
Illustrations for Section 2.170 of the Constitution

The illustrations and situations it contains are for purposes of assisting in understanding the application of the particular by-law to which they pertain. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, between the illustrations, examples or situations in this publication and the constitution or by-laws of the IHSA, the constitution and by-laws shall control.

- 79)** Q. Has the IHSA established banned drug classes for its performance-enhancing drug testing program?
A. Yes. The IHSA Board of Directors has approved the banned drug classes for which it will test as a part of its performance-enhancing drug testing program. The banned drug classes can be accessed on the IHSA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee's Special Topics Page. (By-laws 2.171 and 2.172)

2.180 TRAVEL POLICY

School teams may travel out of state any distance provided the participating students miss no more than two school days, including travel to and from the competition. The number of instances that any single school team can use this provision is limited to two occasions per school year.

Illustrations for Section 2.180 of the Constitution

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- 80)** Q. Is this by-law applicable to contests conducted out of state when no school time is missed?
A. No

3.000 ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY BY-LAWS

Included in this Section:

- 3.000 Athletic Eligibility By-laws
- 3.010 Attendance
- 3.020 Scholastic Standing
- 3.030 Residence
- 3.040 Transfer
- 3.050 Participation Limitations
- 3.060 Age
- 3.070 Recruiting of Athletes
- 3.080 Amateurism
- 3.090 Participating Under An Assumed Name
- 3.100 Independent Team Participation
- 3.110 Coaching School Participation
- 3.120 All-Star Participation
- 3.130 Use of Players
- 3.140 Misbehavior during Contests
- 3.150 Special Provisions for Summer Participation
- 3.160 Open Gym Limitations
- 3.170 Classification

Students in member schools shall be eligible to participate on athletic teams in interscholastic athletic contests as representatives of their schools provided:

3.010 ATTENDANCE

- 3.011** A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school, and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by the member school, a minimum of twenty five (25) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student's completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of all IHSA by-laws.

The Board of Directors shall have the discretion to waive the requirement of this by-law for the Illinois schools for the deaf or blind. In unit systems having a 6-3-3 or 6-4-2 type of organization, ninth grade students may participate on senior high school athletic teams at the member high school in the district designated by the Board of Education, provided:

- (a) such participation is approved by the district's superintendent of schools;

- (b) the senior high school principal shall certify that the ninth grade students:
 - (1) are eligible under the requirements of these By-laws,
 - (2) are students at a junior high school located in the district which supports the senior high school, and
 - (3) are not members of a grade or junior high school team in the same sport; and,
- (c) the senior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all athletic contests in which they represent the senior high school.

- 3.012** They shall have been enrolled and in attendance not later than the beginning of the eleventh school day of the semester. Exception may be considered only if written verification that delay in enrollment or attendance is caused by illness of the students or their immediate family or by other circumstances deemed acceptable by the Board of Directors which are submitted to the Executive Director for presentation to the Board of Directors.
- 3.013** Including a student's name on school attendance records for a period of ten (10) or more school days during any given semester, beginning with the date of the student's first physical attendance and ending with the date of the student's official withdrawal from school, shall constitute a semester of attendance for the student.
- 3.014** If a student does not attend school for ten (10) days in a semester, as defined in Section 3.013, but participates in any interscholastic athletic activity, the student shall be considered to have completed a semester of attendance, unless withdrawal from school occurs prior to completion of ten (10) days attendance and is necessitated by disabling illness or injury which is certified by a physician.
- 3.015** They shall not have any lapse of school connection during any given semester of greater than ten consecutive school days. Lapse of school connection for greater than ten consecutive school days shall render them ineligible for the remainder of the entire semester. Exceptions may be considered only if written verification that lapse in school connection is caused by illness of the students or their immediate family or by other circumstances deemed acceptable to the Board of Directors which are submitted to the Executive Director for presentation to the Board of Directors.
- 3.016** Absence of students required by military service to state or nation in the time of any state of national emergency shall not affect students' eligibility.

Illustrations for Section 3.010 of the By-laws

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81) DAY OF GAME SICKNESS

- Q. If a student is ill and does not attend school on the day of an interscholastic contest, may the student play in a contest on that day?
- A. IHSA by-laws do not contain any requirement stating that a student must attend school on the day of an interscholastic activity in order to be eligible for the contest. Member schools may have local policies of this sort, but they are not required to do so by the Association. (By-law 3.010)

82) HOME SCHOOL STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

- Q. May a student who is home schooled, participate on a high school team?
- A. Yes, provided the student is enrolled at the member high school, the student is taking a minimum of twenty five (25) credit hours of work at the member school or in a program approved by the member school, and, the student must be granted credit for the work taken either at the member school or in a program it approved. The student must also pay applicable tuition and fees at the member high school. (By-law 3.011)

83) JUNIOR HIGH PLAYERS ON HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS

- Q. May students who are not yet in high school practice or participate on high school teams?
- A. No. (By-laws 3.011, 3.051, 3.053 and 3.132)

84) PRIVATE SCHOOLS STUDENT PARTICIPATION

- Q. May a student who attends a private school participate on a public school's team?
- A. No. (By-law 3.011)

3.020 SCHOLASTIC STANDING

- 3.021** They shall be doing passing work in at least twenty five (25) credit hours of high school work per week.

Physical Education can be used as a .50 credit class to meet the 25 credit hour requirement, even if the member school is giving academic credit less than .50 or no credit at all. Students must be passing Physical Education in order to use the class towards academic eligibility.

Schools that offer only five classes per day may request a waiver annually from the IHSA Board of Directors to require the passing of at least twenty (20) credit hours of high school work per week to be eligible for participation.

- 3.022** They shall, unless they are entering high school for the first time, have credit on the school records for twenty five (25) credit hours of high school work for the previous semester. Such work shall have been completed in the semester for which credit is granted or in a recognized summer school program which has been approved by the Board of Education and for which graduation credit is received.

Physical Education can be used as a .50 credit class to meet the 25 credit hour requirement, even if the member school is giving academic credit less than .50 or no credit at all. Students must be passing Physical Education in order to use the class towards academic eligibility.

Schools that offer only five classes per day may request a waiver annually from the IHSA Board of Directors to require the passing of at least twenty (20) credit hours of high school work for the previous semester to be eligible for participation.

- 3.023** They shall not have graduated from any four-year high school or its equivalent.
- 3.024** Passing work shall be defined as work of such a grade that if on any given date a student would transfer to another school, passing grades for the course would immediately be certified on the student's transcript to the school to which the student transfers.
- 3.025** Work taken in junior college, college, university, or by correspondence may be accepted toward meeting the requirements of this Section provided it is granted credit toward graduation from high school by the local Board of Education.

Illustrations for Section 3.020 of the By-laws

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85) BECOMING ELIGIBLE AFTER PERIOD OF INELIGIBILITY

- Q. If a student who has been scholastically ineligible for the current semester passes twenty five (25) hours for the current semester which ends on Friday, January 19, when is the student eligible to play?
- A. A student who is ineligible for a semester is ineligible until the day the high school certifies the semester grades for all students in the school. (By-law 3.022)

86) HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

- Q. If a student is placed on homebound instruction, does the work taken count toward scholastic eligibility requirements?
- A. This work can count if the student receives credit toward graduation for the work taken under homebound instruction. (By-law 3.022)

87) CREDIT FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Q. May a school count physical education classes toward academic eligibility requirements?
- A. Yes. Students may also receive credit for physical education waivers.

88) WITHDRAWN "PASSING"

- Q. If a student withdraws from school after 65 days of attendance in the fall semester with passing grades at that point, and does not attend school again until the first day of the succeeding spring semester, is the student scholastically eligible for the second semester?
- A. Probably not. Attending school for more than ten days in the fall semester causes that semester to be counted as a semester of attendance. The student must pass twenty five (25) credit hours of high school work for that semester in order to be scholastically eligible in the next semester. "Withdrawn passing" is not considered to be passing work for the semester. This student will be ineligible for the spring semester unless the record shows that he/she passed and received credit toward graduation for at least twenty five (25) hours of high school in the fall semester. (By-laws 3.022 and 3.024)

89) COLLEGE WORK

- Q. May a student take a college or junior college class and receive high school credit for this work which may be counted toward scholastic eligibility?
- A. Such a class may be counted for scholastic eligibility, provided the student's high school accepts it and grants it credit toward high school graduation. (By-law 3.025)

90) SUMMER SCHOOL LIMITATIONS

- Q. How many credit hours may a student earn in summer school for the purpose of counting toward determination of scholastic eligibility for the next semester?
- A. There is no specific limitation. Summer school work may be counted toward scholastic eligibility for the ensuing fall semester provided it is completed by the time the fall semester begins and is granted credit toward graduation by the student's high school. (By-law 3.022)

91) BLOCK SCHEDULING

- Q. If a school utilizes a block 4 schedule, how many classes must a student pass to meet the scholastic eligibility requirements of the by-laws?
- A. Regardless of the schedule utilized by the school, students must be passing enough courses on both a weekly and semester basis to earn 2.5 full credits. In a block 4 schedule where each class is worth one credit per semester, a student must be passing at least three of the four classes to be considered to be passing twenty five (25) credit hours as By-laws 3.021 and 3.022 require. (By-laws 3.021 and 3.022)

92) ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY OF OUT-OF-STATE TRANSFER

- 92.1)** Q. When a student who lives in another state and is eligible according to the academic standards of that state transfers to Illinois, but does not meet the IHSA's eligibility standards by the work taken in the previous state, what is the student's academic eligibility status?
 - A. In such a case, the student would be granted eligibility upon enrollment at a member school if eligible under the standards in the state from which the transfer has occurred. However, the student would have to begin immediately meeting the IHSA requirements to retain eligibility. (By-laws 3.021 and 3.022)
- 92.2)** Q. When a student transfers from one state to a member school and is scholastically ineligible according to that state's academic standards, what is the student's academic eligibility status?
 - A. In such a case, the student would be ineligible for the duration of the term of ineligibility imposed at the school from which he/she transferred. The student would then have to comply with IHSA academic eligibility standards before becoming eligible. (By-laws 3.021, 3.022 and 3.047)

3.030 RESIDENCE

A student's eligibility is contingent upon the student meeting the applicable criteria from Sections 3.031-3.034 below. Except as provided in Section 6.010 of these by-laws, a student who does not comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 3.031-3.034 of these by-laws shall be ineligible for a period not to exceed 365 days. Once a student has attended high school, any change of the school attended by the student shall subject that student to the requirements of the rules applicable to transfers under Section 3.040 of these by-laws and its subsections.

3.031 Public School Students: Students attending public member schools shall be eligible at the public high school in which they enroll, provided:

3.031.1 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the attendance area of the high school they attend; or

3.031.2 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and have attended a minimum of the seventh and eighth grades as tuition-paying non-resident students in the district in which the high school they attend is located.

3.031.3 They reside full time with one birth or adoptive parent or other relative without assignment of custody or legal guardianship by the court, provided:

- (1) their residence is in the district in which the member school they attend is located; and
- (2) they attended that member school the previous school term.
- (3) if a freshman, they attended both seventh and eighth grade in the district.

- 3.031.4** In the cases where a Legislative Waiver has been granted for children of faculty members to attend the school tuition-free, the students shall have eligibility at the school where the parent teaches.

In cases where a Legislative Waiver has been granted for children of faculty members in unit districts with one high school to attend the school tuition-free, the student(s) shall have eligibility in the district where the parent teaches.

