemental assistance is provided to each and every student who qualifies for any amount of financial assistance. Financial assistance must be totally unrelated to a student's athletic interest, potential or performance. Financial assistance based even partially on a student's athletic interest, potential or performance is not permitted.

38.1.1.2 Assistance with Room or Meals. School-based financial assistance for costs associated with room or meals, other than those meals made available during the school day to all students, may be provided only to students who board at FHSAA-recognized boarding schools, and then only if such financial assistance is based on financial need.

38.1.1.3 Work-Study Programs. A work-study program in which students receive financial assistance from a school in exchange for labor performed by the student for the school may be operated as follows:

- (a) The school must limit participation in the work-study program to those students who have been independently determined to have a need for financial assistance.
- (b) The school must submit to the FHSAA Office each school year a complete description of the work-study program and the process for determining the students who are chosen for participation.
- (c) The school must maintain detailed records regarding each student who participates in the work-study program. These records must include a description of the job(s) performed by the student, a documentation of the hours worked by the student, and the amount of financial assistance given the student in exchange for his/her labor.
- (d) A student-athlete must not receive financial assistance through a work-study program during the season of the sport(s) in which the student-athlete participates.
- (e) Athletic department staff members and other representatives of the school's athletic interests cannot supervise student-athletes in work-study programs.

38.1.1.4 Approved Financial Needs Assessment Companies. The FHSAA approved independent financial needs assessment companies can be found on the FHSAA Website.

38.1.1.5 Records Relating to Financial Assistance. The school must keep detailed records of school-based financial assistance provided to each student. This includes the report of the student's financial need as determined by the independent assessment company as well as the actual amount of financial assistance provided to the student by the school, and how that actual amount was determined. The school must make all records available to the Executive Director or his/her designee for inspection upon request.

38.1.1.6 Persons Who May Discuss Financial Assistance Opportunities. The only persons who may discuss financial assistance opportunities with a prospective student or any member of his/her family are those school employees who administer the school's registration, admission and financial assistance programs. No other school employee, any athletic department staff member or representative of the school's athletic interests may suggest to or promise a prospective student or any member of his/her family that any part of the student's costs of attending the school may be reduced, waived or paid for, or that financial assistance may be granted for any reason, including financial need.

38.1.1.7 Involvement of Athletic Personnel in Administration of Assistance Program. Athletic department staff members, other than those persons who have as their major responsibility an official leadership role in the academic leadership or admission programs of the school, are prohibited from sitting on the school's financial assistance committee or otherwise playing any role in the process of deciding which students receive financial assistance or the types or amount of assistance they will be given.

38.1.2 Financial Assistance Not Administered by School. Students may apply for and receive financial assistance through established and continuing programs to assist students that are administered by the State of Florida. These programs are:

38.1.2.1 The Opportunity Scholarship Program, through which the parent of a student in a failing public school may request and receive an Opportunity Scholarship for the student to attend an eligible private school.

38.1.2.2 The McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program, through which the parent of a public school student with a disability who is dissatisfied with the student's progress may request and receive a McKay Scholarship for the student to attend an eligible private school.

38.1.2.3 The Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program, through which the parent of a public school student who qualifies for free or reduced-price school lunch may seek a scholarship to attend an eligible private school from an eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization.

38.1.3 Contributions by Donor. Funds that are donated to schools by persons, businesses and organizations may be given as financial assistance to students provided the decision as to how the funds are allocated rests exclusively with the school. It is not permissible for a donor to contribute funds to provide financial assistance for a particular student-athlete.

38.2 PENALTIES

38.2.1 Disciplinary Measures. Any one or more of the penalties described in Article 10 of the FHSAA Bylaws may be imposed against a school for violating any provisions of this policy. These include:

38.2.1.1 Public reprimand;

38.2.1.2 Financial penalty of a minimum of \$2,500;

38.2.1.3 A form or combination of forms of probation (administrative, restrictive and/or suspension) for one or more years;

38.2.1.4 Prohibition against participating in certain interscholastic competitions, including FHSAA state championship series competitions, for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;

38.2.1.5 Prohibition against participating in any interscholastic competition for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;

38.2.1.6 Restricted membership for one or more years during which time some or all of the school's membership privileges may be restricted or denied; and

38.2.1.7 Expulsion from membership in the Association for one or more years.

POLICY 39

INVESTIGATIVE PROCEDURES

The FHSAA compliance staff receives information about possible violations from several different sources. Member schools, media reports, confidential/anonymous sources, parent(s) of student-athletes, and other individuals or sources may provide information to be used by this office. In addition to unsolicited information, the staff also cultivates sources that provide information about possible violations.

39.1 Responsibility for Investigations. The executive director, or his/her designee, will supervise all investigations, audits and/or compliance reviews. Investigations may be assigned to either FHSAA staff members or approved investigative consultants. The executive director will provide the member school with the specific allegations of an inquiry or investigation and the facts upon which the allegations are being made. The executive director will be responsible for making final rulings/determinations concerning any investigation.

39.2 Investigators. The approved FHSAA Investigative Consultant will:

- (a) meet Level 2 screening standards as per s. 435.04, F.S.; and
- (b) be a licensed notary public, with the authority to place individuals under oath; and
- (c) have proper FHSAA photo identification; and
- (d) not determine matters of eligibility; and
- (e) submit information and evidence to the executive director or his/her designee for an unbiased and objective determination of eligibility; and
- (f) attend an FHSAA approved training session/orientation.



39.3 Nature of Investigations. Investigations will largely consist of, but not limited to, examinations of school records and any other documents, as well as interviews of individuals who are believed to have knowledge of possible violations or who are implicated in potential violations.

