

# BYLAWS

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# **BYLAWS**

## **ARTICLE 1 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ORGANIZATION & OPERATION DEFINITION**

### **Section 1 - Organization and Terms of Members**

A. The administration of the Association is vested in the Board of Directors composed of representatives elected by the member schools of each regional association and one representative each from the Alaska Association of School Boards and the Alaska Association of School Administrators. Each selected member of the Board of Directors shall have one vote. The Alaska Association of Student Governments (1978) is invited to appoint one non-voting ex-officio representative to the Board with terms not to exceed two years. Requests for additional ex-officio membership on the Board of Directors must be approved by the Board and member schools.

B. The term of office expires December 31.

### **Section 2 - Dates of Election and Replacements**

Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by December 1st of the year in which the term for the regional representative expires. A person may not serve more than six consecutive years. The Board of Directors will certify new Board members. If an incumbent ceases to be a member of the Board of Directors because of death, resignation, incapacity, change of a member school's or organization's designation of its Board representative, or because of moving out of the region in which elected, the member schools of the regional association or the governing body of any other association with a representative on the Board of Directors shall elect or appoint a replacement to serve on the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term.

### **Section 3 - Alternate Regional Representative**

A regional association, the Alaska Association of School Boards, the Alaska Association of School Administrators, and the Alaska Association of Student Governments may elect an alternate member to sit on the Board of Directors in place of the regular member for only the following instances: weather and transportation problems, medical illness, or other excusable and acceptable reasons as approved by the majority of the other members of the Board of Directors.

### **Section 4 - Meetings**

The Board of Directors shall meet not less than four times annually. It may otherwise convene upon the call of the president or upon the request of a majority of the Board of Directors, the call to be issued by the Executive Director. The membership will be informed of the meetings in a timely manner. Board members may attend and vote at the Board of Directors meetings, including its meetings as an appeals board, by teleconference. Meetings will be conducted according to the new Robert's Rules of Order.

### **Section 5 - Officers of the Association**

The officers of the Association are a president, vice-president, and a secretary/treasurer. The president and vice-president shall be elected from among the members of the Board of Directors, each to be

elected annually for a term of one year. No one individual may serve as president for a period longer than a total of five years. If the offices of either the president or the vice-president become vacant because of death, resignation, or other emergency, it shall be filled for the remainder of the term by election by the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

## **Section 6 - Secretary/Treasurer**

The secretary/treasurer is the Executive Director and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The duties and functions of the secretary/treasurer are the responsibilities of the Executive Director.

## **Section 7 - Association Funds**

To the extent applicable, the secretary/treasurer shall comply with accepted fiscal procedures. The secretary/treasurer shall, under the supervision of the Board of Directors, have charge of funds of the Association. The secretary/treasurer shall make complete financial statements to the Association members at the time of the fall meeting. The accounts shall be audited at least annually and the cost of the audit will be paid by the Association. The financial year for the Association shall be August 1 to July 31.

## **Section 8 - Definitions**

As used in these bylaws, the following definitions apply:

1. "Student," whether in the singular or plural, means:
  - a. Students enrolled in grades 9-12 attending a public school district's brick and mortar member schools and those enrolled in a public school district's non-member charter schools, alternative schools or programs (including district correspondence programs);
  - b. Students in grades 9-12 attending an alternative education program, as defined in this section;
  - c. Students enrolled in grades 9-12 in a member private or religious school and those enrolled in a correspondence program administered by such private or religious school, and
  - d. Students enrolled in a junior high school or middle school which becomes a member of the Junior High /Middle School Division of the Association, pursuant to Article 17, Section 1, provided, however, that the only eligibility and participation rules of these bylaws applicable to such students are those contained in Articles 16 and 17.
2. "Alternative Education Program": The Association adopts the statutory definition, in AS 14.30.365 (c) (1), of "alternative education program" as a public secondary school that provides a nontraditional education program, including the Alaska Military Youth Academy; a public vocational, remedial or theme-based program; a home school program that is accredited, as defined in this section; a charter school authorized under AS 14.03.250-14.03.290; and a statewide correspondence school that enrolls students that reside outside of the district in which the student resides and provides less than 3 hours a week of scheduled face-to-face student interactions in the same location with a teacher who is certified under AS14.20.020.
3. "Accredited;" For purposes of determining whether a home school program is "accredited" such as to qualify as an alternative education program herein, the State Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) has identified AdvancED as the sole recognized body to accredit home school programs that have standards similar to Alaska's standards; the Association shall regard as "accredited" those home school programs that have been accredited by AdvancED.

## **ARTICLE 2 - MEMBERSHIP DUES**

### **Section 1 - Member Schools**

Each participating school for which a member school district has paid dues is a “member school” as that term is used in these Bylaws. This may include statewide correspondence schools. Note: See Application for Membership Form in the Table of Contents. Applications for membership from non-member schools must be received by ASAA prior to the Fall meeting of the Board of Directors, when those schools wish to engage in athletic competition during that respective school year.

### **Section 2 - Scale of Dues**

A. Annual Association membership dues and student surcharges for school districts and private and religious schools shall be determined as the sum of the dues for each participating member school based on the actual enrollment in grades 9-12 shown on the Department of Education and Early Development first student count report for the prior school year for each school. For schools other than public schools, dues shall be based on the actual enrollment at the beginning of the present or prior school year, whichever is greater.

B. Based on enrollment in grades 9-12, school dues are as follows:

- 1-100 . . . . . \$250
- 101-500 . . . . . \$500
- 501-1,000 . . . \$950
- 1,001-up . . . . \$1,400

In addition to school dues, a surcharge of \$10.00 per student is levied.

C. Alternative education program students who participate in a member school’s interscholastic activity program under AS 14.30.365 will be added to the school’s enrollment to determine school dues, beginning in 2014-15.

### **Section 3 - Date of Payment**

ASAA will invoice for school dues August 1 for the current school year. Unpaid school dues are delinquent October 1. School Districts whose member schools are delinquent in paying the dues will be charged a penalty of \$250 per invoice after October 15.

### **Section 4 - New Member Schools**

New member schools will not be assessed the penalty for the first year of membership.

## **ARTICLE 3 - VIOLATIONS OF BYLAWS & RULES**

### **Section 1 - Conduct of Activities**

A. All school sponsored interscholastic sports, events and activities of member schools must be conducted in accordance with the Association’s Constitution and Bylaws, sport or activity rules and policies, the Activities Guide and Championship Handbook, the Music Handbook, and the Debate, Drama and Forensics Handbook.

B. Member schools shall follow the Bylaws and rules as adopted and set forth by the Association.

## **Section 2 - Conforming to Rules**

A. Bylaws, including eligibility rules, contest rules, and Board of Directors policies may not be waived by consent between or among member schools.

B. As used in these Bylaws, “rule” includes the Bylaws.

## **Section 3 - Violations and Disputes**

A. All cases in which there exists a reasonable belief that a rules violation has or will occur must be reported to the Executive Director in writing. All materials pertinent to the case shall be submitted for consideration. Any requests by the Executive Director for additional information pertaining to rule violations shall be promptly supplied by affected students, coaches, and member schools. In considering evidence provided in favor or opposed to the determination of a rule violation, and in investigating the matter, the Executive Director shall not be bound by the technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses. Relevant evidence will be considered if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely on in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of a common law or statutory rule that makes improper the admission of the evidence over objection in a civil action. Written decisions will be made by the Executive Director setting forth findings of fact, conclusions based on the Association’s Constitution and Bylaws, other relevant Federal or State law, and shall include any resulting order. Such findings, conclusions and orders shall be submitted to all appropriate and relevant parties within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the receipt of all materials.

B. All questions in dispute must be submitted to the Executive Director. The Executive Director’s decision is final unless appealed to the Appeals Board.

C. Self-Reporting: A member school shall report its own violation for any infraction of the Bylaws or policies. Some degree of leniency, including waiver of minimum mandatory financial and other penalties, may be made in self-reporting cases since the majority of such infractions may not otherwise come to light. Game or contest forfeitures as stated in Article 12, Section 1, shall not be waived in cases of self-reporting.

D. A protest by a member school under Section 4, A. of this Article constitutes a report of a rule violation under Section 3 and is governed by the procedure under Section 3, in addition to those in Section 4.

## **Section 4 - Protests Against Member Schools**

A member school entering a protest against another school shall submit to the Executive Director, in writing, a full statement of the facts relating to the alleged violation committed by the offending school. A protest must be accompanied by written authorization from the superintendent of the protesting school or district. The Executive Director shall submit copies of the complaint to the superintendent or principal of the accused school. The accused school shall present its case in writing to the Executive Director within twenty-one (21) calendar days after receipt of the complaint. After reviewing the submitted materials, the Executive Director shall render a decision within twenty-one (21) calendar days.

# **ARTICLE 4 - APPEAL PROCEDURE**

## **Section 1 - Appeals from Executive Director Decisions to Appeals Board**

A. Within twenty-one (21) calendar days of receipt of a decision of the Executive Director, a member school or an individual may appeal such decision by requesting, in writing, that the case be presented to

the Board of Directors, which shall act as the Appeals Board. When requested by an individual student or by the parent or guardian of the student, the student's school shall submit the student's appeal to the Appeals Board.

B. The written appeal shall specifically set forth the grounds for the appeal, and include all relevant factual matters and citations to applicable provisions of the Association's Constitution and Bylaws, and to State or Federal statutes or constitutions.

C. The Appeals Board shall not be bound by the provisions of this section in an appeal of a game suspension of a player, or of a coach, when the suspension resulted from a game ejection which was based on the judgement call of a contest official. The Appeals Board will hear an appeal of a game suspension under this section, only, if the game ejection which caused the suspension, was a result of a misapplication of a rule. A misapplication of a rule which results in a game ejection, must be reported to ASAA by the contest official, by no later than noon of the next business day following the end of a contest, with a subsequent follow-up in writing.

## **Section 2 - Appeals Board Procedures**

A. Upon receipt of an appeal, the Executive Director shall promptly transmit to Appeals Board members a copy of the Executive Director's decision from which the appeal is taken, all relevant documents upon which the Executive Director's decision was based, copies of the applicable provisions of the Association's Constitution and Bylaws, State or Federal statutes or constitutions upon which the Executive Director's decision was based, and copies of all written materials provided by the appellant in support of the appeal. The Appeals Board may receive additional evidence not considered by the Executive Director. All additional evidence submitted by the appealing party, including evidence submitted in response to any requests by the Appeals Board for additional information pertaining to the appeal, shall be promptly supplied by the affected student, member school or school personnel.

B. The Appeals Board may review the appeal and render a decision thereon on the basis of only the written materials provided to it in connection with the appeal. Oral hearings are not a matter of right, but may be granted, in the discretion of the Appeals Board, upon request by the appellant student or school, by the Executive Director, or by the Appeals Board itself, for good cause shown. A hearing, if granted, will be held during the next regular meeting of the ASAA Board of Directors, unless an expedited hearing is granted.

C. The appellant may request that the Board of Appeals conduct an expedited oral hearing. Such a request will be promptly reviewed by the Chair of the Appeals Board, who will approve or deny the request. If approved, an expedited oral hearing will be scheduled at the earliest available time consistent with the requirement that a quorum of the Appeals Board be present. An expedited hearing may be conducted by teleconference. When an expedited hearing is requested, the Appeals Board may assess the costs of the appeal against the member school or individual. Assessable costs may include travel, telephonic and copying costs, including teleconferences, and other related expenses. If the decision of Executive Director is overturned by the Appeals Board, these costs may be waived.

D. All hearings conducted by the Appeals Board will be held in executive session, unless an open public session is requested by the school or by the individual bringing forth the appeal. Audio recordings of hearings will be made by the Association. Deliberations of the Appeals Board following hearings will be in executive session, which will not be recorded.

E. The Executive Director will participate in the hearing for the purpose of providing information but will be excluded from participating in deliberations. Once the Appeals Board has reached its decision, it may invite the Executive Director to join the Board prior to moving out of Executive Session, if the Board decides that it needs assistance with the wording of the decision.