- 3.031.5** In all other cases, students shall not participate until a ruling on their eligibility is made by the Executive Director.
- 3.032** Private School Students: Students attending private member schools shall be eligible at the private high school in which they enroll, provided:
- 3.032.1** They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the public high school district in which the private high school they attend is located; or
- 3.032.2** They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and have attended private schools on a continuous basis for the last two consecutive school years before entering high school or for a total of not less than four school years from kindergarten through eighth grade; or
- 3.032.3** They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and attend the private member school attended by one or both of their parents; or
- 3.032.4** They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, in a residence located within a thirty (30) mile radius of the private member school they attend.
- 3.032.5** In the event a student who resides full time with his/her parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, attends a private school but does not comply with the provisions of by-laws 3.032.1-3.032.4, or in any other circumstance in which a student attends a private school but does not comply with the provisions of by-laws 3.032.1-3.032.4, the student(s) shall not be eligible and shall not participate in an interscholastic contest until a ruling on their eligibility is made by the Executive Director.
- 3.033** Students in Public Schools Without Boundaries: Students attending public member schools which do not have geographical district boundaries shall be eligible at such public high school in which they enroll, provided:
- 3.033.1** They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the public high school district in which the non-boundaried public high school they attend is located; OR
- 3.033.2** They reside full time with their parents or custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and have attended non-boundaried public schools or private schools on a continuous basis for the last two consecutive school years before entering high school or for a total of not less than four school years from kindergarten through eighth grade; OR
- 3.033.3** They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and attend the non-boundaried public school attended by one or both of their parents; OR
- 3.033.4** They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, in a residence located within a thirty (30) mile radius of the non-boundaried public member school they attend.
- 3.033.5** In the event a student who resides full time with their parents custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, attends a public school without boundaries but does not comply with the provisions of By-laws 3.033.1-3.033.4, or in any other circumstance in which a student attends a public school without boundaries but does not comply with the provisions of By-laws 3.033.1-3.033.4, the student(s) shall not be eligible and shall not participate in an interscholastic contest until a ruling on their eligibility is made by the Executive Director.

- 3.034** Students in Prescribed Conditions: Students attending member schools under one of the following specifically prescribed conditions shall be eligible in accordance with the requirements set forth under that condition:
- 3.034.1** Residential Students: Students attending public or private member schools as residential students, shall be eligible at the public or private member school in which they enroll provided they reside full time at such school. Eligibility of residential students who do not reside full time at the school they attend shall be determined under the applicable provisions of By-laws 3.031-3.034.
- 3.034.2** Students who have attended one school for their entire high school career and whose parents, custodial parent or court appointed guardian moves from the district or community traditionally served by that school following the student's completion of the eleventh (11th) grade, may remain in that member school and retain eligibility regarding residence for the twelfth (12th) grade, provided:
1. The student, if not yet eighteen (18) years of age, resides full time with the parents, a custodial parent, a non-custodial birth parent or a court appointed legal guardian; or the student, if eighteen (18) years of age, continues to reside with parents, custodial parent, a non-custodial birth parent or a court appointed legal guardian, or is accepted for enrollment by the school as a student having reached the age of majority under the laws of the State of Illinois; and,
 2. Such attendance is approved by the Board of Education or local governing board of the school; and,
 3. There is no evidence of undue influence, including but not limited to inducement, remuneration, pressure, promise or provision of special benefits or any other form of encouragement or persuasion, on the part of any person(s) directly or indirectly connected to the school, to retain the student's attendance.
- 3.034.3** International and Foreign Exchange Students: Students attending school in Illinois under the auspices of approved student exchange programs shall be considered eligible regarding residence and transfer for a maximum period of one calendar year, commencing with the date of their enrollment and beginning attendance at an IHSA member school. To be considered for approval, a foreign exchange program must be approved by the IHSA and the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). It must also assign students to schools by a method which insures that no student, school, or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The Board of Directors shall establish additional criteria by which it shall approve foreign exchange student programs. International students attending school in Illinois who are not participating in an approved student exchange program will not be eligible with respect to residence or transfer for the duration of their high school attendance unless they meet the requirements of the applicable provisions of the residency and transfer By-Laws as determined in an official ruling from the Executive Director or they are in a program which has been approved by the IHSA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall establish the criteria by which it shall approve such programs. For purposes of this By-Law, the residential school exception set forth in By-Law 3.034.1 shall not apply to establish a student's residency.
- 3.034.4** Special Education and Special Vocational Education Students: Students attending a Special Education or Special Vocational Educational Cooperative Center, shall be eligible under the following conditions:
- 3.034.41** Students taking part of their work at the Special Center and part at their home high school shall be eligible at their home high school only;
- 3.034.42** Students taking all of their work at the Special Center shall be eligible at either their home high school or the school housing the Special Center. However, once the students elect the school at which they will participate, they may not change their decision without the loss of a period of eligibility not to exceed 365 days.
- 3.034.5** Students Affected by De-annexation: Students affected by a de-annexation/annexation of an elementary district from the current high school district will be permitted the choice of attending in the district from which the de-annexation occurs or the district to which the territory is then annexed. Whichever choice is made, all students whose families reside in the territory in question will be permitted to retain eligibility in regard to residence, provided they are high school students at the time of the de-annexation action.

Illustrations for Section 3.030 of the By-laws

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93) FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE

- Q. What is the "fundamental principle" underlying the residence by-laws?
- A. High school sports are best controlled and conducted fairly when students reside full time with their parents and attend high school in the district in which they reside with their parents. Departure from this basic premise requires circumstances which are within the parameters established within Article 1.460 of the IHSA Constitution, which do not conflict with the overall purpose and scope of the by-laws. (By-law 3.031.1)

94) ELIGIBILITY WHEN PARENTS MOVE

- Q. If, prior to a student entering high school for the first time, the student and his/her parents move into a district in which there is both a public and private member school where may the student attend and be eligible?
- A. If the family move occurs prior to the beginning of the school term, the student may attend either the public or private school in the school district into which the student and parents have moved and be eligible in regard to residence. (By-law 3.031.1) If the family move occurs after the beginning of the school term, and the student has not participated in a sport during that school term prior to the transfer, the student may attend either the public or private school in the school district into which the student and parents have moved, but the student will be ineligible for a period of thirty (30) days. If the student in this situation has participated, by trying out for, practicing or competing as a member of a team in a sport during the school term prior to the transfer, the student will be ineligible for the remainder of the school year in that sport and will be ineligible for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of the transfer in all other sports.

- 95)**
- Q. If, after the beginning of a school term a student who is not a senior or is a senior who has not attended the same high school all four years, (A) parents move to a new school district and the student does not move with them but lives with family friends or relatives in the district and continues attending the same school, (B) parents move to a new school district and the student continues to reside with his or her parents and continues attending the same school, is the student eligible or ineligible?
 - A. (A) Ineligible. (By-law 3.031.1) (B) A ruling by the Executive Director is required. (By-laws 3.031.4, 3.032.5 and 3.033.5)

- 96)**
- Q. In the same situation as the previous illustration, may the student become eligible for a subsequent term if he/she never transfers to a school in the district into which the parents have moved?
 - A. No. (By-law 3.034.2)

- 97)**
- Q. In multiple high school districts, may a student attend a district wide academy or attendance center within the school district, but outside of their attendance area, and retain athletic eligibility? (special education program, gifted program, vocational program, ROTC, etc)
 - A. Yes. However, a student must enter the special center as an incoming freshman or as a transfer student enrolling in the district for the first time. Any subsequent transfer to a high school within the district may result in a period of ineligibility not to exceed 365 days. (By-law 3.031.1)

- 98)**
- Q. In multiple high school districts, is an incoming freshman eligible if he/she attends the high school where his/her sibling currently attends, even if high school is outside of their attendance area?
 - A. Yes. However, any subsequent transfer to a high school within the district may result in a period of ineligibility not to exceed 365 days. (By-law 3.031.1)

- 99)**
- Q. Are students who enroll as incoming freshmen in a high school outside of their attendance area as a result of court ordered plan eligible?
 - A. Yes. However, any subsequent transfer to a high school within the district may result in a period of ineligibility not to exceed 365 days. (By-law 3.031.1)

- 100)**
- Q. Where is a student eligible if the parents are maintaining residences in two or more school districts?
 - A. A student is eligible in regard to residence in only one school district. This is the school district where the student actually lives with both parents on a full-time basis or the school district where the student lives with one birth or adoptive parent without assignment of custody or legal guardianship by the court. In the second situation, the student must continue to reside in the district where he/she attended school the previous school term. (By-law 3.031.3)

101) LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP

- Q. What is legal guardianship, and how must it be documented when requesting an eligibility ruling?
- A. Legal guardianship entails issuance of Letters of Guardianship of a student's person or person and estate by a court. It must be an order signed by a judge and/or the clerk of the court as the judge's representative. A file stamped copy of the Letters of Guardianship court order, along with a copy of the petition filed with the court at the hearing seeking

that order and other evidence the court had to determine appointment of the guardianship, must be attached to each request for an eligibility ruling involving a change in legal guardianship. (By-laws 3.030 and its sub-sections and 3.040 and its sub-sections)

102) TUITION PAYMENT AND ELIGIBILITY

- Q. If a student's parents do not reside in the district and the student is a tuition paying nonresident at the high school he/she attends, is the student eligible?
- A. Such a student may only be eligible when the student lives full time with his/her parents and has attended a public grade school in the same high school district for at least the 7th and 8th grades as a tuition-paying nonresident student; otherwise the student is ineligible for a period not to exceed 365 days. (By-law 3.031.2)

103) ELIGIBILITY OF SHARED-TIME STUDENT

- Q. What is the eligibility status of a student who takes part in a shared-time instructional program at two or more schools?
- A. Such student will be eligible at his/her home high school, provided he/she is enrolled there, all credit earned at other attendance centers is recorded toward graduation from the home high school, and the student is meeting all of the IHSA academic and other eligibility requirements. (By-laws 3.011 & 3.031.1)

104) SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT PARTICIPATION

- Q. May a special education student, who is enrolled at a member high school but participates in a special education program at an area cooperative center or school location assigned by the Special Education Cooperative, make an annual choice of the school at which he/she will be a participant in interscholastic athletics?
- A. Yes. Students from member high schools assigned to special education centers or other locations may be eligible to participate either at the school housing the student's classes or at their home high school. At the beginning of each school term, such students must determine the site at which they wish to participate during that year. They are then eligible, in regard to residence and attendance, for that year only at the school chosen, and any change constitutes a transfer subject to compliance with all by-laws. (By-laws 3.011 & 3.031.1)

3.040 TRANSFER

The eligibility of a student who transfers attendance from one high school to another high school is subject to the following Sections 3.041-3.047 and their sub-sections. Such student must additionally be in compliance with the applicable residency provisions of By-laws 3.031-3.034 and their respective sub-sections after the transfer. Except as provided in Section 6.010 of these by-laws, a student who does not comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 3.041-3.047 of these by-laws and their sub-sections shall be ineligible for a period not to exceed 365 days.

3.041 In all transfer cases, both the principal of the school from which the student transfers and the school to which the student transfers must approve of the transfer and execute a form provided by the IHSA Office. This form is to be initiated and signed by the principal of the school to which the student transfers and provided to the principal of the school from which the student transfers for signature by that principal. The concurrence of the principals accepting a transfer shall not be determinative of eligibility or binding on the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors who shall have the discretion to investigate the accuracy of such conclusion and to override the acceptance of a transfer if evidence of violation or avoidance of non compliance with any by-law, or recruiting in connection with the transfer is found. A student is not eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest until the transfer form, fully executed by both principals, is on file in the offices of the school to which the student transfers.