39.3.1 Interviews of Individuals. Approved FHSAA Investigative Consultants will make every reasonable effort to interview every individual implicated in a potential violation. Individuals, who are interviewed, may be provided with limited detail about the subject of the investigation to promote honest, candid responses and to protect the integrity of the process. FHSAA Investigative Consultants will conduct interviews on Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. only, unless previously agreed to by the interviewee.

39.3.2 Documents, Correspondence and Other Materials. In addition to interviews, the investigative consultants may obtain significant supporting documentation, such as compliance files, academic records, e-mails, financial records, etc.

39.3.3 Additional Information or Evidence. Student athletes, parents, and schools may present, to the association or to the investigative consultant, any information or evidence that is credible, persuasive, and of a kind reasonably prudent persons rely upon.

39.4 Guidelines for Investigations. FHSAA Investigative Consultants will adhere to the following guidelines when conducting an investigation.

39.4.1 Notification of Investigation. FHSAA Office will notify its member school principal, headmaster or FHSAA Representative when an investigation is initiated. Member school principals shall notify, or cause to be notified in writing, student athletes and parents/legal guardians or other individuals identified by the FHSAA or its investigative consultant.

39.4.2 Investigations Conducted on School Campus. FHSAA Investigative Consultants will contact a school's FHSAA Representative to schedule visits to the school's campus to review records or to interview student-athletes, athletic department staff members, administrators or other representatives of the school's athletic interests who are involved in possible violations at the school.

39.4.2.1 Conflict with Academic Schedule. Interviews of student-athletes and teachers will be scheduled to minimize a loss of time from class.

39.4.3 Investigations Conducted at Residences. Unless otherwise agreed to, FHSAA Investigative Consultants may conduct residential investigations on weekdays (Monday through Friday) between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

39.4.3.1 Searches of Residence. FHSAA Investigative Consultants will obtain written consent of the parent/legal guardian before commencing a search of a family's residence, which might include a search of a student's personal living area(s).

39.4.4 Presence of School Representative and/or Parent During Interview of Student-Athlete. A school representative, preferably the FHSAA Representative, must be present, and a parent/legal guardian may be present, during the interview of a student athlete that is conducted on campus. A parent/legal guardian must be present during the interview of a student athlete that is conducted off campus.

39.4.5 Representation by Legal Counsel. Any individual being interviewed is allowed to have private legal counsel present during interviews.

39.4.6 Notice to Individuals Being Interviewed

39.4.6.1 Disclosure of Purpose of Interview. FHSAA Investigative Consultant will disclose the purpose of the interview.

39.4.6.2 Responsibility to Cooperate. FHSAA Investigative Consultant will remind those being interviewed of their responsibility to cooperate. Individuals who choose to not cooperate with the investigative process may impact student participation in interscholastic contests. Parents and/or students who choose to not cooperate with the investigative process are considered to void their consent to participate as outlined in the EL3 form.

39.4.7 Interview Record. FHSAA Investigative Consultant may electronically record an interview unless the interviewee objects in writing.

39.4.7.1 Access to Recordings. An individual being interviewed may also electronically record the interview or may request and obtain, at their expense, a copy of the interview through the FHSAA office.

39.5 Result of an Investigation. If the investigation uncovers no verifiable evidence of a major violation, the case is closed, no further action is taken and such notice will be sent to the member school. If evidence of a major violation is discovered, the case moves to the next phase, and a notice of preliminary findings is sent to the member school.



Concussions

To help ensure the health and safety of student athletes, the following policy provides guidelines and procedures on preventing, recognizing, and responding to a concussion.

40.1 Concussions. A concussion is a brain injury caused by a blow to the head or body that causes the brain to move rapidly inside the skull. Concussions can also result from a fall or from collisions between with one or more individuals or with obstacles. As brain injury, concussions are serious.

40.1.1 Any student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion including, but not limited to, loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems, shall be immediately removed from the contest or practice and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.

40.1.2 When you suspect that a player has a concussion, follow the “Heads Up” 4-step Action Plan:

- Remove the athlete from play.
- Ensure that the athlete is evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional.
- Inform the athlete’s parents or guardians about the possible concussion and give them information on concussion.
- Keep the athlete out of play the day of the injury and until an appropriate health-care professional says he or she is symptom-free and gives the okay to return to activity.

The signs, symptoms, and behaviors of a concussion are not always apparent immediately after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body and may develop over a few hours. An athlete should be observed following a suspected concussion and should never be left alone.

40.2 Appropriate Health-Care Professional (AHCP). An appropriate health-care professional (AHCP) is an individual who is trained in the diagnosis, evaluation and management of concussions. Such individuals will be a licensed physician (MD, as per Chapter 458, Florida Statutes) or a licensed osteopathic physician (DO, as per Chapter 459, Florida Statutes). Consistent with the American Academy of Neurology and other organizations, It is recommended that an AHCP as defined in Policy 40.2 above or an athletic trainer (ATC, as per Chapter 468, Florida Statutes) is present at all sporting events, including practices, where athletes are at risk for concussion or for those classified as a collision sport, whenever possible.

40.3 Mechanics for Removal from Athletic Contest. The FHSAA concussion rule calls for the immediate removal of the participant from the contest or practice. Players, coaches and contest officials should be cognizant of athletes who display signs, symptoms or behaviors of a concussion and immediately stop play for injury evaluation within the rules of the game (the responsibility of the contest official is limited to activities that occur on the field, court, mat, etc.).