F. In considering evidence provided in favor of or in opposition to the appeal, including written documents, and, if applicable, testimony at any hearing, the Appeals Board shall not be bound by the technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses. Relevant evidence will be considered if it is the sort of evidence upon which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of a common law or statutory rule that makes improper the admission of the evidence over objection into civil action. Issues regarding consideration of evidence will be resolved by the Chair of the Appeals Board, unless a member of the Board objects to the Chair's ruling, in which case the evidentiary issue will be resolved by majority vote of the Appeals Board. Any such ruling pertaining to evidence or testimony submitted at a hearing shall be made during the hearing.

G. Following its deliberations, the Appeals Board shall make a written decision setting forth its findings of fact, conclusions based on the Association's Constitution, Bylaws and/or any other relevant Federal or State law, and shall include any resulting order. Such findings, conclusions and order shall be entered no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days after the Appeals Board's receipt of all materials and any additional information submitted in response to a request by the Board, and shall be signed by the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, by an alternate Chair selected by the Appeals Board.

H. All decisions of the Appeals Board will be promptly transmitted by facsimile to the affected school and mailed to the home addresses, as provided by the school, of the affected student and the student's parent or guardian. The decision shall contain an express notice that it constitutes a final decision of the Appeals Board and that any party wishing to appeal the decision to the Superior Court for the State of Alaska must file such an appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of the decision.

### **Section 3 - Appeals Concerning Students in Alternative Education Programs:**

For purposes of Article 4 and appeals procedures, references to the "student's school" or the "affected school" shall include the public school, or the private or religious school wherein an alternative education program student participates in interscholastic activity pursuant to Article 12, Section 2 (C).

## **ARTICLE 5 - PENALTIES**

### **Section 1 - Nature of Penalties**

A. Penalties assessed by the Executive Director or by the Board of Directors upon member schools or individuals for violations of the Bylaws will vary depending upon the nature and character of the violation. Penalties assessed may include one or more of the following and will be in effect for the entire current school year.

1. Warning — A member school is placed on notice. After a member school is given a warning, all member schools will be notified. A like or similar violation within a school year will be the basis for placing the school on probation and/or the withholding of play-off privileges.
2. Forfeiture — To forfeit is to give up something because of error or rule violation through intent, neglect or oversight. Forfeiture always takes away a win and denotes a loss. Forfeiture may be used in conjunction with other penalties.
3. Probation — Probation is a testing or trial period for a school or team. Probation is tantamount to a larger penalty should the probation not be carried out in good faith and with due respect to all concerned.

- a. The action is spread on the records and published in the Association's official communications.
  - b. This penalty may carry one or more requirements for action & reports.
  - c. This penalty may be used in conjunction with other penalties.
4. Fines — A fine of up to \$2,500 may be levied upon member schools for rule violations.
  5. Prohibition — A member school placed on prohibition is ineligible to participate in state level competition in that sport.
  6. Suspension — A school is suspended from an interscholastic activity for regular season and post season participation. An individual is suspended from practice and competition for a specified time period.
  7. Suspension from the Association — A member school is suspended from Association membership for a period not to exceed 365 calendar days and forfeits any dues paid for the current school year.
  8. Restitution — In addition to the above penalties, any one or more of these additional actions may be taken: 1) individual or team records achieved during participation by an ineligible player be vacated or stricken; 2) team or individual awards earned by an ineligible player be returned to the Association. If an ineligible student competes in a meet, match or tournament in violation of any Association Bylaws, all points earned by that student, or by a relay team of which the student is a member, will be declared forfeited; and in team sports (including wrestling), the entire contest is forfeited. The intent of this rule is to deter future violations and to ensure fairness to other individuals or teams with which that student or teams competes. When the Association is involved in legal cases, it may seek to recover attorney costs when it is found to be the prevailing party.
  9. Failure to Pay a Fine — A member school that refuses to pay an assessed fine may be suspended from the Association.

## **ARTICLE 6 - CONTEST RULES**

### **Section 1 - Contracts/Schedules for Contests and Events**

A. Final agreements relating to contests or events between or among member schools must be incorporated into written contracts (may be on forms provided by the Association) or on league schedules. These contracts or league schedules must be executed by mutual consent of the representatives of the respective schools and exchanged or established not less than ten (10) calendar days prior to the contest. The contract or schedule may not be canceled or altered except by mutual consent of the schools involved. Breach of contract or league schedule will be considered a rule violation.

B. Contract Violation: A contract violation is a unilateral breaking of a game event contract which was agreed upon in writing or by league schedule with another school. A contract signed by the previous administrator of a school is in force unless nullified by agreement of both schools' administration. Pulling a team off the floor or field is an intentional contract violation.

Penalty: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A member school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.



1. First Offense: The member school receives a \$200 fine. If the Association determines that the violation involved intentional conduct by a member school representative, the member school is placed on probation and receives a \$500 fine, and can be assessed with costs of reimbursement for financial loss by the aggrieved member school as determined by the Board of Directors.

2. Second Offense: The member school will be placed on probation/suspension, loses playoff privileges, receives a \$500 fine, and can be assessed with costs of reimbursement for financial loss by aggrieved member school as determined by the Board of Directors.

## **Section 2 - Non-Member School, Suspended School, and Out-of-State Competition**

A. As a condition of membership, members expressly agree that they and their member schools will not take part in any interscholastic activities or contests with schools eligible for membership but who are not member schools of the Association, nor will they take part in any activities or contests with clubs or other non-school entities (alumni & faculty contests excepted). Upon request, a waiver may be granted by the Executive Director to participate in interscholastic activities with a non-member school. A member school may participate in interscholastic activities with a non-member school of less than twenty-five (25) students on an inter-mural basis as long as the schools are in the same school district and as long as they are in compliance with all other Association athletic eligibility regulations.

B. A member school may not participate in any contest or event with an out-of-state school unless a sanction has been granted by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director may approve such contests or events that occur in-season. Other requests for approval of such contests or events occurring during the school year must be submitted to the Board of Directors.

C. Participation without a waiver under paragraph A or a sanction under paragraph B of this section will result in disciplinary action for the member school.

D. A member school may not participate in any contest or event with a school that is under suspension from the Association.

E. Playing a Non-Member School, Non-school Entity, Suspended School or Unauthorized Out-of-State Travel:

Penalty: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A member school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

1. First Offense: The school receives a fine of \$200 minimum. If the Association determines that the violation involved intentional conduct by a school representative, the school will be placed on probation, and will receive a fine of \$500.

2. Second Offense: School will be placed on probation/suspension, will lose playoff privileges, and will receive a fine of \$500.

## **Section 3 - Use of Ineligible Students**

A. A member school may not permit students who are ineligible under the Bylaws to represent the school in interscholastic activities in or otherwise appear on the field or floor in uniform during any contest between itself and other member schools.

B. Penalty: A student deemed to be ineligible and the member school which permitted the student to participate under the rules set forth in the Bylaws will be subject to the following penalties. The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

1. First Offense: Member school forfeits game or meet and receives warning. If the Association determines that the violation involved intentional conduct by a member school representative, the school will be placed on probation/suspension and will receive a fine of up to \$2500.

2. Second Offense: School forfeits game or meet and receives a \$200 fine. If the Association determines that the violation involved intentional conduct by a school representative, the school will be placed on probation/suspension and will receive a fine of up to \$2500.

3. In addition to the above penalties, one or more of the actions below may be taken:

A. that individual or team records achieved during participation by an ineligible player be vacated or stricken;

B. that team or individual awards earned by an ineligible player be returned to the Association

C. that if an ineligible student competes in a meet, match or tournament in violation of Association Bylaws, all points earned by that student, or by that student's team, or by a relay team of which the student is member, are to be declared forfeited; and in team sports (including wrestling), the entire contest is forfeited. Records earned by other team members will stand.

## **Section 4 - Contest & Event Supervision**

A certified staff member, or other person approved in advance by the principal or superintendent of a member school or district, must be in charge of participants. For athletic events this person must be certified through the Alaska Coaches education Program. Host schools must have an administrator or designee in attendance.

## **Section 5 - Personal Conduct/Sportsmanship**

A. All Association contests or events must feature high standards of courtesy, fair dealing and sportsmanship.

B. In matters pertaining to personal conduct, such as gross violations of sportsmanship, attacks on officials and other gross misconduct by any student, school staff member, coach or school community member, the Association will determine appropriate penalties and whether or not the student, coach or school will be suspended or barred from future contests or events.

### **Penalty for Player Ejection**

1. Player must refrain from participation in any scheduled contest in the same activity (game suspension) until the completion of the suspension period at the same level (ie. JV, Varsity). This means that a Varsity player may not participate in a JV game while waiting for the next Varsity game in which he/she is suspended. Schools may not schedule additional contests to circumvent this provision. See Section 6 of this article for complete wording.

2. Player may sit on the bench but may not be dressed down in an official school uniform.

## Penalty for Coach Ejection

1. Immediately upon being ejected from a contest, the coach shall be removed from the vicinity of the playing area (out of sight and sound) and will be prohibited from any further contact (direct or indirect) with the team during the remainder of the game. For failure to comply, the referee may forfeit the game. Coach must refrain from coaching in any scheduled contest in the same activity (game suspension) until completion of the next regularly scheduled contest at the same level. Schools may not schedule additional contests to circumvent this provision. Implementation of this penalty will be delayed for a coach who is traveling with his/her team when the game ejection occurs, and who has no assistant coach or other authorized individual available at the site of the contest to supervise the team during the period of suspension. In such case, the ejected coach must serve the suspension during the next regularly scheduled contest after returning to the home community.

2. Coach may not be physically at the site of any contest, nor may he/she have any contact, direct or indirect, with their teams during a contest while suspended. See Section 6 of this article for complete wording.

The head coach is responsible for reporting an ejection within 24 hours to his/her administrator. A player or coach who fails to serve a required game suspension under this rule will be subject to penalty (See Section 6). **Schools and officials must notify the Association whenever a player or a coach is ejected from a game or contest by submitting a Contest Ejection or Hockey Penalty Incident form.**

C. No student or coach may physically attack a contest official or coach. Notwithstanding any other penalty schedule described in this Article, where such attack includes physical contact determined by the Association to have seriously threatened the health or safety of the official or coach, any student committing such an offense will lose all eligibility for one calendar year from the date of the attack; and any coach committing such an offense will be suspended from practicing and coaching in any Association sanctioned activity for one calendar year from the date of the attack.

D. All suspension penalties imposed by the Executive Director under Section 5 will take effect immediately upon determination of the penalty. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4, Section 2 (C), a member school or individual subject to a suspension penalty may request an expedited appeal, in which case the Appeals Board shall make a written decision within four (4) calendar days after receipt of the written appeal and all materials and other additional information submitted by the appellant. In such case, an oral hearing may be requested, but will be granted only for good cause shown. Officials' decisions can't be appealed to ASAA except in the case of misapplication of rules. The board does not intend to review officials' decisions or judgement calls.

## Section 6 - Penalty For Violation of Sections 4 & 5

**A. Penalty:** The following penalties assume that a member school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A member school under warning or other penalty status may have additional penalties than those listed below.

**B. Poor Sportsmanship, Gross Misconduct and/or Loss of Control of an Event:** Aggrieved school or party must report by phone to the Association or regional representative on the Board of Directors within seventy-two (72) hours. This must be followed by a full written statement.

1. First Offense: The member school will be placed on probation and will receive a fine of \$500 minimum. The coach and/or student may be suspended from practice and competition for a period of time to be determined by the Association, based on the circumstances of the incident.

2. Second Offense: The member school will be placed on probation/suspension and will receive a fine up to \$2,500 maximum. The coach and the student may be suspended from practice and competition for a period of time to be determined by the Association, based on the circumstances of the incident.

**C. Game Suspension as a Result of Contest Ejection (see specific Supplementary Rules for Hockey):** Team Sports Student Ejection (also refer to Bylaw Article 6., Section 5, Personal Conduct/Sportsmanship)

1. First Ejection - For a first ejection during a respective sport season, a student shall be removed for the remainder of the contest and shall serve a one game suspension.
2. Second Ejection - For a second ejection during a respective sport season, a student shall be removed for the remainder of the contest and shall serve a two game suspension. Prior to returning to competition, the student must complete the on-line NFHS Course entitled, "Sportsmanship." at <http://www.nfhslearn.com/>
3. Third Ejection – For a third ejection during a respective sport season, a student shall be removed for the remainder of the contest and becomes ineligible for the remainder of that sport season.