3.042 **After the official start date of an IHSA sport season** for the current school year, if a student changes attendance from that high school to another high school, the student shall be ineligible for the remainder of the school year in any sport in which he/she participated or was participating in a practice or interscholastic contest in the current school year at the school from which the transfer occurs; or

Once classes begin in a school for the current school year, if a student changes attendance from that high school to another high school, the student shall be ineligible for a period of thirty days, commencing on the first day of attendance at the new high school, in any sport in which he/she was not participating or had not participated during the current school year at the school from which the student transferred.

3.043 In addition, a student who transfers attendance from one high school to another high school pursuant to these by-laws, shall be ineligible unless:

3.043.1 The student transfers attendance in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent (in the case of a student with one deceased parent), or guardian from one public high school district to a different public high school district; or

- 3.043.2** The student transfers attendance from one public high school in a school district which supports two (2) or more public high schools to another public high school in that school district, and the transfer is in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence within the boundaries established by the governing board of the school district for the high school to which the student transfers; or
- 3.043.3** In the event the student transfers attendance from any high school to any other high school, and the transfer is not in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence outside the boundaries of the public school district attendance area the family originally resided in, the Executive Director may grant eligibility based on documentation that the transfer met one of the following conditions:
- The student is enrolling for the first time in the student’s home public member high school with boundaries;
 - Change in family’s financial position;
 - Extenuating circumstances documented by the sending school’s principal or official representative
- 3.043.4** The student, who is a child of divorced or legally separated parents, transfers attendance from one high school to another in conjunction with a change in legal custody between the parents by action of a judge of a court of proper jurisdiction, and a change in the student’s residence from the former custodial parent to the parent to whom custody has been awarded by the court, provided that a copy of the petition and the court order so changing custody is on file with the principal of the high school to which the student transfers.
- 3.044** The student, who (a) is an orphan; (b) is a child of divorced, legally separated, or unmarried parents with respect to whom there has not been a change in custody ordered by a court of proper jurisdiction; or (c) is a ward of the state who transfers attendance from one high school to another high school, shall be subject to the eligibility provisions of Sections 3.043.1-3.043.3 as if the student resided with his/her parent(s), provided that following the transfer, the student continues to reside with the same family, foster family, group home or other unit or entity after the transfer as prior to and at the time of the transfer.
- 3.045** In the case of a student who transfers attendance from one high school to another in conjunction with the adoption of the student after the student has entered high school for the first time, or a change in guardianship of the student by order of a court of proper jurisdiction, the student shall be ineligible pending a ruling by the Executive Director. In such cases, the Executive Director may grant eligibility only if it is determined, after investigation, that the circumstances giving rise to the change of guardianship or adoption and the transfer were completely beyond the control of all of the following:
- (1) the student
 - (2) the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s)
 - (3) the schools to and from which the student transferred.
- Any action, inaction, or voluntary or self-initiated decision of the student, parent/guardian or the school to or from which the student transfers, or any one or more of them, which results in, affects, causes or pertains to the transfer shall not be considered to be “circumstances completely beyond the control.” The student may practice, but shall not participate in an interscholastic athletic contest until a ruling on the student’s eligibility has been made by the Executive Director.
- 3.046** In all other circumstances involving a transfer, the student shall be ineligible pending a ruling by the Executive Director. In such cases, the Executive Director may grant eligibility if it is determined after investigation that the circumstances giving rise to the transfer were completely beyond the control of all of the following:
- (1) the student
 - (2) the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s)
 - (3) the schools to and from which the student transferred.
- Any action, inaction, or decision of the student, parent/guardian or the school to or from which the student transfers, or any one or more of them, which results in, affects, causes or pertains to the transfer shall not be considered to be “circumstances completely beyond the control.” The student may practice, but shall not participate in an interscholastic athletic contest until a ruling on the student’s eligibility has been made by the Executive Director.
- 3.047** The member school to which a student transfers shall enforce any period of ineligibility imposed or that would have been imposed upon the student by the school from which the student is transferring, even if the student is otherwise eligible under these by-laws. The period of ineligibility at the school to which the student transfers shall be the remaining duration of the period of ineligibility imposed or that would have been imposed had the student not transferred, but not longer than 365 days after the date of the transfer, whichever is less.

Illustrations for Section 3.040 of the By-laws

The illustrations and situations it contains are for purposes of assisting in understanding the application of the particular by-law to which they pertain. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, between the illustrations, examples or situations in this publication and the constitution or by-laws of the IHSA, the constitution and by-laws shall control.

- 105)** Q. What evidence is required to affirm that a student and his/her parents have moved to a new school district and are living there full time?
A. Documents requested by the Executive Director, including but not limited to some or all of the following: a lease or rental contract, closing documents, recorded title, affidavit of parent and student, documentation from the principals of the respective schools involved, telephone/utility and post office records, and such other evidence as may be deemed necessary by the Executive Director in a particular situation to enable the Executive Director to verify the facts. Schools requesting an eligibility ruling that provide such documents and information shall be subject to penalty if the information provided is found to be false.
- 106)** Q. What evidence is required to affirm that a student and his/her parents are living within a 30 mile radius of the private school the student attends?
A. The same documents as set forth in response above.
- 107)** Q. If a family (parents and children) moves from one school district to another school district after the official start date of an IHSA sports season, what factors will the Executive Director consider in applying By-law 3.042 and ruling on the eligibility of students who transfer in connection with such moves?
A. Factors to be considered by the Executive Director will include but not be limited to the following:
(1.) Whether it is documented that the move was necessitated by an employment transfer.
(2.) Whether it is documented that the move was necessitated by a change in employment.
(3.) Whether it is documented that the move was necessitated by a change in family status.
- 108)** Q. If parents divorce or become legally separated after the start of classes for the school term and their child transfers to live in a different district with the parent who is granted custody, what factors will the Executive Director consider in ruling on the student's eligibility?
A. Factors to be considered by the Executive Director will include but not be limited to the following:
(1.) Certified court documentation of custody.
(2.) Copies of file stamped court documents pertaining to the divorce or legal separation.
(3.) Documentation of specific circumstances which necessitate the student's transfer, particularly if the transfer occurs after the start of classes in a school term.
(4.) Concurrence of the transfer by the sending and receiving school principals.
(5.) Documents to show the residence of the student and the custodial parent.
- 109)** Q. If parents divorce or become legally separated with joint custody assigned by the court, and the student moves to live with one parent or the other in a different district and transfers to a member school in connection with this move, what factors will the Executive Director consider in applying By-law 3.040 and its sub-sections and ruling on the student's eligibility?
A. The same factors as stated above plus an acknowledgment that the student is eligible at only one school, and any move thereafter will create the need for a ruling from the Executive Director before the student can participate on a school team.
- 110)** Q. A student's parents never married and no court custody has been established. What is the student's eligibility regarding residence if the student:
(a.) Lives with the birth mother and attends school in the district where they live together full time?
(b.) Lives with the biological father and attends school in the district where they live together full time?
A. In a, the student is eligible with regard to residence.
In b, documentation that custody has been assigned by the court to the biological father must be provided to the Executive Director along with verification of the student's residence in the district with the father, and an eligibility ruling must be made.
- 111)** Q. What is a student's eligibility if the family has had a new home under construction in a different district from where they currently live, and the home is finally completed and the student transfers to the new district when the family moves into the home, which is:
(a.) After classes start but before the student goes out for a sport.
(b.) After classes start and after the student goes out for a sport.
(c.) Before classes start but after the student goes out for a sport.
A. In a and b, the student is a transfer student and will be ineligible for a period of time. In a, the student would be ineligible for thirty (30) days. In b, the student is ineligible for the remainder of the school year in the sport in which he/she had participated at the previous school and ineligible for thirty (30) days in all other sports. In c, the student is eligible in regard to the transfer by-law.

112) LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP

- Q. What is legal guardianship, and how must it be documented when requesting an eligibility ruling?
- A. Legal guardianship entails issuance of Letters of Guardianship of a student's person or person and estate by a court. It must be an order signed by a judge and/or the clerk of the court as the judge's representative. A file stamped copy of the Letters of Guardianship court order, along with a copy of the petition filed with the court at the hearing seeking that order and other evidence the court had to determine appointment of the guardianship, must be attached to each request for an eligibility ruling involving a change in legal guardianship. (By-laws 3.030 and its sub-sections and 3.040 and its sub-sections)

113) Q. May a student who has transferred to an IHSA member school from out of state participate in the same sport he/she was participating in prior to the transfer?

- A. In a situation like the one above, a ruling from the IHSA office is required. If it is determined that the student, the family and the school are in a circumstance completely beyond their control, the student may be ruled eligible. (By-law 3.042)

114) Q. May a student who played girls soccer for her high school in the fall in Missouri play girls soccer in the spring in Illinois if her family moves from Missouri to Illinois?

- A. Yes. The IHSA Board of Directors has determined that the season in which a sport is played in another state is a circumstance beyond the control of the student, the family and the school. (By-law 3.042)

3.050 PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS

3.051 After they enroll in the ninth grade, students shall be eligible for no more than eight (8) semesters. They shall not be eligible for more than the number of semesters for which their school is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education.

3.052 Their last two (2) semesters of possible eligibility shall be consecutive. Other semesters of possible eligibility need not be consecutive.

3.053 After becoming a student in ninth grade, the student shall not be eligible for more than four (4) consecutive school years of competition in any sport.

3.054 Any student in a member school, eligible in all respects under the terms of these By-laws, may be entered to represent that school as an individual in Association-sponsored meets or tournaments under the terms and conditions for that particular event. However, only schools which have an established school team which has engaged in at least six (6) interscholastic contests in that sport during the current season or, in the case of boys baseball, boys golf, boys tennis, girls softball, girls golf, and girls tennis, during the preceding IHSA recognized season in that sport, may participate in team competition in Association-sponsored meets or tournaments.

Illustrations for Section 3.050 of the By-laws

The illustrations and situations it contains are for purposes of assisting in understanding the application of the particular by-law to which they pertain. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, between the illustrations, examples or situations in this publication and the constitution or by-laws of the IHSA, the constitution and by-laws shall control.

115) MORE THAN ONE SPORT

- Q. May a boy or girl participate on more than one school athletic team (such as golf and football) at the same time?
- A. Yes. (By-law 3.050)

116) JUNIOR HIGH PLAYER

- Q. What impact on eligibility does participation on high school teams by a ninth grader in a junior high school have for the student?
- A. A ninth grader, whether or not he/she participates on high school or junior high school athletic teams, uses two possible semesters of eligibility and has no more than six remaining. If such a student participates in either high school or junior high school athletics, that participation counts as one school year of athletic competition in each sport in which the student participates. (By-law 3.051 and 3.053)

117) JUNIOR HIGH PLAYERS ON HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS

- Q. May students who are not yet in high school practice or participate on high school teams?
- A. No. (By-laws 3.051, 3.053, 3.011 and 3.132)

118) SIX-CONTEST RULES

Note: The following illustrations are all written in the context that the six (6) required contests under the by-laws must be played in the same sport in the season in which the state tournament series for the sport is conducted.