40.3.1 Symptoms Reported by the Athlete

- Headache
- Nausea
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or fuzzy vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Feeling sluggish
- Feeling foggy or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion

40.3.2 Signs Observed by Other Individuals

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about what to do
- Forgets plays
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness



- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Can't recall events prior to hit
- Can't recall events after hit

40.3.3 Removal. Once the participant has been removed from a contest due to a suspected concussion, the coach, school and AHCP(s) assumes full responsibility for that athlete's further evaluation and safety. If available, a certified athletic trainer (ATC) under the direct supervision of a MD/DO can assist with the sideline evaluation of a student-athlete when a student-athlete is sent out of a competition or practice, but cannot provide written clearance to return to play (refer to above). If after sideline evaluation, it is determined the athlete does not demonstrate symptoms consistent with a concussion the ATC will follow procedures within a written operational protocol created and signed by a supervising physician to determine return to play. In this situation, the athlete should continue to be monitored for any delayed onset of concussion symptoms and must be removed from activity immediately if signs or symptoms return.

40.4 Return to Play (RTP) Criteria – Recommended Concussion Management

40.4.1 No athlete should return to play (RTP) or practice on the same day of a suspected concussion. "When in doubt, sit them out!"

40.4.2 Any athlete suspected of having a concussion must be evaluated by an AHCP (as defined above) as soon as possible and practical.

40.4.3 Any athlete who has sustained a concussion must be medically cleared by an AHCP (as defined above) prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition.

40.4.4 After evaluation and examination by an AHCP (as defined above), return to play must follow a step-wise protocol as defined by the "Graded Return to Play Protocol" form and under the supervision of an AHCP, athletic trainer, coach or other health care professional (Post Head Injury/Concussion Form).

40.4.5 A written medical clearance from an AHCP (as defined above) is required for return to competition (Post Head Injury/Concussion – RTP Form).

40.5 Education on Management of Concussions

40.5.1 Requirement for Coaches. All FHSAA member school head coaches and paid/supplemented coaches are required to view the FREE online education course "Concussion in Sports – What You Need to Know". This NFHS concussion course may be viewed online at www.nfhslearn.com.

40.5.2 Recommendation. All member school personnel, contest officials, student-athletes, parents and media are encouraged to educate themselves by viewing the FREE online education course "Concussion in Sports – What You Need to Know". This free NFHS concussion course may be viewed online at www.nfhslearn.com.

40.5.3 Additional Information. Current and up-to-date information on concussion can be found on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/youth.html>; and
- <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/highschool.html>.

40.6 Concussion Release Form. Each student-athlete and their parent or legal guardian, duly appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, must submit a release form provided by the association (Form EL3CH – Concussion & Heat Related Illness Information Release Form).

POLICY 41

HEAT ACCLIMATIZATION

Heat illness is a cause for concern for high school student-athletes beginning pre-season practices in the warm, summer months and other times of extreme heat. The most serious heat illness, exertional heat stroke, is one of the leading causes of preventable death in these athletes. Heat production during intense exercise is 15 to 20 times greater than at rest and can raise body core temperature one to two degrees Fahrenheit every five minutes unless heat is dissipated. The following policy provides guidelines and procedures for conducting preseason practices and activities to insure the well-being of student-athletes.



41.1 Intent. The intent of this policy is to require FHSAA member schools to follow a preseason acclimatization and recovery model for all sports that enhances student-athlete well-being. The policy also requires individual schools, or districts, to select and promote a method of environmental monitoring to be used outside the acclimatization period and comply with standard recommendations for practice modifications, for the safety of the student-athlete.

41.1.1 These policies provide general regulations for conducting preseason practices for secondary school-age student athletes and to provide recommendations for voluntary conditioning workouts.

41.1.2 These policies should be applied before and during the academic year to ensure the athletes arrive with and maintain adequate sport-specific conditioning.

41.1.3 Application of these regulations should not be based solely on the information contained here within; but, should represent the minimal safety precautions promoted through the FHSAA. Coaches and Schools are encouraged to review published recommendations through the NFHS or the National Athletic Trainers Association to further protect student-athletes from the harmful effects of the heat.

41.1.4 Individuals using these guidelines are responsible for prudent judgment with respect to each practice, athlete and facility and each athlete is responsible for exercising caution when following these general requirements.

41.2 Rationale. The recommendation of the National Federation of High School Association's (NFHS) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) and the National Athletic Trainers' Association's (NATA) Secondary School Committee, that all sports use acclimatization and recovery principles to develop their preseason practice schedules for the purpose of enhancing the student athlete well-being, is based on the following: The primary focus of the preseason period should be to provide an adjustment period to the intensity and duration of exercise and environmental conditions. These procedures are based upon medical literature. Careful consideration should be given to the various levels of fitness in the high school student-athlete.

41.3 Definitions.

41.3.1 Voluntary Conditioning. Voluntary conditioning is defined as any conditioning (i.e. running, weight lifting, warm-up, stretching, or cool-down) that occurs outside the season as defined in Policies 20 and 21.

41.3.2 Official Practice. An official practice is defined as one continuous period of time in which a participant engages in physical activity. It is required that each practice be no more than three hours (3 hours) in length and consist of no more than 90 minutes of intense exercise. Warm-up, stretching, and cool-down activities are to be included as part of the official practice time. All conditioning and/or weight room activities shall be considered part of the official practice beginning on the first calendar day of official sport season.

41.3.3 Acclimatization Period. The acclimatization period is defined as the first 14 calendar days of a student-athletes' participation, beginning with the first allowable date of practice in that sport or the first day an athlete begins official practice, whichever is later. All student-athletes, including those who arrive to preseason practice after the first official day of practice, must adhere to the safety precautions afforded by this acclimatization policy. This period does not restrict an athletes' availability to participate in a contest but does restrict the amount of total hours an athlete can participate on a daily and weekly basis.