NOTE: A jamboree/pool play does not count as a contest for the purpose of meeting the suspension requirement. Should a student be unable to complete a suspension during the sports season in which the ejection occurs, the suspension shall be carried over into the student's succeeding season of participation. In order for the suspension in the succeeding season of participation to meet this requirement, the student must be a member of the team for the entire season for that sport.

**D. Coach Ejection - (also refer to Bylaw Article 6., Section 5, Personal Conduct/Sportsmanship)**

1. First Ejection - For a first ejection during a respective sport season, a coach shall be removed for the remainder of the contest and shall serve a one game suspension.
2. Second Ejection - For a second ejection during a respective sport season, a coach shall be removed for the remainder of the contest and shall serve a two game suspension. Prior to returning to coaching, the coach must complete the on-line NFHS Course entitled, "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" at <http://www.nfhslearn.com/>
3. Third Ejection - For a third ejection during a respective sport season, a coach shall be removed for the remainder of the contest and becomes ineligible for the remainder of that sport season.

NOTE: A jamboree/pool play does not count as a contest for the purpose of meeting the suspension requirement.

**E. School Penalty:** The principal of a school whose students and/or coaches accumulate 5 or more ejections during a school year (10 if participating in boys football or hockey, 15 if participating in boys football and hockey) will be expected to explain to the ASAA Board of Directors, a Plan of Action to reduce the number of ejections. This explanation must be presented at the next Board meeting.

**F. Appeal of a Game Suspension:** The Board of Directors will not hear an appeal of a game suspension penalty under this section, from either a player, a coach or other affected individual, if the contest ejection which caused the suspension was based on a judgement call of an official. The Executive Director will waive a game suspension under this section only if the game ejection was a result of a misapplication of a rule by a contest official. Any misapplication of a rule which results in a game ejection must be reported by the calling official, by no later than noon of the next business day following the end of a contest, by notifying ASAA verbally and by following up in writing."

**G. Failure to Serve a Game Suspension:** A player or coach is required to serve a game suspension subsequent to a game ejection as stated in Section 5 above, and will be subject to the following penalty for failure to do so:

1. First Offense: The member school will be placed on probation and will receive a fine of \$250 minimum. The player or coach may be suspended from practice and competition for a period of time to be determined by the Association based on circumstances of the incident.
2. Second Offense: The member school will be placed on probation/suspension and will receive a fine of \$1000 maximum. The player or coach may be suspended from practice and competition for a period of time to be determined by the Association, based on the circumstances of the incident.

## **Section 7 - Sunday Contest or Event Rule**

A. Interscholastic events or contests may not be held on Sunday. If inclement weather, transportation difficulties or equipment failure forces the cancellation of one contest of a scheduled series, and the series cannot be rescheduled at a later date, the host school may request of the Executive Director that a Sunday contest be sanctioned. Transportation difficulties (in scheduling games) is a reason for allowing schools to schedule a Sunday contest or event. Sunday contests or events require a waiver.

B. Sunday Contest or Event Waiver: The host school may apply for a waiver because of a visiting team's inability to arrive at the contest site because of inclement weather or equipment failure.

Procedure to Request Waiver:

1. Principal or superintendent of each school must approve contest.
2. Host school must complete and send Sunday Contest/Event Waiver Form to the Executive Director after the event occurs.

C. Playing Unauthorized Sunday Sport Contests/Interscholastic Events:

Penalty: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

1. First Offense: School will be placed on probation and will receive a fine of \$200 minimum.
2. Second Offense: School will be placed on probation/suspension, and will receive a fine of \$500 minimum.

## **Section 8 - Playing Rules**

All sports will follow National Federation of State High School Association rules with the following exceptions:

1. Flag Football - Modified NIRSA Rules
2. Nordic Skiing - FIS Rules with ASAA modifications
3. Coed Soccer – NFHS rules with ASAA modifications
4. Tennis - USTA with ASAA modifications

5. Mix Six Volleyball - NFHS rules with ASAA modifications
6. Wrestling - NFHS rules with ASAA modifications
7. ASAA has adopted supplementary rules for baseball, hockey and softball

## Section 9 - Officials

**A. Certified Official:** A certified official is one who has passed the appropriate National Federation, if applicable, or other National Governing Body Rules Exam in a particular sport and who has registered with the Alaska School Activities Association. Officials under Association jurisdiction are: Swim & Dive, Volleyball, Wrestling, Basketball, Football, Baseball, Softball, Gymnastics, Hockey, Soccer and Track & Field.

**B. Use of Certified Officials:** The Alaska School Activities Association encourages individuals from throughout the state to pursue their interest in officiating high school contests. Only officials certified by the Association shall be eligible to officiate in regularly scheduled Association contests for all sports listed in paragraph (A) above (exception C below).

**C. Use of Non-Certified Officials:** Member schools in remote areas, unable to provide certified officials, may use non-certified officials under the following conditions:

1. The host school shall notify the visiting school when non-certified officials are to be used.
2. The responsibility and liability for selection and use of any non-certified official becomes that of the host school.

**D. Penalty:** The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

Use of Non-Certified Officials Except as in Article 6, Section 9, C:

1. First Offense: Host school forfeits the contest and receives a fine of \$200 minimum.
2. Second Offense: Host school will forfeit the contest, will be placed on probation, and will receive a fine of \$500 minimum.

**E. Procedure for Selecting Officials for State Tournaments:** Approval of the selection process for determining officials for state tournaments rests with the Board of Directors. The Association attempts to secure the most qualified persons from throughout the state to officiate state tournaments. The procedure is outlined in the annual Activities Guide and Championship Handbook.

**F. Standards for Officials:** While officiating ASAA sanctioned contests, officials shall conduct themselves in accordance with standards of good sportsmanship, professional competence, fairness and integrity, including but not limited to the standards set forth in the National Federation Officials' Code of Ethics.

1. Decertifying or Denying Certification — the Executive Director may decertify or deny certification to a contest official for gross or repetitive violations of these standards. Requests to decertify or to deny certification must be filed in writing to the Association. Only requests from member schools, districts, regional associations or officials' associations will be considered. The Executive Director may, on his

own initiative or on written request, decertify or deny certification to a contest official who is a registered sex offender or child kidnapper under the statutes and regulations of the State of Alaska.

2. Right-of Appeal — The affected official may appeal the Executive Director’s decision in accordance with Article 4, Section 1 of these Bylaws. Evaluation by the Executive Director of a potential decertification shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article 3, Section 3, of these Bylaws including providing opportunity for the affected contest official to submit information in writing.

## **ARTICLE 7 - SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES**

### **Section 1 - Compliance with Title IX**

A. The Association will comply with the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Alaska statute Chapter 18.80, and all amendments there to. No person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be treated differently from another person or otherwise be discriminated against in any activities regulated by the Association.

B. Separate Teams, Gender Determination and Contact Sports: Separate teams for each sex are permissible in contact sports or where selection for teams is based on competitive skill. The Association will rely on a gender determination made by the student’s member school where the determination is based upon prior written and objective criteria adopted by the school; ASAA will not make separate gender identity determinations. However, once a member school determines a student may participate in an interscholastic activity, which does not match the gender assigned at birth, the determination shall remain in effect for the duration of the student’s high school eligibility. A student attending a member school which does not have a prior written objective policy used to determine gender identity may only participate based upon the gender assigned at birth. Contact sports include wrestling, ice hockey, football, basketball, and any other sport “the purpose or major activity of which involves bodily contact.”

C. Single-Team Sports: Whenever a school has a team in a given sport for one sex only, and athletic opportunities for the other sex have been limited, members of both sexes must be allowed to try out for the team.

D. Equal Opportunity: A school must provide equal athletic opportunity for both sexes in numbers that are “substantially proportionate” to enrollment. In determining whether athletic opportunities are equal, the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) will consider whether the selection of sports and levels of competition effectively accommodates the interests and abilities of members of both sexes. HEW will also consider (among other factors): locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities, medical and training facilities and services, equipment, supplies, game and practice schedules, travel, per diem allowances, coaching (including assignment and compensation of coaches), academic tutoring, housing, dining facilities, publicity and support services. Equal expenditures are not required, but HEW “may consider the failure to provide necessary funds for teams for one sex in assessing equality of opportunity for members of each sex.”

### **Section 2 - Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

A. The Association will comply with the provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC §794 (a) and (b)), and all amendments thereto. No student shall, on the basis of a disability as defined in Section 504 and regulations thereunder, be denied an opportunity to benefit from participation in or otherwise be discriminated against in any activities regulated by the Association. This does not mean

that a disabled student must be allowed to participate in any selective or competitive activity, but that the selection or competition criteria not be discriminatory on the basis of a disability.

B. The Association's eligibility rules shall not operate, on the basis of disability, to render a student ineligible to participate, or to limit the eligibility of a student to participate in any activities regulated by the Association.

### **Section 3 - Sanctioned Activities**

Traditional Member Schools: Member schools may sponsor any sport and/or activity which is listed under the following headings: Sports Confined to a Season, Sports not Confined to a Season, and Activities Without Time Limitations.

### **Section 4 - Seasons**

Sports confined to a season

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Cheer
- Cross-Country Running
- Flag Football
- Football
- Gymnastics
- Hockey (Boys and Girls)
- Nordic Ski
- Rifle
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swim & Dive
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball (Girls & Mix Six)
- Wrestling

Activities without seasons

- Art
- Drama, Debate & Forensics
- Dance / Drill Teams
- Honor Band, Choir, Orchestra
- Music Festivals
- Solo & Ensemble Music Festival
- Student Government
- World Language Declamation

### **Section 5 - Addition or Suspension of Sanctioned Activities**

A. Adding Sanctioned Activities: The Board of Directors may sanction additional interscholastic activities to those listed under Section 2 upon request of member schools or districts. Requests to sanction should be directed to the Association no later than April 15 for all activities.

B. Suspending Sanctioned Activities: The Board of Directors may suspend sanctioning of an activity listed in Section 2 if the Board feels that it is in the best interests of the Association and member schools to do



so. Requests to suspend sanctioning may be directed to the Association by member schools or districts, the Executive Director or any Board member.

## **Section 6 - Seasonal Competition**

A. The Board of Directors adopts the calendar. The first (Fall) season begins the last Monday in July or the first Monday of August. Spring season ends no later than the second week of June. Students who participate in activities that begin or end at times other than during the regular school term are considered to be eligible for participation if they were or will be eligible during the regular school term.

B. Specific seasonal dates cannot be changed without Board of Directors approval. Minor adjustments may be made as needed to fit calendar needs.

C. Definition of Season - For an activity that is confined to a season, the season is established by the Board of Directors and may begin with the first day of practice and end at the conclusion of the state championship event. From time to time, the Board of Directors may grant a post season extension when requested in a timely manner by a member school, for the sole purpose of out-of-state competition. Additionally, cheer squads may request a pre-season extension for the sole purpose of cheering at the Great Alaska Shootout.

D. Penalty: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

### **Out-of-Season Practice/Play:**

1. First Offense: School receives warning and the head coach receives a suspension of games equaling the number of days of the violation. If Association determines that the violation involved intentional conduct by a school representative, probation for one school year and the head coach receives a game suspension for three times the length of the infraction.

2. Second Offense: The head coach receives a suspension for one school year and the school will receive a fine of \$200 minimum.

## **Section 7 - Practice**

A. All players must have ten (10) separate days of physical practice in the same sport activity prior to the 1st day of competition. For the purpose of this bylaw, a "practice" is defined as a regularly scheduled team physical activity designed for the preparation of athletes for the sports season and conducted under the supervision of a certified school coach during the season established by the Board of Directors. In order to qualify as practice the student must participate in at least an hour of physical activity

B. When a student is participating in an ASAA sport that overlaps the beginning of another ASAA sport, up to five practices may be waived. In addition when a student is participating in a nationally recognized activity (or the Arctic Winter Games) that overlaps the beginning of an ASAA sport season, the Executive Director may waive up to five practices. For purposes of this section, a "nationally recognized activity" is a non-school athletic competition and/or practice, in a sanctioned ASAA sport, conducted under the auspices of a national sports governing body as part of an Olympic Development Program. This activity will usually be conducted outside of the state of Alaska.