- 118.1)** Q. If a school permits girls to participate on its boys cross country team and those girls run in six or more boys cross country meets during the season, may the boys meets satisfy the requirement of six (6) interscholastic meets needed by the girls to qualify for team competition in the girls state meet series?
A. No. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.2)** Q. Does participation in summer baseball games satisfy the six contest requirement for state tournament series participation?
A. No. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.3)** Q. If a school has eight girls softball games scheduled with signed contracts, and three of those contests are rained out and cannot be rescheduled and played prior to the date of the beginning of the state tournament series, may the school participate as a team in the girls softball state series even though it has actually played only five softball games prior to the beginning of the series?
A. Determination of such a team's eligibility to play must be made on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Director. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.4)** Q. If a school has too few participants on its wrestling team to enter a contestant in each weight class, but has competed in more than six contests against other schools during the season, may the school participate as a team in the IHSA state wrestling series?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.5)** Q. How is a double dual or a doubleheader counted under the terms of the participation limitations and the six-contest requirements of By-law 3.054?
A. A doubleheader will be counted as two (2) contests. A double dual in which the participants compete only once will be counted as one (1) date (for the school) and two contests (for an individual). A double dual in which the participants compete twice (against different opponents) will be counted as two (2) contests. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.6)** Q. If a girls team competes against boys teams from other schools, may such contests be counted toward the six contest requirement for the girls team in that sport?
A. Yes, provided the girls team competes against another school's boys team in the same sport and in the same season as the state series it seeks to enter. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.7)** Q. May seven schools schedule a hexadual contest (scoring the competition as six dual meets simultaneously conducted) and meet the requirements of the six contest rule?
A. No. The Board of Directors has ruled that a school must utilize a minimum of three different dates and may not count more than two contests on any given date in order to satisfy the requirement of the rule. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.8)** Q. May a freshman, sophomore or junior varsity team contest be counted as one of the six required contests?
A. No. Only varsity team contests may be counted. (By-law 3.054)
- 118.9)** Q. What determines whether a team is a varsity team?
A. In most sports, the school identifies a team it defines as "varsity" at the start of the season and that team fulfills a schedule of contests arranged for the "varsity" team. This team is considered to be the team which comprises the most skilled competitors in the sport and is the team which is the school's representative at its highest level of competition, including the state series. (Constitution 1.420)
- 118.10)** Q. What determines whether a contest is a varsity contest?
A. The level of competition for a contest is regularly specified on the contract which schools enter into for a given contest. It is the Board of Directors' interpretation that unless otherwise mutually agreed upon by the principals/official representatives of all competing schools prior to the contest, the level of competition specified on the contract designates the level of the competition. (Constitution 1.420)

119) INDIVIDUALS IN STATE SERIES

- Q. If a school does not maintain a team in a sport that involves individual events, but has one student who wishes to compete in a state series, may the school enter the individual student in the state series?
A. Yes. The student may not compete for a team score, since the school has not competed in six contests, but will compete only as an individual representing his/her high school. (By-law 3.054)

120) PRACTICE WITH ANOTHER SCHOOL TEAM

- 120.1)** Q. In the regular season, may an individual student who attends a school which does not maintain a school team in a given sport participate in practice sessions at a neighboring school which does maintain a school team in that sport?
A. No. (By-laws 3.054 and 2.060)

120.2) Q. After a student qualifies for advancement in the state series in a sport where he/she may compete as an individual, may that student practice against similar qualifiers from other schools in preparation for further state series competition?

A. No. (By-law 5.000 and its sub-sections)

3.060 AGE

3.061 A student shall be eligible through age nineteen (19) unless the student shall become twenty (20) during a sport season, in which event eligibility shall terminate on the first day of such season (as the season is defined in Section 5.000 of these By-laws).

3.070 RECRUITING OF ATHLETES

In the enforcement of the rule, member schools shall be responsible for any violation committed by any person associated with the school, including principals, assistant principals, coaches, teachers, any other staff members or students, or any organization having any connection to the school.

3.071 Recruitment of students or attempted recruitment of students for athletic purposes is prohibited, regardless of their residence.

3.072 It shall be a violation of this rule for any student athlete to receive or be offered any remunerations of any kind or to receive or be offered any special inducement of any kind which is not made available to all applicants who enroll in the school or apply to the school.

Special inducement shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Offer or acceptance of money or other valuable consideration such as free or reduced tuition during the regular year or summer school by anyone connected with the school. (Exception – private schools may waive tuition for children of faculty members, as a benefit of employment, provided there is no undue influence exerted upon the student or the family to attend the school.)
- (2) Offer or acceptance of room, board or clothing or financial allotment for clothing.
- (3) Offer or acceptance of pay for work that is not performed or that is in excess of the amount regularly paid for such service.
- (4) Offer or acceptance of free transportation by any school connected person.
- (5) Offer or acceptance of a residence with any school connected person.
- (6) Offer or acceptance of any privilege not afforded to non-athletes.
- (7) Offer or acceptance of free or reduced rent for parents.
- (8) Offer or acceptance of payment of moving expenses of parents or assistance with the moving of parents.
- (9) Offer or acceptance of employment of parent(s) in order to entice the family to move to a certain community if someone connected with the school makes the offer.
- (10) Offer or acceptance of help in securing a college athletic scholarship.

3.073 It shall also be a violation of this rule to induce or attempt to induce or encourage any prospective student to attend any member school for the purpose of participating in athletics even when special remuneration or inducement is not given.

Schools are not prohibited from conducting academic recruitment programs, programs which may include information concerning the school's extracurricular offerings. However, such recruitment programs must be designed to provide an overview of the academic and extracurricular programs offered by a school and are not to be used as a subterfuge for recruiting students for athletic purposes. Such general recruitment programs permissible under this rule shall be carried out under the following guidelines:

- With the exception of an open house conducted at a member school, no member of a school's coaching staff may present or distribute the school's information to students not yet in high school unless they are representing all phases of the entire high school program at official junior high functions such as high school nights, fairs, days or visits.
- Any information presented or distributed shall be limited to the academic and extracurricular offerings provided by the school. The information may include a description of the athletic facilities available at the school.
- Any information presented or distributed shall not imply, in any manner, that the member school's athletic program is better or more accomplished than any other member school's athletic program.
- Any information presented or distributed shall not imply, in any manner, that it would be more advantageous for a prospective student athlete to attend a member school over any other school because of its extracurricular programs.
- Information may be presented or distributed only at an open house conducted at a member school or at a school housing grades below the ninth from which the member school can normally expect enrollment.

Illustrations for Section 3.070 of the By-laws

The illustrations and situations it contains are for purposes of assisting in understanding the application of the particular by-law to which they pertain. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, between the illustrations, examples or situations in this publication and the constitution or by-laws of the IHSA, the constitution and by-laws shall control.

Introduction

IHSA By-law 3.070 and its sub-sections focus attention on the solicitation or inducement of young people to attend a particular high school in connection with participation in interscholastic athletics. It is important to note that these rules do not prohibit legitimate high school public relations, promotion or marketing. Rather, these rules prohibit capitalization upon a school's athletic program and/or a young person's athletic interest, potential or proficiency as a factor in determining school attendance.

Contacts with Prospective Students

- 121)** Q. May an employee, booster club member, alumna/alumnus or individual providing volunteer service to a member school make a home visit to a prospective student athlete for recruiting purposes?
A. No. (By-law 3.073)
- 122)** Q. Does registration and attendance at a school's "Open House for Prospective Students" constitute a "formal request for admissions information"?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.073)
- 123)** Q. May a coach initiate contact with a prospective student-athlete?
A. No. (By-law 3.073)
- 124)** Q. May school administrators initiate contact with a prospective student-athlete?
A. Yes, provided the contact is made only with the understanding that the young person is a prospective student, not a prospective athlete. (By-law 3.073)
- 125)** Q. May a coach or school official who is approached by a parent distribute contact information for the school?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.073)
- 126)** Q. May school personnel respond to an inquiry by providing information either verbally or in writing about the school's academic and/or athletic program?
A. Yes, provided the information is purely factual and provided the responding individual is not a coach relating to his/her own sport(s) or in any way appraising the inquirer's talent, potential opportunities or prospects for athletic participation at the school. (By-law 3.073)
- 127)** Q. If a family is moving into the area and has stopped by the athletic office because they are "shopping" for a school, may specifics about a particular sport be discussed?
A. Yes, provided "specifics" includes only factual information and the family initiates the contact. However, the family must be directed to the administrative or admissions office. (By-law 3.043)
- 128)** Q. May high school personnel direct inquiries regarding feeder teams to feeder team personnel?
A. The name or designation of the team is not material. High school personnel may provide information regarding all programs in their community which provide participation opportunities for pre-high school students. No specific program may be singled out or identified as preferable, recommended or advised, or in any other way connected to the high school. (By-law 3.073)

School Publicity and Promotions

- 129)** Q. May a school include a report of athletic team records and successes in its publicity/promotional materials?
A. Yes, provided such reports present only facts which are public information. (By-law 3.073)
- 130)** Q. May a high school host an athletic tournament for grade school teams?
A. Yes, provided teams are not selected on the basis of their caliber or their player personnel. (By-law 3.073)
- 131)** Q. May teams and/or individuals participating in such a tournament receive awards for their participation and/or placement?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.072)
- 132)** Q. May a school provide promotional merchandise, such as key rings, calendars, pens, etc., to prospective student-athletes?
A. Yes, provided all prospective students, not just prospective student-athletes, receive such items. (By-law 3.072)

Financial Assistance and Scholarships

- 133)** Q. May a private school waive tuition or provide reduced tuition to the children of faculty members?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.072)

- 134)** Q. Is there a distinction between a scholarship and financial assistance?
 A. Yes. "Financial assistance" is a monetary contribution or credit toward payment of school costs, granted exclusively on the basis of objectively determined need. A "scholarship" is monetary contribution, remission of tuition, or credit toward payment of school costs based upon selection criteria of any kind other than need. (By-law 3.072)
- 135)** Q. May an alumnus provide financial assistance to a needy student?
 A. No, not directly. Donations may be made to a school and dispersed by the school to students who qualify for financial assistance or scholarship as defined above, provided student-athletes receive no special consideration. (Constitution 1.250, By-law 3.072)
- 136)** Q. A school has a donor who wants to give funds to underwrite the tuition and fees of a needy student. It has a process for determining "need" which is objective and does not involve athletic or activity participation in any way. May the donor be permitted to meet, interview and endorse the selection of the needy student prior to the allocation of this financial aid?
 A. No. (By-law 3.072)
- 137)** Q. After donated funds are objectively allocated by a school as permitted above, may the donor meet the student(s) who were recipients of the donation?
 A. Yes. (By-law 3.072)
- 138)** Q. May a booster club provide financial assistance to a needy student?
 A. No, not directly. Donations may be made to a school and dispersed by the school to students who qualify for financial assistance or scholarship as defined above, provided student-athletes receive no special consideration. (By-law 3.072)
- 139)** Q. What criteria guides provision of financial assistance to students?
 A. Objective determination of need. Financial assistance may not be provided on any other basis. The school's financial assistance program must comply with the criteria approved by the Board of Directors as required in Section 1.250 of the Constitution. (Constitution 1.250 and By-law 3.072).
- 140)** Q. May a student-athlete receive a scholarship for high school attendance?
 A. Yes, provided: (a) the scholarship is administered and approved by the school, (b) the school maintains and follows published criteria for the eligibility and selection of recipients which comply with the criteria approved by the Board of Directors as required in Section 1.250 of the Constitution, and (c) athletic interest, experience, skill, performance, talent or potential are in no respect any part of the selection and/or eligibility criteria for the scholarship. (Constitution 1.250 and By-law 3.072).