41.3.4 Walk-Through. A walk-through shall be defined as an additional teaching/learning opportunity for student-athletes and coaches with no protective equipment (i.e. helmets, shoulder pads, shin guards) or equipment related to a given sport (i.e. footballs, blocking sleds, pitching machine, soccer balls, etc). The duration of any walk-through must not exceed one hour in length. A walk-through shall not include conditioning or weight room activities.

41.3.5 Recovery Period. A recovery period is defined as the time between the end of one practice or walk-through and the beginning of the next practice or walk-through. Physical activity is restricted during this time period.(i.e. speed , strength, conditioning, or agility drills) Walk-throughs are prohibited during this recovery period.

41.4 Procedures

41.4.1 Prior to participation in any preseason practice activities, all student-athletes are required to undergo a Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (see Bylaw 9.7, Form EL 2) administered as required by state law.

41.4.2 The student and parent or legal guardian, duly appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, must submit a release form provided by the association (Form EL3CH – Concussion& Heat Related Illness Information Release Form).

41.4.3 During the first seven days of an athlete's participation, it is required that participants not engage in more than one practice per day.

41.4.4 If a practice session is interrupted by inclement weather or heat restrictions, it is required the session be divided for the good of the student-athlete's welfare as long as the combined total practice time for that session does not exceed three (3) hours. The addition of a walk-through session in this situation is acceptable provided it is added because of a weather related disruption, and occurs inside an air-conditioned facility.

41.4.5 Competition is counted as three (3) hours. An official practice is not permitted on the same day of a competition.



41.4.6 A walk-through is permitted during Days 1 – 6 of the acclimatization period. However, a one-hour recovery period is required between the end of practice and the start of the walk-through or vice-versa.

41.4.7 Football only (including spring): Due to the protective equipment required in football, these additional procedures apply: the first two (2) days of practice are restricted to helmets only, days 3-5 can introduce shoulder-pads with shorts and then beginning day six (6) of practice, full gear can be utilized and body-to-body contact is permitted. Student-athletes who begin practice with a team after the start of official practice will be required to follow this same 6 day procedure. During the initial five (5) days, the use of arm shields, tackling and blocking dummies, sleds and other devices can be used for instructional purposes, however, deliberate body-to-body contact is prohibited.

41.4.8 For football athletes, the first availability for a contest would be after completion of the 6 practice sessions as listed above in 41.4.6.

41.4.9 Beginning Day 8, it is required that the practice schedule not exceed a 2-1-2-1 format. This means that a day consisting of two practices should be followed by a day with only one practice. One walk-through session may be added to a day with a single practice session. If a two practice day were followed by a day off, a two-practice day would be permitted on the next day.

41.4.10 On days when two practices are conducted, it is required that either practice not exceed three (3) hours in length and student-athletes not participate in more than five (5) total hours of practice activities on these days, Warm-up, stretching, and cool-down activities are included as part of the official practice time. Practices must be separated with at least three continuous hours of recovery time between the end of the first practice and the beginning of the very next practice. A walk-through is not permitted on days that have two (2) official practices. Weekly practice time shall not exceed twenty-four (24) hours for days 8-14.

41.4.11 On days when a single practice is conducted, it is required that practices not exceed three hours (3 hours) in length. A walk-through is permitted after a minimum one-hour recovery period between the end of the first practice and the walk-through, or vice-versa.

41.4.12 It is recommended that any voluntary conditioning session is limited to three (3) hours maximum per session and these sessions should include the safeguards listed within 41.5 below.

41.4.13 Cross Country: Individuals must participate in a minimum of 10 practice sessions on 10 separate days prior to the first contest.

41.5 Hydration and Rest. Once the 14 day acclimatization period expires or within ANY voluntary conditioning session, each individual school, or district, must select and promote a method of monitoring the environment for heat related concerns and comply with standard recommendations for practice modifications, for the safety of the student-athlete. Schools must continue to adhere to the above hydration/rest policies as well as the time limits and sequencing imposed on practice (2-1-2).

- Rest time should involve both unlimited hydration intake and rest without any activity involved.
- For sports utilizing helmets (i.e. football, lacrosse, baseball, softball and others) helmets should be removed during rest time.
- For every 30 minutes of practice, there must be at least a minimum 5 minute rest and hydration break.
- The area identified for rest should be considered a “cooling zone” and out of direct sunlight. This area can include ice sponges, cold immersion tubs and other cooling alternatives to facilitate the cooling process.
- Coaches should promote a heat injury prevention philosophy by promoting unrestricted access to water at all times without consequence.
- A student-athlete should never be denied access to water if he/she requests.

41.5.1 Suggested methods of monitoring the environment include:

1. Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT)
2. Heat Index
3. Digital meters or Psychrometers

41.6 Sanctions on Coaches

41.6.1 Level 1 Suspension. A head coach who commits a violation of any condition listed in Policy 41 will be ineligible to coach or attend any contest, at any level, for a minimum of the next two (2) contests during the period of suspension, in all sports except football. For football, the coach will be ineligible for a minimum of one (1) football game; or

41.6.2 Level 2 Suspension. A head coach who receives a second Level 1 Suspension due to a violation of any condition listed in Policy 41, or commits multiple violations in Policy 41 will be ineligible to coach or attend any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, for a period of up to six (6) weeks; or

41.6.3 Level 3 Suspension. A head coach who receives a second Level 2 Suspension for violating any condition of Policy 41 or commits an egregious violation of Policy 41, as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive Director, will be ineligible to coach or attend any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for a period of up to one (1) year.