C. Scrimmages: A scrimmage is a practice and should be treated as such. Scrimmages with other teams or schools do not count as games. Coaches should stop the play at will to give instructions.

**Scrimmages may not involve:**

1. official game clock or score book
2. admission charge
3. advertisements or announcements about the event.

D. If a student has completed the required practices but has not competed or practiced for whatever reason for less than two weeks, no additional practices are required before returning to competition with the concurrence of the coach. If a student misses between two and four weeks of practice and competition, five additional days of practice and the concurrence of the coach are required before returning to competition. If more than four weeks have been missed, the student must have ten (10) additional days of practice and concurrence of the coach before returning to competition.

E. Member schools permitting a student to participate in interscholastic competition without meeting the practice requirements of this section will be considered to be using an ineligible player and will be subject to penalty under Article 12, Section 1.

**Section 8 - Number of Games or Periods of Play per Day or Week**

A. Basketball - Boys and Girls: 6 periods of play per day exclusive of invitational, conference and state tournaments. In invitationals (3 or more schools), regional or state tournaments, there must be a two hour time lapse between the end of the first game and the beginning of a second game before a team may play a second game.

B. Football: Upon a region's request to the Executive Director, a school may have its players participate in six (6) quarters of play per week, except that a kicking specialist may play in up to eight (8) quarters per week, providing that in four (4) quarters the player does no more than kick.

C. Hockey: Students may participate in 6 periods of play per day or two games and there must be a two (2) hour time lapse between the time the athlete played in the first game and the time he/she plays in the second game.

D. Penalty: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing, has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may have additional penalties than those listed below. Exceeding Maximum Number of Games or Periods per Day or Week:

1. First Offense: School will forfeit game and will be placed on probation.
2. Second Offense: School will forfeit game, will receive a \$200 fine and will be placed on probation/suspension.

**Section 9 - Maximum Games Prior to Qualification for State Tournament**

A. The following number of games/matches may be played during the regular season. In addition, 2 Endowment Games may be played each season in the following team sports; Baseball, Basketball, Hockey, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball. Additionally, 2 more Endowment games may be played in the sport of basketball provided the schools involved are at different classifications.

- Baseball — 22 contests, exclusive of conference tournaments
- Basketball — 22 games exclusive of conference tournaments or 19 games and one invitational tournament of three or more game
- Football — one game per week to a maximum of 8 games per season exclusive of playoffs
- Hockey — 22 contests, exclusive of conference tournaments
- Soccer — 22 contests, exclusive of conference tournaments

- Softball — 22 contests, exclusive of conference tournaments
- Volleyball — 22 contests, exclusive of conference tournaments
- Wrestling — 24 individual weigh-ins exclusive of forfeits by opponents exclusive of conference tournaments

B. Penalty: See Section 6, D. above.

## **Section 10 - Team Roster Size limits for State Championships**

A. In order to promote fairness and the “level playing field” concept, the Association has established maximum team roster size limits for players in uniform for the following state tournament championships:

- Baseball 18
- Basketball 12
- Cross-Country Running 7
- Nordic Ski 6
- Division I Football (semis & final) 65
- Division II and III Football (semis & finals) 48
- Hockey 20
- Soccer 22
- Softball 18
- Volleyball 12

B. Penalty: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the time. A school under warning or other penalty status may have additional penalties than those listed below: Exceeding Roster Size Limit:

First Offense: School will forfeit game and will be placed on probation.

Second Offense: School will forfeit game, will receive a \$200 fine and will be placed on probation/suspension.

## **Section 11- Girls and Boys Joint Participation and Cooperative School Programs**

A. Coed Teams: Prior to the first contest of the season for a specific sport, a school may declare a team as a coed team. If a school chooses to have a coed team, then it may not have a separate girls or separate boys team in that sport. Any school declaring a coed team may compete in any district, regional or state competition in the boys’ playoffs. An exception to the playoff rule is made for mixed-six volleyball when a separate playoff category is provided by the Board of Directors.

B. Cooperative School Programs for 1A and 2A Schools: All member schools classified as 1A or 2A are eligible to participate in the Cooperative School Program when timely application therefore is approved by the Executive Director. The purpose of this rule is to provide adequate numbers of participants to make a team for competition in the smaller high schools in Alaska. It is not the intent of this rule for schools to be able to form “All Star” teams. For the purposes of this section, team sports are defined as football, basketball, volleyball, mix six volleyball, hockey, baseball, softball and soccer. Cooperative School Programs are defined as a union of two or more member schools who do not have sufficient players (as defined by names on the online Electronic Master Eligibility program) to field a team and elect to join another school or schools who do not have sufficient players to form a team. Cooperative sponsorship of any activity by two or more member schools will be considered under the following conditions:

1. Schools are located in the same geographical area.

2. Combining School Enrollments — When schools are involved with the cooperative sponsorship of any activity and the combined enrollments of the schools involved exceeds the classification number in grades 9 through 12, these schools will compete at the next higher classification in that activity.

3. Cooperative sponsorship agreements must be in affect for a minimum of an entire season.

4. The participating member schools must jointly submit the Application for Cooperative Sponsorship Form to the Executive Director.

5. Applications must be submitted to the Executive Director for fall activities by August 1; winter activities by October 15; and spring activities by January 15. The Executive Director may at his/her discretion act on applications after these dates.

6. The Executive Director may approve an application to participate in the Cooperative School Program where it is shown that such a program is necessary to afford full opportunity for participation by students in the affected schools.

C. Other Cooperative School Programs: All member schools whose enrollments are less than 500 students in grades 9-12 that are unable to participate in the Cooperative School Program under Sections B. or C., may participate in the Cooperative School Program in a team sport with another member school whose enrollment is also less than 500 when timely application is approved by the Executive Director. The purpose of this rule is to provide adequate numbers of participants to make a team for competition in the smaller high schools in Alaska, not to enable the formation of “All Star” teams. Applications will be considered under the following provisions:

1. Schools may form cooperative teams only in the sports of football, tennis, volleyball, hockey, basketball, softball, baseball and soccer. Schools may not cooperate for the individual sports of cross-country running, swim & dive, wrestling, nordic ski, and track & field.

2. All but one of the schools requesting to coop do not have sufficient numbers of players interested in forming a team.

3. All schools involved in a cooperative school agreement must be members of the same school district. Administrators of involved schools and the superintendent must approve this agreement.

EXCEPTION: The Executive Director also may approve cooperative school programs of single site school districts

4. When the combined enrollments of all schools involved exceeds their classification cutoff levels, the cooperative team shall compete in the next .higher classification for state tournament qualifying purposes.

EXCEPTION: If the combined enrollments in grades 9 through 12 causes the cooperative team to qualify for a higher classification, the schools requesting permission for a cooperative team may petition the Board of Directors for an exception to this provision. Factors that may be considered by the Board of Directors when evaluating a petition for an exception may include, but are not limited to, number of participants from each school, how much the combined ADM exceeds the classification cutoff point, and geographic considerations.

5. No students may be cut or displaced by the additional students from the cooperative school(s).

6. Cooperative agreements must be in effect for a minimum of an entire season and may be renewed on an annual basis.

7. Deadlines for applications: Fall Sports, Winter Sports, Spring Sports – first official day of practice in that specific sport season according to the ASAA calendar. Football – the December board of directors meeting.

8. The Executive Director may approve this application if the above conditions are met.

D. The Board of Directors may also approve cooperative school programs for member schools who do not otherwise qualify under these sections. Request will only be considered at regular Board of Directors meetings. Schools are encouraged to consult with the Executive Director as how to best submit request.

E. Joint Participation Program for 1A and 2A Schools: If a member school classified as 1A or 2A is unable to field a team and is also unable to participate in a cooperative program with another 1A or 2A member school, it may petition the Executive Director for permission for its students to participate on another 1A or 2A member school's team in the same geographical area. In this section, team has the same definition as stated in Section B. above. The schools' enrollments will not be combined in determining the team's classification under the Joint Participation.

## **ARTICLE 8 - AMATEURISM**

### **Section 1 - Amateur Athletes**

A. A student-athlete who represents a member school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social and pleasure benefits derived therefrom. This rule may be waived for students participating as members of official United States Olympic Teams.

B. A student-athlete forfeits amateur status and eligibility in a sport sanctioned by the Association by:

1. Entering into a competition for which the student-athlete is either paid to participate or is competing to win monetary compensation (allowable travel, meals and lodging expenses may be accepted); or
2. receiving any award, merchandise or prize whose aggregate value exceeds \$1000 for a specific event or tournament, unless such award has been approved by the school's principal for an event or tournament sanctioned by the school or Association (this section does not apply to awards given by the Association); or
3. capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money or gifts of monetary value in exchange for endorsements, participation in commercials, advertisements or the like (scholarships paid directly to institutions of higher learning are specifically exempted); or
4. signing a professional playing contract in that sport.

C. Accepting a nominal, standard fee or salary for instructing, supervising or officiating in an organized youth sports program or recreation, playground or camp activities shall not jeopardize amateur status. An "organized youth sports program" includes both school and non-school programs. The Association permits reasonable compensation for giving private lessons.

D. Penalty: A student-athlete deemed to be ineligible and the school which permitted the student-athlete to participate under the rules set forth in this section will be subject to the following penalty. The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

1. Amateurism: This violation applies to a student-athlete and the member school.
2. School: Member schools which permit a professional student-athlete to compete as a member of an interscholastic team will be deemed to have been using an ineligible student and will be penalized as specified in Article 12, Section 1.
3. Student-Athlete-Each Offense: The student-athlete loses eligibility in that sport for 365 days and until reinstatement according to the following subsection.

E. A student-athlete who violates his/her amateur standing as set forth by these Bylaws may apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement as an amateur, if 365 days have elapsed since the date he/she was declared ineligible, and if he/she has been in regular school attendance and has not competed as a professional in that sport during the intervening period. An application under this paragraph must be in writing and must be signed by both the student and the principal or superintendent of the school.

## **Section 2 - Other Amateurs**

A. A student who represents a member school in a non-athletic interscholastic competition shall be an amateur in that discipline. An amateur is one who engages in that discipline solely for the physical, mental, social and pleasure benefits derived therefrom.

B. A student forfeits amateur status and eligibility in non-athletic interscholastic competition in a discipline by:

1. receiving any award, merchandise or prize whose aggregate value exceeds \$1000 which has not been listed on the approved list by the NASSP or approved by the school's principal (this section does not apply to awards given by the Association);
2. capitalizing on fame by receiving money or a gift of monetary value (scholarships paid directly to institutions of higher learning are specifically exempted);
3. signing a professional contract in that discipline.

C. Reasonable compensation for giving private lessons is permissible by the Association.

D. A student is ineligible if he or she competes or participates under an assumed name for the purpose of concealing his or her status as a professional.

E. Penalty: A student deemed to be ineligible and the school which permitted the student to participate under the rules set forth in this section will be subject to the following penalty: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

1. Amateurism: This violation applies to a student non-athlete and the member school.  
School: Member schools who permit a professional student non-athlete to compete in an interscholastic competition will be deemed to have been using an ineligible student and will be penalized as specified in Article 12, Section 1.
2. Student Non-Athlete-Each Offense: The student non-athlete loses eligibility in that specific discipline for 365 days and until reinstated according to subsection F:

F. A student who has violated his or her amateur standing as set forth by these Bylaws may apply to the Board of Directors for reinstatement as an amateur, if 365 days have elapsed since the date he or she was declared ineligible, and if he or she has been in regular school attendance and has not competed as a professional in that discipline during the intervening period.

An application under this paragraph must be in writing and must be signed by both the student and the principal or superintendent of the school.