Special Amenities

- 141)** Q. May a school provide items of clothing such as T-shirts, jackets, shoes, etc., to prospective student-athletes?
 A. Yes, provided all prospective students receive identical items of this nature as promotional material or as a general marketing device. (By-law 3.072)
- 142)** Q. May a school, booster club, civic organization, individual donor, church or social agency underwrite any school expenses, such as book fees, lunches, transportation costs, participation fees, etc., for a student-athlete?
 A. Such financial assistance may be provided only if (a) it is available to all students, (b) the sole criterion for receiving this assistance is objectively determined need and (c) allocation of such assistance made is exclusively by the school. (By-law 3.072)

Activities of Coaches with/for Prospective Students

- 143)** Q. May a coach attend and observe a grade school or non-school athletic contest?
 A. Yes, but a coach may not exert undue influence upon, induce attendance of, or engage in any improper contact with any prospective students on such an occasion. (By-law 3.073)
- 144)** Q. When does a prospective student become a student at a school?
 A. On the first date of actual class attendance. (Constitution 1.420)
- 145)** Q. When does a prospective student-athlete become a student-athlete?
 A. On the date of the first school practice in the sport involved, or on the date the prospect first attends class at the school, whichever comes first. (Constitution 1.420)
- 146)** Q. May a public or non-public high school or a high school coach conduct athletic programs such as summer camps, tournaments, etc., for non-high school students?
 A. Yes, provided such programs and/or activities are open to all applicants within the age group for which they are offered and provided no specific invitations to participate or special terms for participation, such as fee discounts, provision of equipment, etc., are extended to any select individuals or groups. (By-law 3.073)
- 147)** Q. May high school coaches conduct summer programs for high school students through a park district which does not allow students from outside the park district boundaries to enroll?
 A. Yes, provided the program is not used to induce or attempt to induce any student to attend any member school. (By-law 3.073)

- 148)** Q. May a coach who has no affiliation with a junior high team or youth league team attend a practice session simply for the purpose of observing the practice?
A. No. (By-law 3.073)

Activities of Prospective Students

- 149)** Q. May a school permit incoming freshmen to participate in high school athletic practices, or in any other high school athletic activities, such as riding a team bus to a contest, attending a state tournament with the school team, etc., conducted by or through the school?
A. No. (By-law 3.073)
- 150)** Q. May a school permit incoming freshmen to participate in high school sponsored open gym programs during or outside the school year?
A. Yes, provided the program is conducted in accordance with the open gym by-law. (By-law 3.071 and By-law 3.160)
- 151)** Q. May incoming freshmen enroll in summer school physical education programs that have been approved by the high school district's board of education?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.073)
- 152)** Q. May incoming freshmen or transfer students participate in summer league programs?
A. Yes, however, they must have registered at the school and paid applicable fees and/or deposits. (By-law 3.150 and 3.073)
- 153)** Q. May a school permit a non-high school student to participate on an "exhibition" or "unattached" basis in a high school athletic contest?
A. No. (By-law 3.072)
- 154)** Q. May a school permit non-high school students, or current high school students at another school, to accompany a school team to a contest and/or be present with the school team at the contest site?
A. No. (By-law 3.072) Note: This does not apply to a parent who is a coach and takes his/her own child to a contest with the team he/she coaches, or to elementary school students (grades 6 or below) serving as ball boys/girls for a school's home athletic contests.
- 155)** Q. May testimonials by former student-athletes be used in school marketing materials/endeavors?
A. Yes, provided they are factual. (By-law 3.073)
- 156)** Q. May a school employee, a booster club member, an alumna/alumnus, or any person or organization providing volunteer service to a school, underwrite sports camp or non-school competition costs or underwrite athletic equipment costs for a prospective student or prospective student-athlete?
A. No. (By-law 3.072) Note: This does not prohibit a parent from underwriting such items for his/her own child.
- 157)** Q. May a school employee, a booster club member, an alumna/alumnus, or any person or organization providing volunteer service to a school, provide transportation to a sports camp or to a non-school sports competition for a prospective student?
A. No. (By-law 3.072) Note: This does not apply to a parent who is a coach and takes his/her own child to a camp or competition.
- 158)** Q. May a high school directly or indirectly sponsor an athletic team for grade school students, junior high school student(s) or any other non-high school group, "select" or "traveling" athletic team?
A. No. (By-law 3.072)
- 159)** Q. May high school coaches put on clinics for feeder coaches or participants?
A. High school coaches may conduct or be instructors in clinics for coaches of non-high school teams. If a high school coach conducts, gives instruction or has any other involvement with a clinic for pre-high school students: (1) participation may not be restricted to any designated group(s) or individual(s); (2) no specific individual(s) or group(s) may be given special invitation or encouragement to participate; and (3) no participant(s) or group(s) may be given special rates, discounts or other services/benefits/privileges not identically provided to all participant(s) and group(s) invited. (By-law 3.073)
- 160)** Q. May high school personnel coach a feeder team if their sibling is a member of the feeder team?
A. Yes, but not on teams with high school students, unless: (a) the team involves players from two or more high schools; or (b) the team involves only high school students from the school within whose geographic attendance boundaries the student's parents reside and is not coached by a member of that high school's athletic coaching staff; or (c) the team involves only high school students from a private/parochial member high school, the incoming freshman attended eighth grade at a private/parochial elementary/junior high school from which other students attend the member high school, and the team is not coached by a member of the private/parochial school's athletic coaching staff. (By-law 3.073)
- 161)** Q. May a school market its school program, including athletics as a part of that program, to a degree proportional with all other aspects of the program?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.073)

- 162)** Q. May a school give any priority, special attention or consideration to prospective athletes in any of its activities for marketing the school program and recruiting students?
A. No. (By-law 3.073)
- 163)** Q. May a high school provide free admission to athletic contests for special interest, non-high school groups, such as a junior high basketball team, youth sports club or team, cub scout pack, church group, etc.?
A. Yes, provided this benefit is provided to all such groups located within the normal attendance boundaries of the school. (By-law 3.073)
- 164)** Q. May a school sponsor a "Junior High Night" during a sport season, provide free admission to all junior high students on that night, and conduct some skill contests in the sport with prizes, such as school T-shirts, etc., for the winners?
A. Yes, provided it is a completely open event, with no specific students or student groups being invited and provided that any contests conducted and/or prizes awarded use random selection of participants. (By-laws 3.071 and 3.072)
- 165)** Q. May a school provide any services or other benefits to students or prospective students who are athletes which are not correspondingly provided to all students or prospective students who are not athletes?
A. No. (By-law 3.072)

3.080 AMATEURISM

- 3.081** For winning or placing in actual athletic competition, a student in a member school may accept a medal, cup, trophy or plaque, from the sponsoring agent regardless of cost.
- 3.082** Schools may provide an individual or teams that win an IHSA state championship, a ring/memento not to exceed \$200 in fair market value. Businesses, booster clubs or other organizations desiring to make contributions toward the purchase of a championship ring/memento must make those contributions to the school.
- 3.083** A student in a member school may accept any other award for participation in an athletic contest, or for athletic honors or recognition, which does not exceed \$75 in fair market value, in the following sports: badminton, baseball, basketball, bowling, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, wrestling, and any other sport in which the student's school provides interscholastic competition. In addition, a student in a member school may receive and retain items of wearing apparel which are worn for non-school athletic competition as part of a team uniform provided for and worn by the student during competition.
- 3.084** A student in a member school may accept a school letter for an interscholastic sport, regardless of cost.
- 3.085** Violation of the provisions of By-laws 3.081, 3.082, 3.083 or 3.084 shall cause ineligibility in the sport in which the violation occurred. An official ruling must be secured from the Executive Director before any student who violates these rules may be reinstated to eligibility.

Illustrations for Section 3.080 of the By-laws

The illustrations and situations it contains are for purposes of assisting in understanding the application of the particular by-law to which they pertain. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, between the illustrations, examples or situations in this publication and the constitution or by-laws of the IHSA, the constitution and by-laws shall control.

166) NUMBER OF PRIZES PERMITTED

- Q. Is there a limit on the number of different prizes an athlete may win in any given contest or awards an athlete may receive on any given occasion?
A. Yes. An athlete may receive no more than one (1) prize of \$75 fair market value per sponsor per athletic contest. (By-law 3.083)

167) REWARDS REVIEWED

- 167.1)** Q. If a student participates in a road race sponsored by (1) a member school; (2) a local business; or (3) a private running club, may the student receive a T-shirt instead of a medal or trophy for winning or placing in the race?
A. In all three of these instances the student may accept a T-shirt or other merchandise reward, if the fair market value of the award is less than \$75. (By-law 3.083)
- 167.2)** Q. May a contestant pay an entry fee to be in the race if part of that fee is used to purchase a shirt or other memento?
A. Yes, if the item does not exceed \$75 fair market value. (By-law 3.083)

- 167.3)** Q. May a student accept a meal at a restaurant and a plaque in recognition of being chosen “player of the week” or for a similar honor?
 A. The food prize is acceptable as long as it is physically consumed by the student personally. The plaque is acceptable if its cost did not exceed \$75 fair market value. (By-laws 3.081 and 3.083)
- 167.4)** Q. May a student accept a trophy valued at \$125 for winning a non-school competition?
 A. Yes. (By-law 3.081)
- 167.5)** Q. May a student accept a trophy valued at \$50 for shooting a hole-in-one during a golf tournament in the summer?
 A. Yes. (By-law 3.083)
- 167.6)** Q. May a student accept a \$25 cash prize for winning a competition?
 A. No. (By-law 3.083)
- 167.7)** Q. How is the term “wearing apparel” defined in the context of this rule?
 A. “Wearing apparel” is defined to mean uniform shirts or jerseys, uniform shorts or pants, warm-up clothing such as sweat suits, and playing shoes for the particular sport in question. (By-law 3.083)

168) WHAT CAN BE PROVIDED TO CHAMPIONS?

- 168.1)** Q. In recognition of a team’s accomplishments, may team members receive items such as gift certificates for dinners, jackets, sweaters, watches, etc.?
 A. Gifts such as these are permitted only if no individual item exceeds \$75 in “fair market value” and items totaling no more than \$75 in fair market value are provided by any one sponsor. (By-law 3.083)
- 168.2)** Q. Is it acceptable if, by virtue of a student’s performance in an athletic contest, the student is awarded:
 (a) \$1,000 in the form of a college scholarship?
 (b) \$1,000 donated to the scholarship fund of the college of his choice?
 (c) \$1,000 donated in the student’s name to charity?
 (d) \$1,000 donated in the student’s name to the athletic program at high school?
 A. IHSA By-laws prohibit a student from receiving any amount of cash for participating in an athletic contest. This is true even if the reward is delayed for presentation following the student’s graduation from high school. Consequently, example (a) is not permitted, but examples (b), (c) and (d) are acceptable, since the student personally does not and will not receive any cash or merchandise. (By-law 3.083)
 Note: While a student may not directly receive a scholarship, a scholarship may be given to a college or university and the student may receive the benefits of the scholarship fund if he/she attends that university. Failure to attend the school designated by the students forfeits the student’s opportunity to receive any and all benefits of the scholarship. In such an event, the student may not receive any portion of the scholarship in cash. (By-law 3.083)

169) TEAM CASH

- Q. If a student plays on a community sports team, and that team wins \$500 cash in a tournament, is the student in violation of the amateur by-laws?
 A. No. The rules prohibit the student from receiving cash and restrict the value of merchandise. Since the student does not receive cash or merchandise personally, there is no violation of the amateur rules in this case. (By-law 3.083)

170) STATUS OF “THONS”

- Q. May a student participate in a “jog-a-thon,” “swim-a-thon,” or other “-thon” activity and receive cash or merchandise prizes for his fund-raising effort?
 A. Yes, but the prizes are acceptable only if they are presented exclusively on the basis of the student’s fund-raising achievements. (By-law 3.083)

171) ATHLETE AS A MODEL

- Q. If a student-athlete who is selected by audition is paid \$250 to appear in a TV commercial for athletic equipment, is the student in violation of the amateur rules?
 A. No. (By-law 3.083) This is not a reward for participation in an athletic contest; rather, it is payment for specific services rendered.