LICENSING AND ROYALTIES

42.1 Rights to FHSAA Properties

The FHSAA owns or controls all rights and interests in its name, logos, trademarks and service marks, whether registered or unregistered, including “Florida High School Athletic Association,” “Florida High School Activities Association,” “FHSAA,” “FHSAA Finals,” “FHSAA Florida Finals,” “Florida Finals,” “FHSAA Championships,” “FHSAA State Series,” “Sport the ‘Tude!,” and “Play Strong. Play Hard. Play Fair.” The FHSAA will prosecute infringement of identical or confusingly similar marks. The FHSAA shall maintain control over the nature and quality of the goods and services rendered under the marks; therefore, no use of the marks by others will be permitted in advertising, in association with commercial services or related to the sale of merchandise without the specific approval of the FHSAA.

42.2 Registration

The name, emblem and logos of the FHSAA are registered service marks under the laws of the State of Florida and will be protected from unlawful use for the benefit of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA). By virtue of its membership in this Association, each school will be an authorized agent of the FHSAA with respect to use of any or all service marks subject to the terms and conditions of this “Licensing and Royalty Policy.”

42.3 Licensing

42.3.1 Member schools are encouraged and licensed to use the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos and service marks on programs and event merchandise in connection with sanctioned interscholastic events only as set forth herein. A royalty will be due or owing the FHSAA for any use of the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos, trademarks and service marks for any item sold or distributed by a member school or outside vendor at or in connection with any such activity during the regular sports season when any official marks or logos are used. Required use during FHSAA State Series events is set forth separately in this policy.

42.3.2 Member schools may not authorize any other individual or entity to use any FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logo or service mark without the prior writ-ten approval of the FHSAA.

42.3.3 Member schools may contract only with those outside vendors who are licensed by the FHSAA to produce event merchandise on which the FHSAA name, emblem and/or logos is displayed. It will be the responsibility of the member schools to refer outside vendors wishing to become licensed to the FHSAA Office. The FHSAA Office will prepare and distribute to member schools a listing of such licensed vendors on a regular basis. The annual licensing fee shall be determined at the discretion of the executive director.

42.3.4 Any use of the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos or service marks not otherwise specifically stated in this policy will obligate either the member school or an outside vendor doing business with the member school to remit to the FHSAA a royalty fee determined at the discretion of the executive director.

42.3.5 Any other use of the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos or service marks, such as on team patches, shirts, sweatshirts, hats, jackets, towels, artifacts or otherwise, requires the prior written approval of the FHSAA on terms specified by the FHSAA at its discretion.

42.3.6 Print, radio and television media may use the FHSAA name, emblem and logos as part of its coverage of FHSAA events and/or in any publication, slide, videotape, brochure, pamphlet, advertisement, commercial, etc., relating to its coverage of the FHSAA. Permission from the FHSAA Office is not required and the terms of this “Licensing and Royalty Policy” do not apply. However, the use of any of the official marks in any merchandise created and/or distributed in connection with coverage of and/or sale of promotional use is subject to this “Licensing and Royalty Policy.”

42.3.7 The enforcement of this policy will be the responsibility of each member school in conjunction with the FHSAA Office. The collection of the revenue required pursuant to this policy will be the responsibility of the FHSAA Office via the member school or outside vendor, depending upon who is responsible for arranging for the actual production or distribution of any merchandise for the event.

42.3.8 A member school which contracts with an outside vendor not licensed by the FHSAA to produce merchandise and otherwise in which the FHSAA official marks are displayed, for sale or distribution at regular season events will be in violation of this policy and will be assessed a monetary penalty \$250 plus additional monetary damages for lost royalties to be determined at the discretion of the Executive Director.

42.4 FHSAA State Series Events

42.4.1 The FHSAA Championships Logo must be conspicuously displayed on all T-shirts, other merchandise, printed materials or otherwise produced and/or distributed in connection with any FHSAA State Series event. FHSAA State Series events include, but are not limited to, all contests, games, meets or other events conducted by or under the auspices of the FHSAA on the district, regional



and FHSAA State Championship levels. Other merchandise includes caps, hats, golf shirts, rugby shirts, sweat shirts, muscle shirts, key chains, car tags, bumper stickers, pennants, banners, cups, mugs, posters and similar items. Printed materials are considered to include programs, heat sheets, bracket sheets, scorecards, placards, promotional posters, flyers, advertisements, billboards and similar items.

42.4.2 The FHSAA Office will enter into an agreement with one or more vendor(s) to exclusively produce the official merchandise, including T-shirts, for all FHSAA State Series events on the district, regional and state levels. The exclusive vendor(s) of FHSAA State Series event merchandise shall be subject to the Terms and Conditions of the contract between the FHSAA and the vendor. A member school or organization that serves as host for any FHSAA State Series event and wishes to sell souvenir merchandise specific to that event shall be required to purchase such souvenir merchandise from the exclusive vendor(s). Should the exclusive vendor(s) elect to come to the site of any FHSAA State Series event and sell such souvenir merchandise directly to the participants and general public at the event, the host school/organization for the event shall be required to grant to the exclusive vendor(s) ingress to and egress from the facility in which the event is to be conducted, as well as space in the facility in which to set up a booth(s) from which to sell the souvenir merchandise. The FHSAA will retain complete control over the design of merchandise to be produced for sale at an FHSAA State Series event. In either case, the minimum royalty fee to be paid to the FHSAA is at the discretion of the executive director.

42.4.3 No individual(s), including those affiliated with a participating member school, shall bring onto the property of a facility at which an FHSAA State Series event is being conducted any items (including but not limited to T-shirts, caps, posters, bumper stickers, etc.) to be sold or otherwise distributed on the property to student-athletes, coaches or spectators without the written approval of the FHSAA. An individual(s) found in violation of this provision shall surrender the items for confiscation, shall be expelled from the property and may be subject to legal action. A member school found in violation of this provision shall be assessed a minimum monetary penalty of \$250 and additional monetary damages for lost royalties to be determined at the discretion of the Executive Director.