### **Section 3 - Professional and College Try outs**

Professional and college try outs that interfere with a high school student's work or involve a game in violation of Association rules may cause that student to be ineligible for further interscholastic athletic competition.

## **ARTICLE 9 - AWARDS**

The Board of Directors designates, gives, and controls ribbons, medals, and trophies to be awarded to schools and individuals.

### **Section 1 - Principal Approval**

Awards must have symbolic value only, awards may be accepted by a student only if granted through the school with prior approval of the school principal or school district superintendent.

### **Section 2 - Value Limit**

Awards such as unattached letters, trophies, metal charms or pins, or similar articles, having symbolic value only, may be given to students by the school if the cost of the award does not exceed \$30. This section does not apply to trophies awarded to teams by the Association or regional associations. Jackets or sweaters may be presented to championship teams or groups by a school or non-school organization or individual(s) with prior approval of the school's principal within the limits established in Article 8, Section 1, Subsection B-2.

### **Section 3 - Invitational Tournaments**

Leagues or schools conducting invitational tournaments or meets under Association rules may make awards to the winning schools or contestants if the awards are within the limits set forth in Sections 1 and 2 of this Article and in Article 15.

### **Section 4 - Presentation of Awards**

No awards other than ASAA sanctioned awards may be given during Association State Championship awards ceremonies, unless approved prior to the event.

## **ARTICLE 10 - QUALIFICATION OF ATHLETIC COACHES**

### **Section 1 - Qualification of Coaches**

The Board of Directors has adopted the Alaska Coaches Education Program for all high school level coaches who have direct supervision of students. This may include head coaches and assistant coaches at all levels, as well as volunteer coaches and coaches of out-sourced programs. The Coach of any team representing a member school in interscholastic athletic competition must have successfully completed the Alaska Coaches Education Program. The Program consists of:

A. Five Components

1. Fundamentals of Coaching: The Fundamentals of Coaching component is a NFHS course that can be taken online or at UAA.
2. Alaska State Component: (Rules and Regulations of Alaska High School Activities) is available through NFHS as an independent course, but it is included in the Fundamentals of Coaching Course. Coaches previously certified under the American Sports Education Program do not need to recertify under the NFHS.
3. First Aid Requirement: All coaches of athletic teams are required to have successfully completed and maintain a current certification in First Aid before coaching. The national courses of First Aid, Health, and Safety For Coaches (from NFHS) and Sports First Aid (from ASEP) are recommended. Additional courses/classes that satisfy this requirement are Medic First Aid for Coaches, First Aid/CPR/AED from American Red Cross, First Aid CPR AED from American Heart Association, and CPR/AED + First Aid from American Health Care Academy. Others, upon request, may be approved to satisfy the requirements based on meeting the equivalency standard (paragraph E below).
4. Concussion Awareness Training: The requirement to maintain current knowledge in concussion management is mandated by Alaska State Law. It is achieved only by successful completion of the current "NFHS Concussion Course". Recertifying your Concussion Training will be required at the same time as recertifying for your First Aid requirement.
5. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training: It is achieved only by successful completion of the current "NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest" course. Recertifying your SCA training will be required at the same time as recertifying for your First Aid Requirement.

B. School Request for Extension of Alaska Coaches Education Program: If requested by a school principal or superintendent, the Executive Director may grant to a coach, on a one-time only basis, an extension of the certification requirement for the remainder of that sport season on a case-by-case basis. The extension is good only until the completion of the current sport season and will not be granted without the successful completion of the Concussion Awareness Training Component.

C. Equivalency for the Alaska Coaches Education Program: Coaches who believe they have completed an equivalent certification program for Fundamentals of Coaching or First Aid may submit that program directly to ASAA for review in order to determine whether that alternate program may be substituted. When an alternate program is approved, the coach will still be required to successfully complete the Alaska State Component. Coaches previously certified under the American Sports Education Program do not need to recertify under the NFHS as long as their Concussion Awareness is satisfied.

D. Administrative Responsibility: The principal or designee at each member school or district shall ensure that the requirements in Section 1, paragraph A, B, C, D, and E are met for each coach subject to certification in this Bylaw.

## **Section 2 - Reporting of Coaches**

A. The principal or designee of each member school or district shall annually report the names of all head coaches and assistant coaches at all levels, as well as volunteer coaches and coaches of out-sourced programs. The coach and their position must be reported within two weeks of the beginning of their respective season using the Electronic Eligibility Reporting System (EER). The principal or designee must



ensure that the coaches have the certifications required under this article, or have a current approved extension of the Coaches Certification rule.

B. Only coaches listed on the EER will be eligible for a Coaches Pass at any ASAA State Championship event (school is still limited to the maximum number of passes as listed per activity by ASAA).

### **Section 3 - Penalty**

The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

1. Non-Compliance with Section 1.
  - Each Offense: School receives a warning and receives a fine of \$105 per coach.
2. Failure to Report Coaches as Specified in Section 2.
  - Each Offense: School receives a warning and receives a fine of \$105 per activity.

## **ARTICLE 11 - PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, PARENTS' CONSENT**

### **Section 1 - Medical Examination**

A student-athlete may not be permitted to participate in a practice session or in any athletic event (including rifle and cheer) until there is on file, with the superintendent or principal, a statement, signed by a practicing physician, advanced nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, doctor of chiropractic or a military medical examiner, and the student's parents or legal guardians, certifying that he or she has submitted to a history and physical examination within the prior 18 months. The statement must certify that, in the opinion of the examiner, the student is physically fit to participate in strenuous physical activities.

Penalty: A student who practices or participates with-out a physical exam in violation of this rule will be considered to be an ineligible student. A school who permits a student to practice or participate without a physical exam will be penalized under Article 12, Section 1.

### **Section 2 - Parental Permission**

Prior to each year of interscholastic athletic participation, a student shall furnish a statement, signed by the student and the student's parent (or other person with whom the student has resided for a period of time approved by the Association) which, in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA) and regulations thereunder, authorizes release to the school in which the student is enrolled or in which the student is participating in interscholastic activities pursuant to the student's alternative education program, of the student's medical history and physical examination described herein, disclosure of which information which may be made to administrators, the athletic director, and the coaches of any activity in which the student is to participate. Submission of ASAA's Authorization to Release Medical Information Relating to Student Health/Review Exam form will satisfy this requirement.

## **Section 3 - Wrestling Weight Rule**

The National Federation Wrestling Rule Book, with some revisions to the weight control program, is followed with respect to student wrestling participants.

A. A wrestler must have his/her certified minimum weight determined within 60 calendar days prior to the first competition of the season. This determination must be in writing and signed by a person authorized to sign the initial medical exam form and/or the medical history review form and the student's parent. No wrestler may be certified at a lower minimum weight during the season. These minimum weights must be an integral part of the eligibility roster. A student starting wrestling after the start of the season must have his/her minimum weight determined before his or her first competition. A student deemed to be ineligible, and the member school which permitted the student to participate, under the rules set forth in this article will be subject to the following penalty.

B. Penalty: These penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

Wrestling Minimum Weight Violation:

1. First Offense: In any meet in which the student competed in violation of this rule, the student will forfeit his or her match and the team score will be disallowed, resulting in the school forfeiting the entire meet. Records earned by other members of the team will stand. The school will be placed on probation.

2. Second Offense: In any meet in which the student competed in violation of this rule, the student will forfeit his or her match and the team score will be disallowed, resulting in the school forfeiting the entire meet. Records earned by other members of the team will stand. The school will be placed on probation/suspension and will receive a fine of \$200 minimum.

## **Section 4 - Concussion Management**

Schools and districts have a responsibility under House Bill 15 and Senate Bill 119 to develop a Concussion Policy. It must include awareness and education for student athletes, coaches and parents, and return to play and cognition protocols. Recommended policies can be found within the Sports Medicine section and forms can be found with the handbook section of ASAA's website

## **ARTICLE 12 - ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLED AND ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

The member schools of the Association have adopted through their elected representatives an essential interrelated group of minimum eligibility requirements which establish the threshold for participation for all students, including managers, within the interscholastic program and which work together to define and preserve the fundamental nature of the program.

Unless expressly limited, the following rules are intended to be minimum requirements for student eligibility to participate in all sanctioned interscholastic activities and do not preclude a school, a school

district, or a regional association from imposing additional rules that are reasonable, prudent and not in conflict with those of the Association.

## **Section 1 - Penalty**

A. A student deemed ineligible under ASAA rules, and the member school which permitted the student to participate under the rules set forth in this article, are subject to the following penalties. The following penalties assume the school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the time. A school under warning or other penalty status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

1. First Offense: School forfeits game or meet and school receives warning. If the Association determines that the violation involved intentional conduct by a school representative, the school will receive a fine of \$200 minimum and will be placed on probation.

2. Second Offense: School forfeits game or meet and receives \$200 fine. If the Association determines that the violation involved intentional conduct by a school representative, the school will be placed on probation/suspension and will receive a fine of up to \$2,500.

a. In addition to the above penalties, any one or more of the actions below may be taken:

1. that individual or team records achieved during participation by an ineligible player be vacated or stricken;

2. that team or individual awards earned by an ineligible player be returned to the Association.

b. If an ineligible student competes in a meet, match or tournament in violation of any Association Bylaws, all points earned by that student or by a relay team of which the student is a member, are to be declared forfeited; and in team sports (including wrestling), the entire contest is forfeited. Records earned by other members of the team will stand.

## **Section 2 - Participation Rules**

A student is eligible to participate in the interscholastic activities of only one member school per year, except as provided under the Transfer/Residency Rule (Section 9). That school shall be considered the School of Eligibility. A student who is simultaneously enrolled at more than one member school and who wishes to be eligible to participate in the interscholastic activities of one of those schools, must designate that school as the School of Eligibility. The School of Eligibility must ensure that the student meets all eligibility requirements before being permitted to participate.

A. To be eligible during a school semester for participation in interscholastic activities, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. Be properly registered in a 9-12 or 10-12 high school program or any combination thereof, in the member school where the student will participate or where authorized by a member district, be enrolled in the member district's non-member school or program (including district correspondence), when such district is paying the student surcharge for that student or, in the case of students attending alternative education programs, be registered with their School of Eligibility, as described below.

2. Students enrolled in an alternative education program, as defined in Article 1, Section 8 herein, are eligible to participate in the interscholastic activities of only one member school per year,

except as provided under the Transfer/Residency Rule (Article 12, Section 9). That school shall be considered the School of Eligibility.

The School of Eligibility shall be the public school (1) that, based on the residence of the parent or legal guardian, the student would be eligible to attend were the student not enrolled in an alternative education program; or (2) at which the student requests to participate, if (A) the student shows good cause, as determined by the governing body of the Public School the student would be eligible to attend were the student not enrolled in an alternative education program and (B) the governing body of the school in which the student seeks to participate in interscholastic activities approves; or The School of Eligibility may be a private or religious school that the student would be eligible to attend were the student not enrolled in an alternative education program; and at which the student requests to participate; and if the administrator of the school approves.

The School of Eligibility must ensure that the alternative education program student meets all eligibility requirements before being permitted to participate. Alternative education program students who request to participate in the interscholastic activity program of a member public school or district, or a private or religious school, must be properly registered for participation in interscholastic activities with the member school district or School of Eligibility. Schools (districts) may require that alternative education program students who request to participate in interscholastic activities at one of its member schools pre-register either prior to the beginning of the school year, prior to the beginning of a sport or activity season which begins before school starts, or upon moving into the district's boundary.

3. Not be a graduated senior, with the exception that the eligibility of a senior graduating near the end of a regular school year, shall extend through the conclusion of any current school athletic season in which he or she is participating.

4. For all freshmen, sophomores, and junior, as well as seniors who are not on track to graduate, must be enrolled in a minimum of courses needed to receive 2.5 units of semester credit or equivalent at School of Eligibility or supervised by the School of Eligibility or its school district, that lead to granting credit toward graduation from the school district or School of Eligibility.

5. Seniors who are on track to graduate must be enrolled in a minimum of courses needed to receive 2.0 units of semester credit or the equivalent at the School of Eligibility or supervised by the School of Eligibility or its school district that lead to granting of credit toward graduation from the school district or the School of Eligibility. Full time seniors who are on track to graduate, must be enrolled in a minimum of two (2) semester units of credit, or equivalent, at School of Eligibility.