172) COMPETE WITH PRO

- Q. May a student participate as a team member with a professional?
 A. Yes, provided the student does not receive cash of any amount or merchandise prizes which exceed \$75 in “fair market value”. (By-law 3.083)

173) COMPETE AGAINST PRO

- Q. May a student participate in a contest against a professional?
 A. Yes. (By-law 3.083)

174) DESIGNATION OF WINNINGS TO OTHERS

- Q. May a student participate as a substitute in a non-school sports program with the person for whom the student substitutes receiving cash or merchandise prizes as a result of (1) the student's substitute performance, or (2) the performance of the team to which the substitute student contributed?
- A. In (1), the student will be considered to have received cash or illegal merchandise in violation of the by-laws, even though actual possession of the reward was granted to another individual. Designation of cash or merchandise won by a student in competition to an individual is viewed to be acceptance of the award by the student and may be in violation of the provisions of IHSA amateur rules. (By-law 3.083)
- In (2), a student's score may contribute to a team score by which other members of the team may win a cash, gift certificate or merchandise reward, provided the student personally receives nothing other than a medal, cup or trophy. If a team on which a student is a substitute wins a cash or merchandise prize that is divided among team members, the student is not in violation if the individual substituted accepts a share of the team prize. The student simply cannot accept or designate to someone else a share of the prize for his/her own performance with the team. (By-law 3.083)

175) EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

- Q. Does acceptance of reimbursement of expenses for non-school competition constitute an amateur rule violation?
- A. No, provided reimbursement can be documented not to exceed actual out-of-pocket expenses. (By-law 3.083)

176) EVIDENCE OF EXPENSE

- Q. What is acceptable documentation of expenses?
- A. Itemized bills, properly received by persons alleged to have received the payments. (Constitution 1.420)

177) WORKING FOR PAY

- Q. May a student coach, teach or officiate an athletic contest for pay?
- A. Yes. The rule refers exclusively to actual playing. An individual may be paid for services performed. (By-law 3.083)

178) PENALTIES

- Q. If a student violates the amateur rules, how and when is the penalty applied?
- A. Violation is penalized with a period of ineligibility. A report of the violation must be made to the IHSA Office for determination of the term and effective date of ineligibility. In addition, the reward must be returned or surrendered, at the direction of the Executive Director. (By-law 3.083)

179) PRIZES WON IN DRAWINGS OR RAFFLES

- Q. May a high school athlete accept a cash or merchandise prize won through a drawing or raffle at a high school athletic contest?
- A. Yes. (By-law 3.083)

180) EVENTS TO WHICH AMATEUR RULES APPLY

- Q. Does the amateur rule apply to events such as three player basketball, seven-player football, golf scrambles, etc.?
- A. No. The amateur rule applies only to "interscholastic" sports. (Constitution 1.420)

3.090 PARTICIPATING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME

- 3.091** In the event students participate in interscholastic competition under any other name than their own, a student's principal shall immediately suspend violators from further interscholastic participation. The future interscholastic participation of violators and/or persons contributing to a violation shall then be considered by the Board of Directors.

3.100 INDEPENDENT TEAM PARTICIPATION

- 3.101** During the school season for a given sport, in a school which maintains a school team in that sport, a student shall not participate on any non-school team, nor as an individual unattached in non-school competition, in that given sport or in any competition that involves the skill of the sport in question. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sanctioned directly by the National Governing Body or its official Illinois affiliate for the sport.

- 3.102** Students may participate in a tryout for a non-school athletic team while a member of a high school team in the same sport, provided the tryout is exclusively a demonstration of skills with no practice or instruction involved. A student shall be considered to be a member of a school team when he/she engages in any team activity, including but not limited to tryouts, drills, physical practice sessions, team meetings, playing in a contest, etc., on or after the date specified in By-law 5.000 and its sub-sections.
- 3.103** The phrase, “participate on any non-school team,” as utilized in By-law 3.101, is defined to mean engaging in any team activity, including but not limited to, tryouts (except as defined in Section 3.102), drills, physical practice sessions, player evaluations, team meetings, etc.
- 3.104** In the event a school does not maintain a team which competes during the regular high school season for a sport, but enters one or more students into competition for the first time in that season at the beginning level of the IHSA tournament series for the sport, the date of the beginning level contest in the IHSA series shall be the date on which the school shall be considered to have a school team in that sport.
- 3.105** Students or teams at member schools shall not be permitted to participate on, practice with or compete against any college, junior college or university athletic team. This restriction shall apply in all situations, regardless of the competitive structure or sponsor of the competing entities for such events.
- 3.106** To be eligible for a school team in a given sport, students must cease non-school practice and competition in that sport no later than seven (7) days after the date on which the school team engages in its first practice or tryout in that sport.
- 3.107** During the school year, a person who is a coach in any sport at a member school, may be involved in any respect with any non-school team, only if the number of squad members from his/her school which are on the non-school team roster does not exceed one-half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition in that sport. The number of non-school team squad members that are counted only include those that are eligible to play in the next season of that sport.
- 3.108** The Illinois School for the Visually Impaired (ISVI), may with the permission of the IHSA Executive Director, under the guidance of the Board of Directors, conduct cooperative practices with another team in the immediately geographic area of Jacksonville, Illinois.

Illustrations for Section 3.100 of the By-laws

The illustrations and situations it contains are for purposes of assisting in understanding the application of the particular by-law to which they pertain. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, between the illustrations, examples or situations in this publication and the constitution or by-laws of the IHSA, the constitution and by-laws shall control.

- 181)** Q. May a student participate on a team or as an individual outside the school?
A. Yes, provided such participation does not occur during the school season for the sport, as defined above. (By-law 3.101)
- 182)** Q. May a student who is a member of a school cross country team run in a 10K road race apart from the school cross country program during the school cross country season?
A. No. “Running on any surface other than a track” is defined by the Board of Directors as a skill of the sport of cross country. (By-law 3.101) NOTE: This illustration can be applied to any sport and/or season by referring to the definition of “skill of the sport” and the list of skills determined for each interscholastic sport by the Board of Directors which is included in the Definitions Section at the beginning of the Handbook.
- 183)** Q. Is there a difference between “skill of the sport” and “skills of a particular event” in a sport, in regard to competition in “the skill of the sport?”
A. No. The list of “skills of the sport” which the Board of Directors has determined are essential to each sport are applicable to any and all events within a sport, regardless of whether a particular event utilizes a specific skill or not. For example, since “running any distance on a track” is a skill essential to the sport of track and field, a discus thrower, whose specific track and field event may not utilize the skill of running, is still prohibited from engaging in non-school running competition during the school track and field season, because “running” is a skill of his/her sport. (By-law 3.101)
- 184)** Q. Is there any circumstance in which special permission may be granted to permit a student to compete in a non-school event in or utilizing “the skill of the sport,” during the school season for the sport?
A. Yes. The Executive Director may make an exception under guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sanctioned by the National Governing Body for the sport. (By-law 3.101) A completed request form, and written verification from the National Governing Body for the sport indicating that the event has been officially sanctioned, must be submitted to the IHSA Office for the Executive Director’s review.
- 185)** Q. How is the term “maintains a school team” defined in the context of a school which does not sponsor or otherwise facilitate competition in a sport during the regular season?
A. Such a school is considered to be “maintaining a school team” on the date any student first represents the school in an interscholastic contest in the sport. Beginning on that date, any student from the school who subsequently practices or competes outside the school in the sport, will violate this by-law. (By-law 3.101)

- 186)** Q. May a high school student-athlete be randomly selected from the crowd at a sports event to shoot from half-court and win a prize if the shot is made?
A. Yes. Performance of an athletic feat when randomly selected and when the feat does not involve competition against other individuals, is not considered to be "competition in the skill of the sport". (By-law 3.101)
- 187)** Q. When does the "school season" end for varsity or non-varsity athletes in a sport?
A. The "school season," as defined above, ends for varsity athletes and non-varsity athletes on the date of the school's last contest at their level in the particular sport. (By-law 3.101)
- 188)** Q. May a tryout be conducted in more than one session over one or more days?
A. Yes, if determined to be necessary by virtue of the numbers of individuals participating or the extent of skill demonstration being pursued in the tryout, and provided it meets the definition of a tryout. (By-law 3.102)
- 189)** Q. May a tryout include a scrimmage?
A. Yes, provided it only involves individuals who are actually trying out, and is within parameters of all other by-laws. (By-law 3.102)
- 190)** Q. May a student who is a member of a school 12-inch fast pitch softball team attend weekly team meetings during the high school softball season for a team that competes in a non-school 12-inch slow pitch softball league?
A. No. (By-law 3.103)
- 191)** Q. May a student attend a meeting to organize and plan a fund raising activity for a non-school team?
A. Yes, provided the meeting focuses exclusively on the fund raiser and not on any activity identified in the definition of "team activity" above. (By-law 3.103)
- 192)** Q. May a student who attends a school which does not maintain a school team in a given sport participate in practice sessions at a neighboring school which does maintain a school team in that sport?
A. No. (By-law 3.104)
- 193)** Q. May a student in a school which does not maintain a school team in a given sport participate in a scrimmage in the sport at a neighboring school?
A. No. (By-law 3.104)
- 194)** Q. May a school which does not maintain a school team in a given sport enter one or more of its students in competition against a neighboring school during the regular season for the sport?
A. Yes. However, such competition shall be considered to be competition by the school team, and the date on which it first occurs shall be considered to be the date on which the school has a school team in that sport. (By-law 3.105)
- 195)** Q. May a high school team practice at the same time and place as a college team?
A. Yes, but under no conditions may the high school team or individual members of the high school team interact in any manner whatever with either the college athletes, coaches, or other college personnel. (By-law 3.105)
- 196)** Q. Does this by-law pertain only to varsity student-athletes?
A. No. It applies to all students at member schools. (3.106)
- 197)** Q. If practice begins on Monday, when must students cease participation on non-school teams?
A. Students must cease non-school practice and competition in that sport within 7 days. (By-law 3.106)
- 198)** Q. What number of players is needed to constitute "one-half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition" in each sport?
A. The number in each sport for which IHSA conducts a state series has been determined by the Board of Directors. Specifically, the limitations are:
Badminton—3; Baseball—4; Basketball—2; Bowling—2; Cross Country—3; Football—5; Golf—3; Boys Gymnastics—12; Girls Gymnastics—8; Boys Lacrosse—5; Girls Lacrosse—6; Soccer—5; Softball—4; Swimming—15; Tennis—3; Track and Field—17; Volleyball—3; Water Polo—3; Wrestling—7; Competitive Cheerleading—Small 6; Medium 8; Large 10 and Coed 10; Competitive Dance – 12. (By-law 3.107)
- 199)** Q. May a high school coach serve as a coach for multiple non-high school teams during the school term as long as the number of students from his/her school on each team does not exceed the limits noted in illustration 198?
A. No. (By-law 3.107)
- 200)** Q. May a school soccer coach serve as a coach for a non-school basketball team, on which students from the school participate, during the school term?
A. Yes, provided the number of students from the school at which the individual coaches does not exceed the number permitted in By-law 3.107. (By-law 3.107)
- 201)** Q. May a high school coach serve as a non-school club administrator who doesn't coach an individual team in the club when the number of participants in the club from his/her school exceeds one half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition?
A. No. During the school term a coach may not be involved "in any respect" with a non-school club program when the number of players from his/her school exceeds one half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition (By-law 3.107).