POLICY 43

MEDIA CREDENTIALS FOR FHSAA STATE SERIES EVENTS

The FHSAA does not issue credentials to FHSAA State Series contests below the state championship level. Authorized working personnel employed by an outlet which has been approved to broadcast an FHSAA State Series contest must be admitted to the facility without charge upon presentation of proper identification and payment of appropriate rights fees to the host school principal or contest manager. Application must be made to the FHSAA for credentials to certain FHSAA State Series contests on the state championship level.

43.1 **Making a Request.** Requests for media credentials for each FHSAA Finals state championship event must be submitted online via the FHSAA media site (<http://www.fhsaa.org/departments/media>) by the deadline established for the event. The online form must be completed in its entirety. It is the responsibility of the individual to confirm that his or her request has been received. The request can only be made by an editor/manager of a news outlet or publication, or an owner/operator of an Internet site.

43.2 **Credential Limits.** Credentials to an FHSAA Finals event will be issued on a space-available basis only to Student-based media of member schools participating in the event (limit of one (1)). This request must be made by the school's athletic director using the online system;

43.2.1 If a school is unable to secure a credential for a student, an adult staff member of the school or an adult at an outside company who has been hired by the school and had a background check performed may be issued a credential. This request must be made by the school's athletic director using the online system (limit of one (1)).



MONETARY PENALTIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

44.1 Monetary Penalty Schedule

The following monetary penalties are generally assessed member schools for the most common rules violations. This schedule is not all inclusive and does require the Executive Director to determine monetary penalties for violations not specifically covered herein. In all cases, these amounts are minimums and may be increased relative to the severity of the violation. The following chart is for reference only, when a conflict in language occurs the policies or administrative procedures will take precedence.

#	Minimum Description of Violation and Reference	Amount
44.1.1	General failure to comply with FHSAA Policies or Administrative Procedures (Policies and Administrative Procedures Preambles).....	\$100.00
44.1.2	Permitting a student-athlete to compete in an interscholastic contest prior to his/her name being submitted to the FHSAA Office on an Annual Eligibility Report (Policy 4.1.1.1(a)).....	\$50.00
44.1.3	Failure to contract with sanctioned local officials associations for registered officials at all interscholastic home contests (Policy 4.1.1.1(b)).....	\$100.00
44.1.4	Actions which may not be regarded as unsportsmanlike which result in a contest being prematurely concluded (Policy 4.1.1.1(c)).....	\$100.00
44.1.5	Exceeding the number of contests allowed in a tournament or withdrawing from a tournament to avoid exceeding number of contests allowed (Policy 4.1.5.4)	\$250.00
44.1.6	Failure to attend a required Compliance Seminar (Policy 5.1.10)	\$250.00
44.1.7	Violation of the Sanctioning Policy (Policy 7.7)	\$100.00
44.1.8	Failure of a team or student-athlete who has qualified to advance in the FHSAA State Series to participate on the next level of the State Series (Policy 10.7.1 and 10.7.2)	\$250.00/\$50.00
44.1.9	Permitting a student-athlete to compete in an FHSAA State Series contest who was not submitted to the FHSAA Office on the Official Entry List for that sport (Policy 11.1).....	\$50.00
44.1.10	Failure of school to have representative participate in the District Tournament/Meet Planning Meeting (Policy 13.2.2.2)	\$100.00
44.1.11	Improper use of a State Series Pass (Policy 15.1.4.9)	\$100.00
44.1.12	Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without a completed EL2 form (Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form, see Bylaw 9.7), per student (Policy 16.9.1)	\$500.00
44.1.13	Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without a completed EL3 form (Consent and Release from Liability Certificate, see Bylaw 9.8), per student (Policy 16.9.2)	\$500.00
44.1.14	Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without a completed and approved EL4 form (Registration Form for Youth Exchange, Other International or Immigrant Student, see Policy 17), per student (Policy 16.9.3)	\$100.00
44.1.15	Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without registering a Non-Traditional Student (see Policy 16.7), per student (Policy 16.9.4).....	\$100.00
44.1.16	Use of an ineligible student when not self-reported, per contest (Policy 16.9.5).....	\$2,500.00
44.1.17	Use of an ineligible student when self-reported, per contest (Policy 16.9.6).....	\$100.00
44.1.18	Conduct of an illegal practice session or illegal practice contest (Policy 6.1.1.3, 6.1.2.2 and 18.1.4)	\$250.00
44.1.19	Conduct of an illegal scrimmage (Policy 18.4.4)	\$250.00
44.1.20	Violation of the Off-Season Conditioning Policy, per violation (Policy 21.7.1).....	\$2,500.00
44.1.21	Violation of the Non-School Teams and Off-Season Participation Policy, per violation (Policy 22.5.1)	\$2,500.00
44.1.22	Violation of the Open Facilities Policy, per violation (Policy 23.2.1).....	\$2,500.00
44.1.23	Violation of the Coaching School, Camps, Clinics, Workshops by Member Schools Policy, per violation (Policy 24.2.1)	\$2,500.00
44.1.24	Violation of the participation by student-athletes and teams in Coaching School, Camps, Clinics, Workshops Policy, per violation (Policy 25.3.1)	\$2,500.00
44.1.25	Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement to each affected school and the FHSAA (Policy 25.3.3).....	\$500.00



