

Bylaw and Policy Changes to 2020-21 because of COVID-19

The following bylaws and policies are in place for the rest of the 2020-21 school year

ARTICLE 6 Contest Rules

ASAA will not consider the inability to fulfill a contract due to concerns with COVID a contract violation. ASAA hopes all schools will operate in “good faith” and let other schools know their intent as soon as possible

ARTICLE 7 Section 7 - Practice

A. All players must have seven (7) 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 two (2) 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 two (2) 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.

ARTICLE 12 Section 2 – Participation Rules

E. Use of Junior High / Middle School Students

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.

Spring Semester 2021 Exception:

Schools that do not meet the above enrollment requirements may request to be able to use 8th grade student if supported by the school’s Region. The request also must be approved by the ASAA Executive Director. (Note: A coach’s legal duty is to accurately group participants for an activity in a manner in which they may participate safely. They need to match the athletes according to size, physical maturity, skill level, and experience.) **Include a supporting statement from your Region.**

Updated 4/15/21

DUAL PARTICIPATION & OUT OF STATE TRAVEL

While participating in any ASAA activity, all participants must notify their “school of eligibility” if they are also involved in a non-school program that is an activity offered by ASAA. Participants failing to do so will be ruled as ineligible for a period of time not to exceed one month. The Executive Director will make the determination on the length of ineligibility.

While participating in any ASAA activity, all participants must notify their “school of eligibility” if traveling out of state. Upon return, the participant must follow all state and local travel mandates. Participants failing to do so will be ruled as ineligible for the remainder of the season.

AT-LARGE BERTH AND SEEDING

For the spring of 2021 use a random draw to determine the At-large Berths, but only if the bracket needs to be filled, with consideration for the larger conferences.

For seeding team sports use the last five years of state results to rank the conference champion, then cross bracket any second place team from the same conference with a random draw used to finalize the bracket.

HOCKEY

The Individual Non-School Participation Rule has been suspended for the 2020-2021 season.

STATE TOURNAMENTS

Masks are required for all indoor state tournaments at all times.

SOCCER

J. State Championships (2021 Season Only)

3. State Championships Format

c. Berths

Division I – All Anchorage teams will move into the CIC

Cook Inlet Conference 5 berths

Mid Alaska Mat-Su 1 berth

Mid Alaska Fairbanks 1 berth

Mid Alaska Mat-Su/Fairbanks 2nd 1 berth

Division II – 2 teams from each conference

ARTICLE 7 Section 10 – Team Rosters

For the 2021 season only, the roster size limit for basketball players in uniform will be increased from 12 to 15

WRESTLING

4. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

a. Use a full 16-person bracket with wrestle backs to third place with team and individual awards. The bracket will be filled by conferences through automatic berths and by using the State Wrestling Committee for at-large and unfilled berths

In the event a 16-person state tournament is not feasible due to lack of participation, facilities or other covid related circumstances it will be reduced to an 8-person bracket occurring on one day. Conference automatic berths would be reduced by 50%, individual awards will presented but no team championships

DI, DII and the girl's tournament may be hosted at different sites and have different sized brackets if the circumstances dictate a need.

6. SEEDING & AT-LARGE PROCESS

A committee of knowledgeable wrestling individuals will evaluate available season data in Trackwrestling to determine at-large berths. If the committee determines that there is not enough comparable data to fairly award an at-large berth they will then draw the at-large berth by conference and award the berth to the next best wrestler from the conference drawn.

For DI, each conference will receive one entry for each team within their conference minus their allotted automated berths. EX: NLC has 5 teams and 2 automatic berths, they would have 3 entries in the draw.

For DII & girls, the allotment will be based on the number of participants that actually attend the conference tournament. EX: GA has 50, North has 40, Sockeye has 10, GA would get 50% of the chances.

In all divisions a conference may not earn more than one at-large berth per weight class.

I WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES

3. Each wrestler is required to have at least 25% of their weigh-ins during the season at the minimum weight they will wrestle during the state tournament. In addition, the Executive Director can grant waivers of this rule in the cases where wrestlers are unable to participate in weigh-ins due to issues related to COVI-19