202) WHEN ON SCHOOL SQUAD

- Q. When does a student become a member of a school athletic squad?
A. In schools conducting an interscholastic program in the sport during the regular season, a student shall be considered to be a member of a school team when he/she engages in any team activity as defined in By-law 3.102. In schools entering interscholastic competition for the first time at the beginning of the IHSA state series in the sport, the date of the beginning level contest in the IHSA series shall be the date on which the school shall be considered to have a school team in that sport. (By-law 3.102 and 3.104)

203) NON-SCHOOL COMPETITION

- Q. May a student who is on a school team and who participates in competition outside the season in the same sport with a non-school organization, participate in a non-school competition in that sport on the day after the high school season ends?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.101)

204) FAST VS. SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL

- Q. May a student who is a member of the school team in 12-inch fast pitch softball, play during the girls softball season for a slow pitch team in a recreation 12-inch slow pitch league?
A. No. During the school season, a student shall not participate on any non-school team that involves the skill of the sport in question. (By-law 3.101)

205) BASEBALL VS. SLOW PITCH OR FAST PITCH SOFTBALL

- Q. May a student who is a member of the school baseball team play during the boys baseball season for a fast pitch or slow pitch softball team in a recreation league?
A. No. During the school season, a student shall not participate on any non-school team that involves the skill of the sport in question. (By-law 3.101)

206) DATE OF FIRST CONTEST

- Q. What does the term "date of the first level contest in the IHSA series" mean in the provisions of By-law 3.102?
A. The term "date of the first level contest in the IHSA series" shall be interpreted to mean the first date on which any individual contest of the IHSA series in that sport is conducted. (Article 1.420)

207) COMPETING WHEN INELIGIBLE

- Q. If a student is ineligible by virtue of a by-law violation and ruling by the Executive Director, may the student compete in non-school competition in the same sport outside the school?
A. No. Once a student becomes a member of a school team, that student may not compete in non-school competition (By-law 3.101)

208) PRACTICE WITH NON-SCHOOL TEAM

- Q. May a student participate in practice with a non-school team while a member of the school team in the same sport?
A. No. (By-law 3.101)

209) Q. May schools pay entry fees for any non-school leagues during the school year?

- A. No. (Article 1.420 and By-law 2.090)

3.110 COACHING SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

3.111 During the school year, a person who is a coach at any member school may not be involved in any respect with any coaching school, camp, or clinic for any interscholastic sport or which provides instruction in any skill of an interscholastic sport and is attended by more than two (2) persons from the coach's school. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. Programs that involve only demonstration of skills and sports theory without providing instruction and requiring active participation by attendees are not considered coaching schools.

3.112 Students may attend a coaching school, camp or clinic during the summer months provided they do not attend before school is out in the spring or after Sunday of Week Number 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. Such coaching schools, camps and clinics may be conducted by an individual, group or even a member school and instruction at such programs may be provided by any person. However, in the case of a school-sponsored camp, participation may not be restricted to high school students who have been certified eligible for athletics.

- 3.112.1** During the summer months (which shall be defined as the period of time between the last day of student attendance at a student's member school and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar), any number of students from a member school may attend a coaching school, camp, or clinic. If a coach at a member school is involved in any respect with a coaching school, camp, or clinic attended by students from the coach's school, the days on which the coaching school, camp, or clinic occur shall be considered a part of the school's contact days, as outlined in IHSA By-Law 3.153.
- 3.112.2** During any time of the calendar year, any number of students from a member school may attend a coaching school, camp, or clinic provided no person who is a coach at the students' member school is involved in any respect with the coaching school, camp, or clinic. If a coach at a member school is involved in any respect with a coaching school, camp, or clinic, the number of students from a member school who can attend the coaching school, camp, or clinic shall be limited to the number outlined in IHSA By-Law 3.111.
- 3.112.3** Violations of the above provisions shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days, pending a ruling from the Executive Director.
- 3.113** Students may participate in school physical conditioning programs and recreational programs.
- 3.114** During the school year, students may serve as demonstrators for a coaching school, camp or clinic conducted exclusively for coaches or officials. Students may participate in one practice session for such event with the instructor for whom they will demonstrate.

Illustrations for Section 3.110 of the By-laws

The illustrations and situations it contains are for purposes of assisting in understanding the application of the particular by-law to which they pertain. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, between the illustrations, examples or situations in this publication and the constitution or by-laws of the IHSA, the constitution and by-laws shall control.

210) LIMITS AT SPORT CAMPS

- Q. Is it permissible for five students from an IHSA member school to go to Florida during the school year and take part in a baseball instructional program?
- A. Yes, during the school year any number of students from a school may participate in sports lessons provided no coach from the school is involved in any respect. (By-law 3.111)

211) SCRIMMAGE AT SPORT CAMPS

- Q. May students participate in a scrimmage as a part of a sports camps?
- A. During the school year, students may participate in Soccer ID camps which generally involve instruction and the demonstration of skills. In many cases, these camps also involve scrimmages. If the scrimmages only involve players officially attending the ID camp and the scrimmages are confined to the published timeframe of the ID camp, the scrimmages are considered part of the camp and are allowable under the provisions of IHSA By-law 3.111.

212) SCHOOL PAY CAMP FEES/LEAGUE FEES

- Q. May a school pay fees for students participating in a summer sports camp or summer league?
- A. Schools may only use funds from their activity accounts to pay fees for summer sports camps or summer leagues if the funds have been raised by school teams, school clubs or booster clubs for that purpose. (Article 1.420)

213) SCHOOL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION

- Q. May a school provide transportation for students attending a summer sports camp during the contact day period?
- A. Yes. (By-law 3.154)

214) COACH AT CAMP

- Q. May a school coach be a staff member at a summer camp which students from his/her school attend?
- A. Yes, provided the camp is conducted between the last day of school in the spring and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. Note: Any day during the camp on which the coach and any student from his/her school are involved together in sports instruction will be considered a contact day for both the coach and student. (By-law 3.112)

215) Q. May an incoming freshman participate in a school sponsored camp?

- A. Yes, provided there is no violation of By-law 3.070 (Recruiting) by the school conducting the camp. (By-law 3.112)

216) Q. Is participation in speech, music or other activity camps or clinics restricted by this by-law?

- A. No. This by-law, as all the by-laws in Section 3.000, pertains exclusively to athletics and the eligibility of students for athletics. (By-law 3.121 and 3.112)

- 217)** Q. Is there any time period during which participation in school physical conditioning and/or recreational programs is prohibited to student athletes?
A. No. (By-law 3.113)
- 218)** Q. May activities involving the "skill(s) of a sport" be conducted as part of a school physical conditioning program?
A. Such activities are permitted in school physical conditioning programs, provided they are conducted purely for the development of strength, endurance and general physical fitness, without instruction, coaching, competition or other relation to the theories and strategies of any sport. (By-law 3.113)
- 219)** Q. May a school conduct pre-season conditioning for a team prior to the starting date for any sport as outlined in Section 5.000 of the IHSA By-laws?
A. No. Conducting a preseason conditioning program as outlined above would constitute a violation of IHSA By-law 2.090. (By-law 2.090 and 3.113)

3.120 ALL-STAR PARTICIPATION

- 3.121** No student at a member school shall participate on an all-star team in basketball, football, soccer or volleyball during the student's high school career until completing their interscholastic athletic eligibility in that particular sport. A student may participate in no more than three (3) all-star contests in a sport.

Illustrations for Section 3.120 of the By-laws

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220) ALL-STAR FACTORS

- Q. What factors are used in identifying an all-star contest?
A. In identifying an all-star contest, answers to the following questions will be reviewed (Constitution 1.420):
- (1) Are participants selected by an individual or group according to a structural system relating to athletic ability, performance or reputation?
 - (2) Does publicity for the event state or imply an honorary status for participants?
 - (3) Are the contests, by name or otherwise, identified as all-star?
 - (4) Does any revenue generated through ticket sales or other means accrue to, or are expenses paid by a sponsoring agency or organizations?
 - (5) Is the contest sponsored by a non-school agency?
 - (6) Is the contest sponsored by a school agency?

221) SAME SCHOOL "ALL-STARS"

- Q. If all participants in a contest which meets the general definition of an all-star contest attend the same school, is the contest an all-star event?
A. Yes. The number of schools which may have students in the contest is not a factor in determining whether the contest is an all-star event. (By-law 3.121)

222) INDEPENDENT TEAMS AND ALL-STAR COMPETITION

- Q. Is an independent team ever an all-star team?
A. It may be. According to the published list of all-star factors, if an independent team is formed to play in one game or one tournament, it is viewed as an all-star team. If it engages in a regular schedule of competition, it is a permissible non-school program, and high school students may participate. (By-law 3.111 and 3.120)

223) ALL-STAR COMPETITION WHEN ON TEAM IN ANOTHER SPORT

- Q. May a student participate in a national all-star high school basketball game during the month of April when the student is a member of the school's boys tennis team?
A. Yes, provided the student is in compliance with the all-star by-law. (By-law 3.120)

3.130 USE OF PLAYERS

- 3.131** Only students who are currently eligible to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest shall appear at the contest in the uniform of their school.
- 3.132** Only bona fide students of a school may participate in a practice session for any interscholastic team sponsored by that member school.

Illustrations for Section 3.130 of the By-laws

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224) MAY AN INELIGIBLE STUDENT PRACTICE?

- Q. May a student who is ineligible practice with a school team?
- A. Yes, provided local policy permits it. IHSA rules only prohibit the student from participating in or dressing for an interscholastic contest. (By-law 3.131)

225) INELIGIBLE STUDENT AS MANAGER

- Q. May an ineligible student sit with a school team on the bench and perform managerial or other specifically assigned duties?
- A. Yes, within the limits of any local policies. The student is only prohibited by IHSA rules from appearing on the team bench in uniform. (By-law 3.131)

- 226)** Q. May alumni, or others who are not currently enrolled in a member school, participate in a practice session conducted by a member school?
- A. No. (By-law 3.132)

- 227)** Q. May students who are not yet in high school practice or participate on high school teams?
- A. No. (By-laws 3.051, 3.053, 3.011 and 3.132)

3.140 MISBEHAVIOR DURING CONTESTS

- 3.141** Students participating in interscholastic athletic contests in violation of the By-laws, or other persons found to be in gross violation of the ethics of competition or the principles of good sportsmanship, may be barred by the Board of Directors from interscholastic contests.

3.150 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SUMMER PARTICIPATION

- 3.151** Participation by high school students in summer programs must be voluntary and in no way be an actual or implied prerequisite for membership on a high school team.
- 3.152** Students may participate in summer baseball/softball leagues sponsored by schools, during the period between Monday of Week 44 and Saturday of Week 7 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.
- 3.153** Persons who coach a sport at a member school may have a maximum of 25 days of contact in that sport with students from that school during the period between the last day of classes or Monday of Week 49 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar (whichever date is earlier) in the spring each year and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. The students may have a maximum of 25 days of contact per sport with persons who coach that sport at the school they attend during the same time period. A day of contact is defined as any date on which any coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques of any sport takes place. These limitations apply to all sports except Baseball and Softball. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sponsored and conducted directly by the National Governing Body for the sport.
- 3.154** Schools may transport students from their schools to summer league contests, coaching schools, clinics or other non-school contests in the summer during the contact day period outlined in By-law 3.153.
- 3.155** Schools may conduct coaching schools, camps or clinics during the summer, provided:
- a) The event is conducted between the close of school in the spring and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar;
 - b) The event is open to any high school student and is not restricted to students who have been or expect to be high school athletes; and,
 - c) The event provides common instruction and activities for all participants.
- 3.156** Students may participate in a summer school class taught by a coach or other faculty member from their school and which offers instruction in interscholastic sports, provided the class is not restricted to students who have been certified eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics and the class is approved by the local Board of Education. In addition, credit toward graduation must be granted by the local Board of Education. Summer school courses offering instruction in interscholastic sports, must conclude by Saturday of Week 4 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

- 3.157** During the summer contact period, schools may not organize or participate in any football activities that involve “full contact” or allow players to be in full pads, even if “full contact” doesn’t occur.