44.1.26	Storming the playing field, court, or pool by spectators and students at the conclusion of an athletic contest, indoor events (Policy 30.1.1.1).....	\$250.00
44.1.27	Storming the playing field, court, or pool by spectators and students at the conclusion of an athletic contest, outdoor events (Policy 30.1.1.1).....	\$500.00
44.1.28	Removal by a coach or school personnel of a team or individual from an athletic contest prior to its normal conclusion (Policy 30.1.1.2).....	\$250.00
44.1.29	Vandalism by a team, student -athlete, or school personnel (Policy 30.1.1.3)	\$250.00
44.1.30	Suspension of a student-athlete for unsportsmanlike conduct, beginning with fourth incident during a sports season, per suspension (Policy 30.2.2.1)	\$100.00
44.1.31	Suspension of a student-athlete at the Level 2 Suspension level for unsportsmanlike conduct, beginning with second incident during a school year, per occurrence (Policy 30.2.2.2)	\$250.00
44.1.32	Participation by one or more student-athletes in an altercation by leaving the bench in and entering the court or playing field (i.e., bench-emptying) or by leaving their designated position on the court or playing field, per student (Policy 30.2.2.3).....	\$100.00
44.1.33	Suspension of a coach for unsportsmanlike conduct (Policy 30.3.2.1)	\$100.00
44.1.34	Use or profanity or other such gutter language or gestures by a coach, per occurrence (Policy 30.3.2.1)	\$150.00
44.1.35	Coach continuing to give instruction to his/her student-athletes or other members of the coaching staff after having been ejected from a contest (Policy 30.3.2.1).....	\$100.00
44.1.36	Pursuit of officials with intent following a contest by a coach or other school personnel (Policy 30.3.2.1)	\$150.00
44.1.37	Refusal of an ejected coach to leave the court, playing field or team area (Policy 30.3.2.1).....	\$100.00
44.1.38	Physical contact by a coach or other school personnel with an official (Policy 30.3.2.1)	\$250.00
44.1.39	Premature termination of a contest by an official due to unsportsmanlike conduct by student-athletes, coaches, other school personnel spectators in attendance (Policy 30.3.2.1)	\$250.00
44.1.40	Statements of criticism or other derogatory remarks concerning officials which are made by coaches or other school personnel and appear in the news media (Policy 30.4).....	\$50.00
44.1.41	Use of alcohol, tobacco or tobacco-like products (Policy 31.1).....	\$100.00
44.1.42	Violation of the photographing, filming and videotaping policy during the state series (Policy 34.3.1)	\$100.00
44.1.43	Allowing students to participate (see Bylaw 9.10.1) without a submitted GA4 form (Affidavit of Compliance with Policy on Athletic Recruiting), per student (Policy 36.4.2).....	\$100.00
44.1.44	Violation of the Policy on “Athletic Recruiting” which results in the successful recruitment of a student-athlete (Policy 36.5.3.2)	\$2,500.00
44.1.45	Violation of the Policy on “Improper Contact and Impermissible Benefits” (Policy 37.3.12)	\$2500.00
44.1.46	Violation of the Policy on “Financial Assistance” (Policy 37.3.12).....	\$2500.00
44.1.47	Violation of the Licensing Policy during the regular season (Policy 42.3.8).....	20% of the gross retail sales
44.1.48	Violation of the Licensing Policy during the State Series (Policy 42.4.3)	\$250.00 plus damages
44.1.49	Unauthorized broadcast of a State Series event (Administrative Procedure 3.12.9) ..	\$50.00 per broadcast plus rights fees
44.1.50	Failure to attend/view/participate in a FHSAA Finals coaches meeting (Administrative Procedure 3.5)	\$100.00
44.1.51	Failure to submit team photo and data for publication in FHSAA Finals official souvenir program by deadline (Administrative Procedure 3.4.1).....	\$50.00
44.1.52	Failure to submit team photo and data for publication in FHSAA Finals official souvenir program by deadline if team advances to FHSAA Finals (\$100 photo, \$100 any item of information such as roster, schedule, statistics, etc.)(Administrative Procedure 3.4.1).....	up to \$300
44.1.53	Failure to submit up-to-date stats for publication in FHSAA Finals media materials by deadline (Administrative Procedure 3.4.2).....	\$100.00
44.1.54	Violation of the “Exchange of Game Films” Administrative Procedure during the football state series (Administrative Procedure 4.7.3.5.2)	\$250.00



44.2 ADMINISTRATIVE FEE SCHEDULE

The following administrative fees are generally assessed member schools for failure to file necessary forms or other paperwork by the appropriate deadline, or for other administrative services. This schedule is not all inclusive and does require the Executive Director to determine administrative fees for services not specifically covered herein. In all cases, these amounts are minimums and may be increased relative to the level of service. The following chart is for reference only, when a conflict in language occurs the policies or administrative procedures will take precedence.

