

SUMMARY OF ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A summary of athletic eligibility requirements is provided in the Appendix of this document and is intended to provide a quick reference to rules and regulations concerning athletic eligibility for students in the Northern Section. **INELIGIBLE STUDENTS MAY NOT COMPETE IN ANY CONTEST (NO EXCEPTIONS)**

- ACADEMIC Must meet school, district and/or league requirements AND passed in at least 20 semester periods in previous grading period AND be currently enrolled in at least 20 semester periods.
- AGE Must be 18 or younger as of June 15.
- ALL-STAR Must NOT compete in unapproved all-star competition.
- AMATEUR Must NOT have accepted money, prizes, merchandise, clothing, shoes, or any other item of monetary value as a result of having competed in high school sports. This includes advertising or promotion of products or services.
- ENROLLED Must compete only for school of regular enrollment; must NOT have been in school for more than **EIGHT CONSECUTIVE SEMESTERS AFTER FIRST ENROLLMENT IN GRADE 9** whether or not the student competed is irrelevant; whether or not the student attended each semester is irrelevant.
- “OUTSIDE”
COMPETITION Must NOT compete in the same sport in non-school events during the school season of that sport after having competed on the school team. Unattached, individual competition is permitted.
- RESIDENCY Must have entered this school: as 9th grader (first enrollment); OR as 10th grader after completing 9th grade in junior high; OR upon bona fide change of residence of both parents into this school attendance area; OR have been compelled by his/her district to change schools for other than disciplinary reasons; OR as a member of a pre-approved, formal foreign student exchange program; OR upon first time transfer from a 24-hour boarding school., or upon first time transfer under Open Enrollment.
- SEASONS Must NOT compete in more than four seasons of any sport OR more than one season per year in any sport.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QUESTION: What is the status of a student with regard to being supervised as an individual entry?

ANSWER: The supervision requirement is the same for individual entrants as well as team entries. any student reporting for competition who is not under the direct supervision in accordance with Bylaw 307 is to be DENIED entry for participation in the competition. It should be noted that schools representing the same district may send one credentialed or certified supervisor for three or four students. These individuals will be recognized for registration and participation purposes in that the district has assigned the supervisory role for all students from its member schools to this one individual.

QUESTION: What is the status of a contest in the event the head coach is ejected or removed from the site of the contest?

ANSWER: The contest may not continue unless there is a credentialed and/or certified walk-on coach present from that school to assume the responsibilities of supervision for the team. If unable to meet the above, the contest is forfeited at that point.

QUESTION: May incoming students (grades 9 or 10) have the opportunity to participate in physical examinations at the high school determined by their residence?

ANSWER: Yes - The physical exam session should be for boys and girls who contemplate entering athletic programs at their local public, private or parochial high school. Should the student decide to attend a private or parochial high school following the examination at the public school, the paperwork may be taken and used for the same purpose as the public school would utilize said document.

QUESTION: May a coach in a practice swim or track meet permit an ineligible student to compete if he places the student in an outside lane and does not count that athlete's point?

ANSWER: No - An ineligible student may practice or work out with a high school squad, but the student may not participate in any capacity in an interscholastic athletic contest.

QUESTION: May an ineligible student play on a second team in a game against another high school?

ANSWER: No - A scholastically ineligible student cannot compete in any type of interscholastic competition.

QUESTION: Must a J.V. or Freshman team be comprised of eligible players when competing against another school?

ANSWER: The rules of the Northern Section CIF cover all interscholastic contests and all participants must met all eligibility requirements.

QUESTION: Is it permissible for an athletic team representing a Northern Section member school to schedule a scrimmage or a practice game with a team representing an outside organization such as a college, junior college, YMCA, Boys Club, etc.?

ANSWER: Teams representing member schools may not schedule scrimmages, games, practice sessions or workouts with teams representing outside organizations unless special permission is secured from the Commissioner. Permission to schedule such activities will be granted only when it involves a non-contact sport and when it is necessary because of scheduling difficulties encountered by a member school.

QUESTION: In what manner is the payment of the coaches specifically permitted to be handled?

ANSWER: Coaches may be paid by way of district office and/or ASB account. Outside groups such as booster clubs may make a donation to the school's athletic program, but they cannot specify that the money specifically be utilized for Coach A, Coach B, etc.

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QUESTION: Is it within the rules for the parents of an eighth grade student who is interested in attending a private school to contact the principal of that school to learn about the course of study, tuition charges, transportation and other school matters?

ANSWER: Such a contact initiated by a parent would not be in violation of existing rules.

QUESTION: Is it legal for a member of a private or public school's booster club to initiate contact with the parents of an eighth grade student for the purpose of informing them about the school?

ANSWER: A student's interscholastic athletic eligibility would be jeopardized by such action on the part of a booster club member.

QUESTION: A member of a booster club of a private school is contacted by the parents of an eighth grade student who is interested in information pertaining to the scholastic and athletic program at the private school. What may a booster club member do in response to such a request?