“Full Contact” is defined as football drills or live game simulations where ‘live action’ occurs. ‘Live action’, as defined by USA Football, is contact at game speed where players execute full tackles at a competitive pace taking players to the ground. It is assumed that when players are not in full pads, no live action drills or simulations will occur. Players not in full pads may participate in ‘air’, ‘bags’, ‘wrap’, and ‘thud’ drills and simulations at any point. These contact levels are defined as:

Air – Players should run unopposed without bags or any opposition.

Bags – Activity is executed against a bag, shield, or pad to allow for a soft-contact surface, with or without the resistance of a teammate or coach standing behind the bag.

Wrap – Drills run at full speed until contact, which is above the waist with the players remaining on their feet.

Thud – Same as wrap but tempo is competitive with no pre-determined winner and the players are not tackling to the ground.

During the summer contact period, 7 on 7 pass skeleton (touch only) games are allowed against other schools, and helmets, mouth pieces, and appropriate footwear are the only equipment that may be worn during these 7 on 7 contests.

Organized football activity that doesn’t involve any protective equipment (such as a helmet) can occur at any time and for any length on a given day so long as coaches and players do not violate the provisions of IHSA By-laws 3.151 and 3.153.

During the summer contact period, schools may organize and participate in football activities involving coaches and students at that school under the following conditions:

- a. A high school team may wear helmets and shoulder pads for the school’s organized football activities, building up to this in the following manner:
 1. 1st two (2) days of summer football activities: helmets only: (any break in summer contact days with the team exceeding seven (7) days would additionally require two (2) days of helmet only activities).
 2. Day three (3): helmets and shoulder pads are the maximum allowed equipment for the remaining contact day period.
- b. The following limitations are in effect during the summer contact day period:
 1. Practices are limited to a maximum of five (5) hours per day with players in helmets and shoulder pads. Any additional (no protective equipment) football related activities beyond the five (5) hours per day can only be conducted following two (2) hours of rest. No one practice can exceed three (3) hours before a two (2) hour rest period is allowed.
 2. Practices with helmet and shoulder pads are limited to fourteen (14) hours per week (Sunday-Saturday) with a maximum of fifteen (15) days in helmet and shoulder pads during the twenty-five (25) summer contact day period.

During the summer contact period, schools may attend a summer football camp that involves coaches and/or players from another high school under the following conditions:

- a. Practice limit maximums of equipment and hours per day along with hours per week follow the same limitations as identified above.
- b. The maximum number of football camp days with other teams is limited to four (4) days during the summer.
- c. The maximum number of players from one school in drill work versus another school is five (5) players. Note: 7 on 7 non-padded passing games are allowed during the summer.

Illustrations for Section 3.150 of the By-laws

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- 228)** Q. Are camps, contact days, or sport specific physical conditioning programs allowed during the period between the end of summer contact and the start of fall practice?
A. No. (By-law 3.153)

- 229)** Q. Are open gyms or open weight rooms allowed during the period between the end of summer contact and the start of fall practice?
A. Yes. Once the summer contact period ends, the regular limitations on coaching during the school year but outside the sport season apply. (By-law 3.161)

- 230)** Q. Does By-law 3.153 apply to activity programs such as marching band?
A. No.
- 231)** Q. May coaches require students to attend summer workouts, leagues, conditioning programs, etc.?
A. No. (By-law 3.153)
- 232)** Q. Is participation by a student in a summer school class taught by a coach considered to be a contact day.
A. Yes, for both the individual student(s) and the coach, unless it is a class which awards academic credit toward graduation from the school. (By-law 3.153)
- 233)** Q. What is the difference between a "camp" which counts as a contact day and a "class" which does not?
A. A "class" is a legitimate academic activity in the school's curriculum which grants credit toward graduation from the school to students who successfully complete it. A camp is not. (By-law 3.153)
- 234)** Q. If a coach is purely a spectator at a non-school contest, and does not speak to or otherwise communicate with students from the school where he or she coaches, before, during, after or about the contest, is that considered to be a contact day for the coach?
A. No. (By-law 3.153)
- 235)** Q. May two or more coaches on a school's coaching staff have contact with an individual student on the same day?
A. Yes, but such contact is counted as a contact day for each coach and the student. (By-law 3.153)
- 236)** Q. If a coach has contact with a student more than once in a given day, how is that counted for contact days?
A. One contact day. (By-law 3.153)
- 237)** Q. If a person coaches more than one sport at a school, may he/she have a contact day in Sport A on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and a contact day in Sport B on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday with the same student?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.153)
- 238)** Q. Is participation in a 7-7 football passing league game considered to be a contact day?
A. If a coach from the school of the participants provides instruction to participants before, during or after the game, it is considered to be contact each day on which such contact may occur. It is considered to be a contact day for the coach and each student involved. (By-law 3.153)
- 239)** Q. A school coach conducts or works at a camp where some days involve instruction in sports skills and other days involve purely physical conditioning activities. Clearly, any day which involves sports skills instruction are "contact days." Are the days on which only physical conditioning activities are conducted also considered "contact days"?
A. Yes. In this case, they are part of a sports skills camp and are thereby interpreted as "contact days." (By-law 3.153)
- 240)** Q. If a high school coach is also the parent of a high school athlete at his/her school, is it a "contact day" if the coach works with and/or instructs his/her child in the skills of a sport?
A. No, as long as the work and/or instruction the coach engages in with his/her child is not also similarly provided to other students from the school. (By-law 3.153)
- 241)** Q. What are the guidelines for IHSA By-law 3.153?
A. 1. The competition must be sponsored and conducted by the National Governing Body (NGB) for the sport. Written verification from the NGB indicating they are sponsoring and conducting the event must be received in the IHSA office no later than ten days prior to the event.
2. The competition must be completed by the time the student's school starts in the fall.
3. A maximum of seven additional contact days may be granted for practice/training and competition.
- 242)** Q. Is interaction between a high school coach who also owns, operates or works at a private sports club or in a public sports program during the activities of such a club or program restricted by the limit on "contact days"?
A. Yes. If such interaction includes any "coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques of any sport" during the period between the "time school is out in the spring and Saturday of Week 4 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar," it will be restricted by the "contact day" limitation. (By-law 3.163)
- 243)** Q. Is participation by a student in a summer school class in a sport, taught by a coach in that sport, considered to be a "contact day under By-law 3.153?"
A. Yes, unless it is a class for which the school grants academic credit toward graduation. (By-law 3.153 and 3.156)
- 244)** Q. May participants in passing leagues wear pads?
A. No. Passing leagues are limited to touch football. Helmets and football shoes are the only football equipment which may be worn by participants. (By-law 3.157)
- 245)** Q. May participants in one camp, coaching school or clinic scrimmage with and/or against participants in another camp, coaching school or clinic?
A. No. (By-law 3.157)
- 246)** Q. May high schools host camps for elementary and junior high school students after Sunday of Week No. 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.155)

- 247)** Q. May high schools host camps for high school students, including incoming freshmen, after Sunday of Week No. 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar?
A. No. (By-law 3.155)
- 248)** Q. If a school has a conditioning program during the summer contact period that is designed for a specific population (ex., a school's football team), is it considered to be a contact day, even if no sport-specific instruction occurs?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.150)
- 249)** Q. If a school hosts a camp after the summer contact period for non-high school aged students may high school students serve as counselors at the camp?
A. Yes, provided the high school students are strictly at the camp as instructors. (By-law 3.150)
- 250)** Q. May incoming freshmen or transfer students participate in summer league programs?
A. Yes, however, they must have registered at the school and paid applicable fees and/or deposits. (By-law 3.150 and 3.073)
- 251)** Q. What is a football scrimmage?
A. Any action, regardless of whether it would involve 11 on 11, 9 on 8, 4 on 4, etc., which simulates any game play conditions where members of one school would be organized against members of one or more schools would be considered a scrimmage. (By-law 3.157)
- 252)** Q. Does the contact day provision of IHSA by-laws apply to competitive cheer?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.153)

3.160 OPEN GYM LIMITATIONS

- 3.161** Schools may open their facilities, including off-site facilities that are used during particular athletic seasons, for recreational activities to students or other persons who reside in or outside their district, under the following conditions:
- a) A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
 - b) There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.
 - c) Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
 - d) Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.

Illustrations for Section 3.160 of the By-laws

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- 253)** Q. What procedures should schools use to insure all students are adequately notified of opportunities to participate in open gyms?
A. Schools must publicize open gyms in a manner that insures all students have a reasonable opportunity to be informed regarding dates and times of open gyms. Schools may utilize public address announcements, flyers, written announcements or newsletters to notify students regarding open gyms. (By-law 3.161)
- 254)** Q. May a school conduct a sport specific open gym?
A. Yes, provided a variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year. (By-law 3.161)
- 255)** Q. May a coed school conduct a gender specific open gym?
A. No. (Article 1.420)
- 256) COACH PLAYING IN OPEN GYM**
- Q. Is it permissible for a coach to play with or against students from his/her own school during out-of-season open gym programs?
A. Yes. (By-law 3.161)

3.170 CLASSIFICATION

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except as follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools unless application of this multiplier is waived under a policy of waiver which would be established by the Board of Directors.

The definition of a non-boundaried school is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Classifications shall be determined on an annual basis.

There will be a sub-committee comprised of IHSA staff and Legislative Commission members to develop the waiver policy for submission to the Board.

3.171 Any member public member school charging less than the full tuition rate authorized by the Illinois School Code will be considered a non-boundaried school for classification purposes.

4.000 ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY BY-LAWS

Included in this Section:

- 4.000 Activity Eligibility By-laws
- 4.010 Attendance
- 4.020 Scholastic Standing
- 4.030 Participation Limitations
- 4.040 Age
- 4.050 Use of Assumed Name
- 4.060 Misbehavior During Activities
- 4.070 Use of Participants
- 4.080 Spirit Limitations

Students in member schools shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic activity contests as representatives of their schools provided:

4.010 ATTENDANCE

4.011 A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by, the member school, a minimum of twenty-five (25) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student's completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of the by-laws.

The Board of Directors shall have discretion to waive this requirement of this by-law for the Illinois schools for the deaf or blind. In unit systems having a 6-3-3 or 6-4-2 type of organization, ninth grade students may participate on senior high school teams at the member high school in the district designated by the Board of Education, provided:

- (a) such participation is approved by the district's superintendent of schools;
- (b) the senior high school principal shall certify that the ninth grade students:
 - (1) are eligible under the requirements of these By-laws;
 - (2) are students at a junior high school located in the district which supports the senior high school; and
 - (3) are not members of a grade or junior high school team in the same activity; and
- (c) the senior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all contests in which they represent the senior high school.

4.012 They shall have been enrolled and in attendance not later than the beginning of the eleventh school day of the semester. Exception may be considered only if written verification that delay in enrollment or attendance is caused by illness of the students or their immediate family or by other circumstances deemed acceptable by the Board of Directors which are submitted to the Executive Director for presentation to the Board of Directors.

4.013 Including a student's name on school attendance records for a period of ten (10) or more school days during any given semester, beginning with the date of the student's first physical attendance and ending with the date of the student's official withdrawal from school, shall constitute a semester of attendance for the student.

4.014 If a student does not attend school for ten (10) days in a semester, as defined in Section 4.013, but participates in any interscholastic activity, the student shall be considered to have completed a semester of attendance, unless withdrawal from school occurs prior to completion of ten (10) days attendance and is necessitated by disabling illness or injury which is certified by a physician.

4.015 They shall not have any lapse of school connection during any given semester of greater than ten consecutive school days. Lapse of school connection for greater than ten consecutive school days shall render them ineligible for the remainder of the entire semester. Exceptions may be considered only if written verification that lapse in school connection is caused by illness of the students or their immediate family or by other circumstances deemed acceptable to the Board of Directors which are submitted to the Executive Director for presentation to the Board of Directors.