#	Minimum Description of Violation and Reference	Amount
44.2.1	Late filing of an Application for Sanction less than 30 days prior to the event (Policy 7.2.1.1).....	\$50.00
44.2.2	Late filing of an Application for Sanction less than 10 days prior to the event (Policy 7.2.1.2).....	\$100.00
44.2.3	Late filing of an Application for Sanction after first date of event (Policy 7.2.1.3)	\$200.00
44.2.4	Application fee for first time membership (Policy 9.2.2.1).....	\$150.00
44.2.5	Failure to file membership renewal application by deadline (Policy 9.2.2.3)	\$50.00
44.2.6	Re-admission of former members school (Policy 9.2.3)	\$300.00 (MS) \$650.00 (HS)
44.2.7	Administrative fee for jamborees and classics in sanctioned team sports (except girls volleyball). Additional \$50.00 per team over 4 (Policy 9.5.1.1).....	\$100.00
44.2.8	Administrative fee for tournaments in sanctioned team sports (except girls volleyball), 4 teams or less (Policy 9.5.1.1)..	\$100.00
44.2.9	Administrative fee for tournaments in sanctioned team sports (except girls volleyball), 5 - 8 teams (Policy 9.5.1.1).....	\$250.00
44.2.10	Administrative fee for tournaments in sanctioned team sports (except girls volleyball), 9 - 16 teams (Policy 9.5.1.1).....	\$500.00
44.2.11	Administrative fee for tournaments in sanctioned team sports (except girls volleyball), 17 - 20 teams (Policy 9.5.1.1)....	\$750.00
44.2.12	Administrative fee for tournaments in sanctioned team sports (except girls volleyball), 21 - 24 teams (Policy 9.5.1.1)....	\$1,000.00
44.2.13	Administrative fee for tournaments in sanctioned team sports (except girls volleyball), 25 - 32 teams (Policy 9.5.1.1)....	\$1,500.00
44.2.14	Administrative fee for jamborees and/or classics in girls volleyball and wrestling. Additional \$50.00 per team over 4 .. (Policy 9.5.1.2)	\$75.00
44.2.15	Administrative fee for tournaments in girls volleyball and wrestling, 8 teams or less (Policy 9.5.1.2).....	\$100.00
44.2.16	Administrative fee for tournaments in girls volleyball and wrestling, 9 - 16 (Policy 9.5.1.2).....	\$150.00
44.2.17	Administrative fee for tournaments in girls volleyball and wrestling, 17 - 32 (Policy 9.5.1.2).....	\$250.00
44.2.18	Administrative fee for tournaments in girls volleyball and wrestling, more than 32 teams (Policy 9.5.1.2).....	\$250.00 + \$50.00 per school over 32
44.2.19	Administrative fee for Spring Football Jamborees (Policy 9.9.1).....	\$150.00
44.2.20	Administrative fee for Preseason Football Jamborees (Policy 9.9.1).....	\$450.00
44.2.21	Late filing of financial report for classics, 30-60 days late (Policy 9.9.2).....	\$50.00
44.2.22	Late filing of financial report for classics, 60-90 days late (Policy 9.9.2).....	\$75.00
44.2.23	Late filing of financial report for classics, more than 90 days (Policy 9.9.2).....	\$100.00
44.2.24	Late filing of financial report for tournaments or meets, 30-60 days late (Policy 9.9.3).....	\$50.00
44.2.25	Late filing of financial report for tournaments or meets, 60-90 days late (Policy 9.9.3).....	\$75.00
44.2.26	Late filing of financial report for tournaments or meets, more than 90 days (Policy 9.9.3).....	\$100.00
44.2.27	Late filing of financial report for football postseason games , 30-60 days late (Policy 9.9.4)	\$50.00
44.2.28	Late filing of financial report for football postseason games, 60-90 days late (Policy 9.9.4)	\$75.00
44.2.29	Late filing of financial report for football postseason games, more than 90 days (Policy 9.9.4)	\$100.00
44.2.30	Late filing of financial report for football state series contests, 30-60 days late (Policy 9.10.1)	\$50.00
44.2.31	Late filing of financial report for football state series contests, 60-90 days late (Policy 9.10.1)	\$75.00
44.2.32	Late filing of financial report for football state series contests, more than 90 days (Policy 9.10.1)	\$100.00



44.2.33	Late filing of financial report for state series sanctioned team sport contests, 30-60 days late (Policy 9.10.2).....	\$50.00
44.2.34	Late filing of financial report for state series sanctioned team sport contests, 60-90 days late (Policy 9.10.2).....	\$75.00
44.2.35	Late filing of financial report for state series sanctioned team sport contests, more than 90 days late (Policy 9.10.2)	\$100.00
44.2.36	Withdrawal from State Series Commitment in Team Sports by deadline for filing of SEL (Policy 10.5.3).....	\$250.00
44.2.37	Withdrawal from State Series Commitment in a Team Sports after deadline for filing of SEL (includes \$250 monetary penalty) (Policy 10.5.3)	\$500.00
44.2.38	Filing a request to participate in state series in a team sport after specified deadline (Policy 10.5.4)	\$100.00
44.2.39	Withdrawal for State Series Intent in an Individual Sport after the 5th week of competition (Policy 10.6.3).....	\$250.00
44.2.40	Filing a request to participate in state series in an individual sport after specified deadline (Policy 10.6.4).....	\$100.00
44.2.41	Filing an SEL after the deadline (Policy 11.4).....	\$50.00
44.2.42	Filing an SEL later than the Friday prior to week of district competition (Policy 11.4)	\$100.00
44.2.43	Filing an SEL after the first contest (Policy 11.4).....	\$250.00
44.2.44	Addition or changes to an SEL after the filing deadline (Policy 11.5.5)	\$50.00
44.2.45	Late submittal of the Member School Athletic Personnel List/FHSAA Identification Card Order Form by the deadline on form (Administrative Procedure 2.13.1)	\$50.00
44.2.46	Submitting schedule after the deadline (Administrative Procedure 2.7.3)	\$50.00
44.2.47	Failure to submit an initial roster by the deadline (Administrative Procedure 2.8.2)	\$100.00
44.2.48	Failure to report results (Administrative Procedure 2.9.3)	\$50.00
44.2.49	Failure to report the results of a state series event (Administrative Procedure 3.6)	\$50.00
44.2.50	Failure to report the results arrangements for the next level state series event (Administrative Procedure 3.6)	\$50.00
44.2.51	Failure to submit Adapted Track and Field Athlete Declaration Form by deadline (Administrative Procedure 4.14.1.2.2 (g))	\$250.00