6. Must maintain at least an overall 2.0 GPA during the current semester to remain eligible. Students who do not maintain an overall 2.0 GPA may regain eligibility during the current semester by achieving and maintaining an overall 2.0 GPA within the school's grading system.

7. Must be in regular attendance at school classes in which enrolled or for which credit is granted (or be enrolled in a district or member school correspondence program).

#### B. Alternative Schools of Member Districts

1. A student attending a non-member charter school, alternative school or program (including district correspondence) during the first semester of ninth grade; and a student transferring from out-of-district who attends a non-member charter school, alternative school or program (including district correspondence) after the first semester of the ninth grade, must designate a member school within the district as the School of Eligibility.

2. The School of Eligibility of a student, other than a first semester freshman, who transfers to a non-member charter school, alternative school or program (including district correspondence), from another school within that district, will be the member school from which the student transferred.

3. A student attending a non-member charter school, alternative school or program (including district correspondence) whom wishes to change his/her School of Eligibility will be ineligible for Varsity, State Qualifying and State Championship interscholastic competition at the new School of Eligibility for one calendar year, from the date of receipt by ASAA of the Application for Changing School of Eligibility form. At schools with no sub-varsity teams, the student could ask for a waiver to participate on the varsity team during the regular season, but would not be able to participate at either conference or state tournaments.

#### C. Alternative Education Programs:

A student in grades 9-12 in an "alternative education program" as defined in Article 1, Section 8, is eligible to participate in interscholastic activities at a member public, private or religious school, as follows:

Students enrolled in an alternative education program, may participate in interscholastic activities when such participation is sanctioned or supported by this Association; is conducted outside of the regular school curriculum; and does not involve participation in student government at a school. Such students need not be enrolled in the member public, private or religious school in which they participate in interscholastic activity, except that

1. In order to participate in the All-State Music and Solo and Ensemble Music Festivals, such students must be enrolled in a corresponding music class at their School of Eligibility, at which they may be selected for participation through a competitive audition process, and

2. In order to participate in All-State Art or in the World Language Declamation Festival, such students must be enrolled in a corresponding class at their School of Eligibility.

ASAA may waive the requirement for students enrolled in alternative education programs or in the event that the individual school of eligibility does not offer Music, Art or World Language classes.

Nothing in these bylaws precludes a school or school district from imposing additional eligibility rules upon alternative education program students that are reasonable, prudent and not in conflict with these bylaws or AS 14.30.365.

Nothing in these Bylaws or in Association policies prohibits a member school or district from adopting a "fair share" policy as to the equitable charging of fees to alternative education program students who participate in the member school's or district's interscholastic activities.

#### D. Establishing Eligibility/Residency:

For transfer purposes, a student establishes residency at a school by enrolling in and attending that school for fifteen (15) school days and/or eligibility by participating in an interscholastic activity. A student who attends an alternative education program and who participates in interscholastic activities at a member public, private or religious school establishes residency at such school upon participating in interscholastic activity there.

#### E. Use of Junior High - Middle School Students:

1. High schools of 70 or fewer students may use 7th and 8th grade students as cheerleaders for home high school games upon approval of the principal or superintendent of the school. They may not be used at games during district, regional or state tournaments. Additionally, all member schools may use 7th and 8th grade students, zoned for their school, as managers upon the approval of the principal or superintendent of the school.

2. 7th and 8th grade students are ineligible to participate in high school interscholastic competition except as specified in the following section:

3. 8th Grade Student Participation Authority. Notwithstanding any provisions or restrictions of the Association's Bylaws, Policies or past practices, the Board of Directors has determined that under certain conditions, students enrolled in the 8th grade in a member school district, may be granted eligibility to participate as members of a high school basketball, volleyball, soccer, mix six volleyball team and/or Student Government, when an annual request is submitted in writing to ASAA by the district superintendent. This request must verify that the high school described above is a member school and that there were thirty (30) or fewer students, or fifteen (15) or fewer students per gender, enrolled in grades 9-12 during the previous school year's October student count as reported to the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED). If the current school year's October count is lower than the previous year's, it may substitute as the official count for purposes of this section.

Alternative education program students who participate in a member school's interscholastic activities program under AS 14.30.365 will be added to the school's October count to determine a school's eligibility to use 8th grade students, beginning in 2014-15.

4. 8th Grade Student Eligibility Guidelines:

8th grade students participating under provisions of this bylaw must:

- a. meet the eligibility requirements imposed by the member school district,
- b. have a current medical history and physical exam form on file in the school office prior to participation (see Article 11), and
- c. participate in and fully comply with all provisions of ASAA's "Play for Keeps" tobacco, alcohol and controlled substances (TAD) program.

5. Future High School Eligibility of 8th Grade Students Participating Under These Provisions: Nothing in this Bylaw shall limit 8th grade students who participate under the provisions of sections 3 and 4, from enjoying the opportunity for full high school eligibility upon first entering into 9th grade. This includes but is not limited to Article 12, Section 3, Maximum Participation (eight (8) semesters or four (4) seasons of participation).

6. How Classification May Effect 8th Grade Student Participation:

Under some circumstances, the forgiveness of ineligible 5th year seniors may effect a school's classification. As a result of this forgiveness, a school's enrollment may authorize it to request interscholastic eligibility for 8th grade students. (See Policy 3. Classification – in the Policy section of this handbook).

## **Section 3 - Maximum Participation**

A. No student enrolled in a four (4) year high school program, including a four year alternative education program, may participate in more than four (4) seasons in any specific interscholastic activity. No student enrolled in a three (3) year high school program, including a three year alternative education program, may participate in more than three (3) seasons in any specific interscholastic activity. Participation in any interscholastic contest during a season shall be considered as one (1) season of participation in that activity.

B. No student will have more than eight (8) consecutive semesters of eligibility. Consecutive” semesters include all semesters, including semesters in which the student is not enrolled in any school or is enrolled in another school, after the student’s initial enrollment in 9th grade, including enrollment in 9th grade in an alternative education program.

- Students first entering 9th grade will have eight (8) consecutive semesters of eligibility.
- Students first entering 10th grade will have six (6) consecutive semesters of eligibility remaining.
- Students first entering 11th grade will have four (4) consecutive semesters of eligibility remaining.
- Students first entering 12th grade will have two (2) consecutive semesters of eligibility remaining.

## **Section 4 - Repeating Grades for Athletic Purposes**

A. A student held back in the seventh (7) or eighth (8) grade for athletic purposes shall cause that student to lose one of his or her four years of high school eligibility for each year that he or she is held back.

B. Penalty: Loss of Fourth Year: A student held back one year in the seventh (7) or eighth (8) grade for athletic purposes shall lose his or her fourth year of eligibility after entering the ninth (9) grade. . Loss of Third and Fourth Years: A student held back for two years in the seventh (7) and eighth (8) grades for athletic purposes shall lose both the third and fourth years of eligibility after the ninth (9) grade.

## **Section 5 - Recruiting/Undue Influence**

A. Undue influence is defined as the attempt to secure the attendance of a student for athletic reasons. Any verbal or written recruiting contact initiated by a representative of another school will be considered as asserting undue influence. If the contact is initiated by an individual who is not a representative of a school, that individual’s name shall be recorded and a warning issued. If a further violation is reported relative to this individual, he/she will be considered to be a representative of the school, and the school may be subjected to the prescribed penalties.

B. A student who participates as a member of an out-of-school team coached by another school’s coach, and who subsequently transfers to that coach’s school, will be ineligible in that sport for one full season at the receiving school.

C. In districts that have multiple high schools and junior high schools, undue influence may not be exerted by anyone on a student who has not yet entered the ninth (9) grade, to enroll in a school other than his or her home school or the one that he or she ordinarily would be expected to attend.

D. In applying this rule to students attending an alternative education program, undue influence is defined as the attempt to secure participation in interscholastic activities at a private or religious school, or at a public school other than the public school the student would be eligible to attend, based on the residence of the parent or legal guardians, were the student not enrolled in an alternative education program.

E. Because it is not feasible to determine whether recruiting was involved, transfer student-athletes who live with any salaried or non-salaried member of the school’s coaching staff are not eligible. In addition, a member of the school’s coaching staff may not arrange for housing for any student who may wish to participate in interscholastic athletics. This rule does not apply if the coach is related to the student within the second degree of kindred defined as: father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, spouse, grandparents, grandchild, brother or sister-in-law, son or daughter-in-law, father or mother-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepsister, stepbrother, stepson, or step daughter. Students placed in a school under a court order shall be eligible under Article 12, Section 9, Subsection 8.

The Board of Directors has authorized a waiver of this rule for foreign exchange students under certain conditions (see Article 12, Section 9. A.14.2).

F. Unless reliable evidence to the contrary is presented, the Association shall accept as prima facie evidence of undue influence: the offer of the awarding of tuition, allowance for board and/or room, allowance for transportation, priority in assignments of jobs, cash or gifts in any form, or any other privilege or consideration accorded if not similarly available to students not participating in athletics. Penalty: The member school which permitted the student to participate under the rules set forth in this Section will be subject to the following penalties: The coach will also be subject to the following penalties. The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under another penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other status may be assessed additional penalties than those listed below, up to and including suspension from the Association.

Recruiting Students: The school and coach will be penalized as follows:

1. First Offense: The school will be placed on prohibition, will receive a fine of \$500, and will lose playoff privileges. The coach will be suspended from coaching in all Association sanctioned competition for up to 365 days. A school which permits a coach, suspended under this rule, to coach a team including practices, in violation of this section, will forfeit all contests in which that team competes.
2. Second Offense: The school is placed on suspension and receives a fine of \$2,500. The coach will be suspended from coaching in all Association sanctioned competition for up to 365 days. A school which permits a coach, suspended under this rule, to coach a team including practices, in violation of this section, will forfeit all contests in which that team competes.

## **Section 6 - Age Rule**

A student who becomes nineteen (19) years of age, on or before August 1, shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition.

## **Section 7 - Semester Credit Rule**

All first semester freshmen are immediately eligible for the first semester. After the first semester of the freshman year, all students must meet the following criteria to remain eligible for interscholastic competition (Any credited course listed on a student's transcript may be counted toward the semester units needed for eligibility.):

### **A. Credit**

All second-semester freshmen, sophomores and juniors, as well as seniors who are not on track to graduate, must have passed at least 2.5 units of credit, or the equivalent, toward graduation, during the previous semester.

All second semester seniors who are on track to graduate must have passed at 2.0 units of credit, or the equivalent, toward graduation, during the previous semester.

All first semester seniors must have passed at least 2.5 units of credit, or the equivalent, toward graduation, during the previous semester in order to be eligible anytime during the current semester.

### **B. Grade Point Average (GPA)**



All students must have maintained at least an overall 2.0 GPA for the previous semester. Students who did not maintain an overall 2.0 GPA for the previous semester may regain eligibility in the current semester by achieving and maintaining an overall 2.0 GPA within the school's grading system.

1. For the purposes of this section, academic deficiencies may be made up through successful completion of correspondence courses or summer school.
2. A grade of incomplete is considered as not passing until the incomplete is changed on the official school records.
3. Correspondence study students must meet the same time frame as regular students.

## **Section 8 - Citizenship Rule and Tobacco, Alcohol and Controlled Substance Policy**

The determination by a member school that a student is ineligible based on poor citizenship is not appealable to the Association. A student who is expelled from a school will not be eligible in another school for the duration of the period of expulsion.

### **A. Tobacco, Alcohol and Controlled Substance Position Statement**

ASAA and its member schools recognize that the use of tobacco, alcohol and controlled substances is a significant health problem for many students, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning and their total development. The use of tobacco, alcohol and controlled substances by students affects academic development, personal growth, extracurricular activities participation and the development of related skills. Others affected by misuse and abuse are family, teammates and other significant persons in their lives. ASAA and its member schools believe that close contact of parents/coaches, advisors, students and communities in interscholastic activities and class-rooms provides a unique opportunity to observe, confront and assist one another. It is the philosophy of ASAA and its member schools that students should be encouraged and supported in their efforts to develop and maintain a chemical-free lifestyle.