ANSWER: The booster club member should advise the parent to contact the principal of the high school for information pertaining to the school.

QUESTION: Student "A" will graduate from the eighth grade in two weeks. Would it be a violation of the rule if the student was personally contacted by a private or public high school coach to play on a summer league basketball team?

ANSWER: Such action by a public or private high school coach in personally contacting an eighth grade student to participate on a summer league basketball team would be in violation of the recruiting rule. However, if an eighth grade student contacts a senior high school coach to secure information pertaining to a summer league team, there would be no violation of our recruiting rule.

QUESTION: What contact may coaches have with a parent contemplating enrolling children at his or her high school?

ANSWER: The coach should refer ALL parent contact with reference to the high school athletic program and enrollment to the appropriate school administrator. Prior to enrollment, all parent contact must be handled by school administration, not members of the coaching staff.

QUESTION: May eighth graders participate in Spring practice or tryouts?

ANSWER: No. Only students currently enrolled and attending a member school (grades 9-12) may participate in spring practice/tryouts. Eighth graders do not become ninth graders until after they have graduated.

QUESTION: Can a high school coach, at any level, coach in a high school all-star basketball game from the date of the last CIF State Championship event until the close of schools in June?

ANSWER: Bylaw 901 refers only to prohibited contests. Under Bylaw 900 if student athletes are allowed to participate after the conclusion of the last CIF State Championship contest, then it is not to be considered as a prohibited contest, therefore, Bylaw 901 does not apply.

QUESTION: What are the CBEDS parameters established by CIF?

ANSWER: The parameters are as follows:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Starting #</u>	<u>Ending #</u>
Division I	1400-1800	
Division II	1100-1350	1400-1800
Division III	700-900	1100-1350
Division IV	150-350	700-900
Division V	1	150-350

GENERAL INFORMATION AND DEFINITIONS

TOURNAMENTS: tournaments are counted differently for each sport. Check the Playoff Guidelines cover page for that particular sport. For example, in basketball a team must count all the games in that tournament towards their maximum number of contest. In Volleyball, a tournament counts as two contests regardless of games played.

POST SEASON TOURNAMENT: Teams may participate in a post season tournament after their season is completed, but **NO LATER** than the first round of the NSCIF Playoffs in their division. The post season games will count toward the maximum number of contests allowed. NSCIF Playoff and Championship games do not count toward the maximum number of contests.

SCRIMMAGES AND/OR JAMBOREES: There is no difference between a scrimmage, an official's jamboree, or a school's jamboree. Only three (3) scrimmages and/or jamborees are permitted per sport. Additional scrimmages count towards the maximum number of contests as listed in Playoff Guidelines.

SCRIMMAGE DEFINITION:

1. Two or more schools involved.
2. No admission is charged. (Entry fee is allowable).
3. No total score is maintained, dept, or posted.
4. No paid officials.
5. Coaches are with athletes directing play.
6. Practice gear will be worn.
7. Officials' assigner may assign officials for training and/or evaluation.

CONTEST CHANGES (Site and/or times): It is the responsibility of the Principal of each participating school to make a sincere effort to play all athletic events on the scheduled time at the assigned site. NSCIF dates, times, and/or sites may only be changed with approval from the Section office. The NSCIF President, Playoff Committee Chair and the Commissioner will work in cooperation with the school administrators when making these decisions.

PASSES AND GUEST LISTS

1. PASSES

Each year, upon receipt of directory information from member schools, the NSCIF commissioner shall provide that school with the following **NON-TRANSFERRABLE** passes:

- A. **NSCIF Passes**-Each member school shall be provided one pass for each paid coaching position, one pass for the athletic director, and five additional passes for other athletic personnel such as administrators, photographers, bus drivers, doctors, and assistant coaches. These passes shall be valid for all NSCIF regular season and pre-season contests. Passes must be accepted at all scrimmages and/or tournaments.
- B. **NSCIF Playoff Passes**-Each school shall be provided three (3) playoff passes. These passes shall be valid for all contests including NSCIF Playoff Contests. **Playoff Passes ARE TRANSFERRABLE.**
- C. **Board member/Superintendent Passes**-Each district shall be provided Board Member/Superintendent passes valid for all contests including NSCIF Playoff contests. **These passes ARE NOT TRANSFERRABLE.**
- D. **Pass Use**
 - 1. Passes may only be used by those whose position or title qualifies them for the pass.
 - 2. Persons using these passes must be at least 18 years of age and may be asked to provide identification when using the pass.

2. NSCIF PLAYOFF GUEST LISTS

The host school shall make a sincere effort to limit the guest list (free admission) for participating schools in NSCIF Playoffs to as few people as possible. Allowable guests include, but are not limited to, supervisory personnel, photographers, bus drivers, and persons designated by the participating coaches. Guest lists are limited to a maximum of 12 people per school. See succeeding page for Section Pass List.