Participation in ASAA sanctioned sports and activities is a privilege which requires all participants to adhere to rules imposed by the member schools and/or member districts that students attend and represent. The policy described in this article is intended to further the following purposes:

The position of ASAA is:

1. To emphasize the health and safety of students while participating in activities to recognize the long-term physical and emotional effects of controlled substance, alcohol and tobacco use on student health, and to minimize the potential for injury.
2. To promote a sense of order and discipline among students;
3. To recognize that a student's possession, distribution or use of controlled substances, alcohol, or tobacco during the school year or during interscholastic competition outside of the school year, even during times when a student is not actively participating in interscholastic activities, may nevertheless be detrimental to health, safety, order and discipline when the student is participating.
4. To assist schools in the establishment of policies that are consistent with ASAA standards of athletic and activity eligibility;
5. To support schools that have programs to assist students who desire to resist peer pressure which directs them toward the use of tobacco, alcohol and controlled substances;

B. Tobacco, Alcohol and Controlled Substance Policy: The Board of Directors has implemented a statewide policy regarding the possession, distribution and use of controlled substances, alcohol and tobacco. This policy includes an educational component, minimum penalties which are cumulative and progressive, a time period in which the policy applies, an explanation of how violations are determined and reported, a required Student and Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement Form which must be signed prior to participation, and a definition of terms. The complete policy is found in the Policy Section

## **Section 9 - Transfer/Residency Rule**

The Association has established the following rules to govern the eligibility of students who transfer to Alaska, or from one school to another within Alaska, or who are simultaneously enrolled at more than one school, or who are enrolled in a member school district's non-member charter school, alternative school or program (including district correspondence), and who wish to transfer interscholastic participation eligibility from one school to another, and who participate in the activities listed under Section 10 A of this Article with the exception of Student Government, All-State Music Festival, World Language, All-State Art and Solo & Ensemble Festival.

A. For transfer purposes, a student establishes residency at a school by enrolling in and attending that school for fifteen (15) school days and/or establishes eligibility by participating in an interscholastic activity.

B. A transfer from a school outside or within Alaska to an alternative education program constitutes a transfer subject to the rules established in this section for transfer of eligibility to another school. Students attending alternative education programs who establish interscholastic activity eligibility residency at a member public, private or religious school are subject to the rules established in this section for transfer of eligibility to another member school.

### **C. Types of Transfers**

1. Entering High School: A student first entering the ninth (9) grade of a four-year high school or the tenth (10) grade of a three-year high school establishes residency at that school and shall be eligible for all interscholastic competition.

2. Transfer as a Result of a Move of Parents: A student who transfers from one school's attendance area to another's with a bona fide change of residence of the parents, legal guardians (or other persons with whom the student has resided for a period of time to be determined by the Association) shall be eligible for interscholastic competition at the new school as soon as properly certified.

**Bona Fide Change of Residence:** For the purposes of this section, a bona fide change of residence means the moving of the permanent residence of the entire family of the student and his/her parents or guardians (or other person with whom the student has resided for a period of time approved by the Association) from one school's attendance area into another school's attendance area prior to a change in enrollment of the student. For the purposes of this section, a student's transfer to or from a private school shall be treated the same as a transfer to or from the public school attendance area in which the private school is located. Schools must verify that a bona fide change of residence has occurred and must report this to the Association on the Bona Fide Change of Residence form, before the student is allowed to participate.

3. Transfer Without a Bona Fide Change of Residence of Parents: A student who transfers without a bona fide change of residence of parents or guardians, is ineligible for Varsity, State Qualifying and State Championship interscholastic competition for one calendar year, from the date of first attendance in the new school. Students who live with coaches are ineligible (see Section 5, C). At schools with no sub-varsity teams, the student could ask for a waiver to participate on the varsity

team during the regular season, but would not be able to participate at either conference or state tournaments.

4. **Transfer for Emancipated Student:** A student who is legally emancipated as supported by court documents and who is not dependent upon parents or guardians for a home and who transfers from one school to another (except in Section 9, (3) above) is eligible for interscholastic competition as under Section 9, A-2. **Transfer with a Move of Parents.**

5. **Transfer Due to Parental Divorce or Legal Separation:** A student whose parents are divorced or legally separated may establish eligibility in the school or school district of either parent but not both parents. After establishing initial residency with one parent, all subsequent transfers without a change of residence of that parent will be subject to the rules for Transfer Without a Move of Parents.

6. **Married Student:** A married student whose transfer to another school is specifically related to the marriage is eligible in the new school as soon as properly certified. Otherwise, married students must conform to all other transfer rules.

7. **Student Under Court Order or Ward of the State:** A student who transfers under a “court order” or is a “ward of the state” is eligible at the new school as soon as properly certified.

8. **Homeless Student:** A student who is homeless as defined in the McKinney-Vento Act, 42 U.S.C. 11434 a (2), shall be immediately eligible to participate at the public school in which he or she is enrolled, notwithstanding the Transfer/Residency Rule, as soon as the student becomes enrolled in a school. The public school district in which the student is enrolled shall determine whether or not the student meets the definition of homeless under the Act, and shall provide ASAA with its basis for such determination. Such determination may be reviewed by ASAA.

The definition of homeless students in the Act reads as follows:

(A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (within the meaning of section 103 (a)(1)) [43 USCS § 11302 (a)(1)]; and

(B) includes-

(i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelter; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;

(ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (within the meaning of section 103 (a)(2)(C) [42 USCS § 11302 (a)(2)(C)];

(iii) children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

(iv) migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 [20 USCS § 6399]) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle [42 USCS §§11431 et seq.] because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

9. **Transfer Due to Elimination of Activity:** A student enrolled in a school which eliminates an interscholastic activity may transfer to another school and be eligible as soon as properly certified. Elimination of an activity” occurs when a school drops an interscholastic activity that it sponsored

during the previous school year, for whatever reason. A transfer under this rule must be approved by the principal of both the sending and receiving schools.

10. Establishing Residency: A student who transfers to another school establishes residency at the new school by attending for fifteen (15) days or by participating in any interscholastic competition. After establishing residency, the student must conform to all other transfer rules, even when returning to the previous school.

11. Seasons of Participation for Transfer Student: A student who transfers to Alaska from another state who has competed in an interscholastic sport including a tournament where qualified, in the current school year shall not be eligible for the same sport during the remainder of the school year at the receiving school in Alaska. A transfer student subject to this paragraph, who has not completed a full season (through the culminating tournament) in a sport may complete the season in Alaska, but may not exceed the maximum number of contests or weeks as established by the Board of Directors.

12. Waiver of Transfer Rules: When, in the opinion of a student or the principal of a school, a transfer rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended, the principal may request a waiver of the rule due to hardship by submitting a Transfer Rule Waiver Request form to the Association. Hardship is defined and the waiver request procedures are explained in Bylaw Article 13, Sections 1, 3, 4, and 5.

13. Intra-District Student Transfer: A school district may establish its own policy regarding intra-district student transfer, so long as it is at least as stringent as Association transfer rules. This will allow students to be transferred within the district by the Superintendent for reasons that are to the benefit of the student and district, but are not related to activities' participation.

14. Foreign Student Transfer Rule:

a. Foreign Exchange Student

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

2. A foreign student who has been granted an F-1 visa and who is "directly placed" into a high school in Alaska will be ineligible for interscholastic competition for Varsity, State Qualifying and State Championship interscholastic competition for one calendar year, from the date of first attendance in the new school. Students who live with coaches are ineligible (see Section 5, C). At schools with no sub-varsity teams, the student could ask for a waiver to participate on the varsity team during the regular season, but would not be able to participate at either conference or state tournaments from the date of enrollment. For the purpose of this bylaw, Direct Placements are those placements in which either the student or the sending organization in the foreign country is party to an arrangement with any other party, including school personnel and/or host parents, for the student to attend a particular school or live with a particular host family in Alaska.

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

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

b. No member of the school's coaching staff, paid or voluntary, shall serve as a host family for a foreign student athlete; nor may a coaching staff member arrange for housing.

c. Notwithstanding the provisions in parts 2 a. and b. above, a school may request a waiver of the transfer rule for a foreign exchange student whose host family includes a member of the school's coaching staff when it can be verified that the student was not recruited by either the school, coach or host family.

4. The foreign exchange student must possess a current J-1 visa, issued by the U.S. State Department.

5. In order to obtain a waiver, a foreign exchange student must meet all other eligibility rules required of other students in Alaska.

b. Other International Students

An international student who is not under the auspices of, and placed by, a CSIET listed exchange program must meet the following requirements in order to be considered for interscholastic eligibility in Alaska:

1. The student must possess a current F-1 visa issued by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

2. The student must provide to the principal of the school he/she attends, an official untranslated transcript and a transcript that is translated into English by an acceptable agent or agency. The transcripts must indicate course work taken in all grades in which the student was enrolled.

3. The international student must pay tuition to the high school he/she attends as prescribed in Section 625 of U.S. Public Law 104-208.

4. No member of the school's coaching staff, paid or voluntary, shall serve as the resident family of the student; nor may a member of the coaching staff arrange for housing.

5. In order to obtain a waiver, an international student must meet all other eligibility rules required of other students in Alaska.

c. Additional requirements for Foreign Exchange / Other International Students: Foreign exchange and other international students must also:

1. attend the school for no less than a complete semester; and

2. not have participated in the same sport (for which eligibility is being sought) at another school earlier in the same school year; and

3. not have graduated from (the home country's equivalent of) a secondary school; and

4. must affirm that there is no evidence of athletic recruitment resulting in the student's attendance at the school either by the school or any other outside entity.

d. Non compliance with one or more of the foregoing provisions shall render the foreign exchange and the international student ineligible for interscholastic competition.

15. Alaska Students Involved in Exchange/Travel Programs: Alaska students involved in exchange/travel programs, including but not limited to the American Field Study Service, Rotary International and Youth for Understanding, are eligible for interscholastic competition upon return to their home schools when a request for waiver of the Semester Credit Rule (Bylaw Article 12, Section 7) is made to the Association and waived by the Executive Director. The request for waiver must be submitted on the Alaska Student Foreign Exchange/Travel Program Waiver form. Alaska students involved in exchange/travel programs must be otherwise eligible by all other rules, including Article 12, Section 3, Maximum Participation.

Participation in interscholastic competition while involved in an exchange travel program will count toward the maximum years or seasons of participation in that specific competition as defined in Bylaw Article 12, Section 3.

16. Boarding School Transfer Rule: Students who transfer to a boarding school at the beginning of a school year, or from a boarding school at the end of a school year, will be eligible for interscholastic participation at the new school as soon as properly certified. Students who transfer to or from a boarding school during the school year shall be ineligible for Varsity, State Qualifying and State Championship interscholastic participation the remainder of the school year. Students who live with coaches are ineligible (see Section 5, C). At schools with no sub-varsity teams, the student could ask for a waiver to participate on the varsity team during the regular season, but would not be able to participate at either conference or state tournaments. Boarding school students must meet all other eligibility rules required of other students in Alaska.

17. Changing Schools During A Sport Season: A student may represent only one member school during a respective sport season. From the first day of practice, a student who participates in a sport at one school, and who subsequently transfers to another school, will not be eligible in that sport for the remainder of the current season.

## **Section 10 - Eligibility Lists for Interscholastic Participation**

A. A Master Eligibility List including all participants involved in interscholastic participation shall be submitted through the online Electronic Master Eligibility system provided by the Association for that purpose. This information needs to be updated each time there is an addition to the team, and submitted electronically to the ASAA office. Master Eligibility lists shall be submitted for the following:

- All-State Art Competition
- All-State Music Festival
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Cheer
- Dance / Drill Team
- Cross-Country Running
- Drama, Debate & Forensics
- Flag Football
- Football
- Gymnastics

- Hockey (Boys and Girls)
- Nordic Ski
- Rifle
- Soccer
- Softball
- Solo & Ensemble Music Festival
- State Student Government Conferences
- Swim & Dive
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball (Girls & Mix Six)
- World Language Declamation
- Wrestling

**B. The Master Eligibility List for each activity must be submitted by the school using the Electronic Eligibility Registration (EER) system before the first contest of that season.** For competitions that involve only one contest, the Registration must be submitted by the school at least five (5) school days before the contest.

Master eligibility includes students granted transfers and waiver exceptions. Once the school is notified of the exception, schools must enter the student and exception information into the EER system. Contact the ASAA office for questions regarding the EER System.

C. Any deletions to the Electronic Eligibility Registration (EER) must be entered into the EER before a student is eligible to participate.

D. Penalties: The following penalties assume that a school is in good standing and has not been warned or is not under other penalty at the given time. A school under warning or other penalty status may have additional penalties than those listed below.

1. Eligible Student Left off Electronic Eligibility Registration (EER):

- a. First Offense: School receives warning.
- b. Second Offense: School receives probation.
- c. Third Offense: School receives fine of \$200 minimum.

2. Failure to Submit Electronic Eligibility Registration (EER) Prior to First Season Contest:

- a. First Offense: School receives warning and superintendent is notified.
- b. Second Offense: School receives \$50 fine and superintendent is notified.
- c. Third Offense: School receives \$100 fine and superintendent is notified.

Penalties are cumulative throughout a school year.

## **ARTICLE 13 - WAIVERS OF ELIGIBILITY RULES**

### **Section 1 - Student Request**

A student who has been determined to be ineligible to participate in interscholastic competition under one or more of the eligibility rules of Bylaw Article 12 may request a waiver of that rule or rules by the Executive Director. A waiver may only be granted for reasons of hardship or emergency, as described in Section 5 below; or because such waiver is required by Federal or State law.

## **Section 2 - Penalty**

If a student who has been determined to be ineligible by the Executive Director or the Appeals Board is nevertheless permitted to participate in interscholastic activities pursuant to a restraining order or injunctive order issued by a court, the penalties described in these Bylaws for participation in interscholastic activities by an ineligible player shall apply to the student and the student's school, if the court subsequently upholds the Association's determination that the student was ineligible.

## **Section 3 - Waiver Request Procedures**

A request for a waiver of the eligibility rules must be directed by the student to the involved member school's officially designated administrator who shall then file a written request (on the appropriate form) stating the full particulars of the case and the reason felt by the student or the administrator, or both, for granting of the waiver. This request for waiver must be submitted to the Executive Director. Waiver requests should be filed promptly when it becomes apparent to the student, or to his member school's officially designated administrator, that a waiver will be required. Prompt filing of a waiver request is necessary to permit timely processing of any appeals before commencement of the interscholastic activity for which the waiver is sought. Responsibility is on those seeking a waiver to provide timely additional documentary evidence relied upon to support the waiver request. Failure to provide timely additional documentary evidence will eliminate that evidence from consideration in the determination of the decision. All waiver approvals must be entered by the school into the electronic reporting system. See Article 12 Section 10B.

## **Section 4 - Review by Executive Director**

Upon receipt of the waiver request, the Executive Director shall review it to determine whether any additional information is necessary. Any requests by the Executive Director for additional information pertaining to a waiver request shall be promptly supplied by affected students, coaches and member schools. In considering evidence provided in favor or opposed to the determination of a waiver request, and in investigating the matter, the Executive Director shall not be bound by the technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses. Relevant evidence will be considered if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of a common law or statutory rule that makes improper the admission of the evidence over objection in a civil action. Written decisions will be made by the Executive Director setting forth findings of fact, conclusions based on the Association's Constitution and Bylaws, other relevant Federal or State law, and shall include any resulting order. Such findings, conclusions and orders shall be submitted to all appropriate and relevant parties within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the receipt of all materials and other additional information.

## **Section 5 - Guidelines for Consideration**

Ignorance of any rule is not a sufficient reason for waiving a rule. To assist students and member schools in deciding whether to request a waiver of the eligibility rules, the following should be considered:

- A. If the student is a transfer student, a Transfer Form must be supplied to the Association office.
- B. A school's ruling that a student is ineligible because of poor citizenship is not waivable by or appealable to the Association.
- C. Hardship Rule:



1. Upon recommendation of a member school, the Executive Director or the Appeals Board may grant eligibility to a student in certain hardship and emergency cases.
2. A waiver will not be granted in any case in which the asserted hardship is the sole result of knowing conduct by the student or his or her parents or guardians which had the effect of causing the hardship.
3. Hardship is an unforeseeable, unavoidable and uncorrectable act, condition or event which causes the imposition of severe and non-athletic burden upon the student and his/her family.

#### D. Hardship Waiver:

A hardship waiver is to grant an opportunity to participate, not a right to make a team. It is granted to replace what was lost. A waiver will frequently give advantage in maturity, strength and skill to the person seeking it. Thus, the facts must substantiate real hardship in order to justify giving an individual this added advantage which may deny an equally deserving student the opportunity to make the team, should a waiver be granted.

#### E. Factors to Be Considered in Determining Whether a Hardship Exists:

1. Whether there were conditions beyond the control of the student or his/her parents that prevented the student from having the opportunity to participate at the time. Whether substantial evidence existed to support this.
2. Whether the student could be reasonably expected to carry on if he or she desired at the time. Whether the hardship was too inhibiting or debilitating. Whether other students have carried on under similar conditions. Whether there is evidence to show that the hardship conditions existed.
3. Whether the parent(s) could have been expected to preclude or remedy the debilitating condition.
4. Whether granting the waiver would stand the test of fairness and/or the appearance of fairness, to every student when considering other students who are involved in the same intense competition of athletic pursuit.
5. Whether someone else will be denied a place on the team or squad who has met all the eligibility rules.
6. Whether the student is homeless as defined in the McKinney-Vento Act, 42 USCS 11434 a (2), and whether the student's homelessness affected the student's ability to meet eligibility rule requirements.
7. Whether the student has a disability as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, regulations thereunder, and any amendments thereto; and whether the student's disability affected the student's ability to meet eligibility rule requirements.

F. Appeals Procedure: The appeals procedure for cases involving the hardship rule will follow the procedures specified in Bylaw Article 4, Appeal Procedure.

## **ARTICLE 14 - ASAA REGIONS**

### **Section 1 - Changes in Regional or Conference Placement**

A. Changes in regional / conference placement take effect on July 1 of the following summer, unless all affected schools and the Board of Directors agree to an earlier effective date.

B. Changes in regional / conference placement may be initiated by the Board of Directors or by member school request.

C. Initial regional / conference placement for new member schools will be made by the Board of Directors. The Board will give full consideration to a recommendation or request from the new member school. Placement of new member schools becomes effective immediately.

## **ARTICLE 15 - STATE TOURNAMENTS**

### **Section 1 - Planning Guidelines**

The Board of Directors will ensure that each athletic and activity state-culminating event has prescribed procedures and guidelines regarding operation, budget and awards. It is the responsibility of the ASAA staff and host site tournament director(s) to carry out these guidelines.

### **Section 2 - Awards**

The Board of Directors approves all state tournament awards for distribution.

### **Section 3 - Sanctioned State Level Competition**

The Board of Directors may sanction state level competition when four or more regions have participating teams or individuals in that event. In addition, the Board may also sanction state level competition when participating regions or schools comprise at least 60% of the enrollment in member schools throughout the state. In addition, in interscholastic competition that is limited to 1A-2A schools, the Board may sanction state level competition when a significant number of 1A-2A member schools participate in the activity. This competition should be held at a location that has the facility, officials, support necessities and financial capability to operate a successful tournament.

## **ARTICLE 16 - PREFACE**

### **Guidelines for the Administration of Junior High/Middle School Activities**

To ensure that interscholastic competition will make its maximum contribution to the development of junior high/middle school pupils, it is necessary that the administration of this program be under the jurisdiction of school officials and be carefully supervised by competent and professionally prepared personnel. The organization of interscholastic programs should be based upon the following principles:

A. The Administrative Head must accept full responsibility for the proper organization, administration and supervision of interscholastic programs as a part of the total educational program.

- B. The interscholastic athletic program in the junior high/middle school should supplement, rather than serve as a substitute for, a broad and comprehensive program of physical education and intramural activities for all students.
- C. The junior high/middle school interscholastic program should be considered as a necessary enrichment program for those who excel and will benefit from additional experience above and beyond the required physical education, classroom and intramural programs.
- D. The interscholastic program must be developed according to the needs and abilities of the age level of junior high/middle school youth. There should be particular emphasis placed on the health, safety and personal well-being of the participant with additional consideration given to the development of good sportsmanship, character and citizenship characteristics.
- E. In certain sports it is recommended that serious consideration be given to equalizing competition by some method of classification which will take into consideration individual differences of pupils participating.
- F. Whenever feasible, school systems should operate a self-contained junior high/middle school interscholastic athletic and activities program rather than schedule distant schools outside of the immediate area.
- G. A wide variety of activities should be included in the junior high/middle school interscholastic program and an effort should be made to encourage all pupils to participate.
- H. Written policies should be developed at the local level outlining sound administrative practices which will implement state rules and regulations regarding the junior high/middle school interscholastic program.
- I. Students attending alternative education programs are not eligible to participate in junior high/middle school activities, unless authorized to do so by individual public schools or school districts, or by private or religious schools.

**NOTE ABOUT ARTICLE 17:** ASAA does not currently govern middle or junior high Schools. Should ASAA decide to do so in the future, the following guidelines would be used.

## **ARTICLE 17 - JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL REGULATIONS**

### **Section 1 - School Membership Requirements**

- A. Eligibility: Schools which include grades seven (7), eight (8), and nine (9), or any combination of these grades are eligible to apply for membership in the Junior High/Middle School Division of the Alaska School Activities Association.
- B. Application for Membership: A school shall become a member when its Board of Education has authorized membership by resolution and when the Superintendent and Principal have signed the prescribed membership blank and filed with the ASAA Executive Director. Junior High/Middle School membership blanks should be filled out, signed and returned to the Association office before October 1 of each school year, along with membership dues (as listed on page 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws).
- C. Student Participation: Pupils below the seventh (7) grade shall not be permitted to compete on any Junior High/Middle School interscholastic athletic team.

D. Students Under Same Administrative Head: All students on Junior High/Middle School athletic teams must be enrolled in the same school and be under the supervision of the same administrative head who shall be held ultimately responsible in all matters pertaining to interscholastic athletic activities involving his/her school.

E. Rule Books: The National Federation rule books, as adjusted for Junior High Schools, will be the official rule books in wrestling, basketball, track & field, and cross country, swimming and volleyball.

F. Competition: Member schools may play non-member schools which have rules at least as stringent as these Association rules.

## **Section 2 - Student Eligibility Requirements**

A. Student in Good Standing: To be eligible to participate in the Junior High/Middle School interscholastic activities program, a student must be currently enrolled as an official student of the school and must be in good standing. Such criteria that would tend to deny a student his/her place in the classroom would also be the same criteria that deny him/her the opportunity to participate in the interscholastic activities.

B. Required Practice: A student must participate in ten practice sessions extending over ten school days before he or she may participate in any interscholastic competition. If a student has been participating in another school sport and joins the team late because of overlapping seasons, then he/she must participate in at least five practice sessions.

C. Dual Participation: A student may participate in like sports on teams outside the school (i.e. dual participation) where the number of contests of the school team is less than eleven (11).

D. Age Limit: The student is ineligible to enter interscholastic competition if his or her 16th birthday occurs prior to August 1 of the school year.

E. Citizenship and Grades: The principal shall have the authority to declare a student ineligible for participation in Association activities based on poor citizenship. It shall be the responsibility of each individual Junior High/Middle School or league to determine whether grade eligibility rules are appropriate.

F. Physical Examination and Parent Consent: (Same as high School rule see Constitution and Bylaws, Article 11.

## **ARTICLE 18 - BYLAW AMENDMENT**

### **Section 1 - Method**

These Bylaws may be amended by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors sitting in regular session provided that at least 30 days advance notice has been mailed to the general membership.

### **Section 2 - Effective Date**

Unless otherwise specified, amendments to these Bylaws take effect 30 days after their filing.

As of 5/30/2017