

*obsolete
valid Sept. 30, 1984
to July 13, 1987*

TITLE 127
LEGISLATIVE RULES
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
COMMISSION

SERIES 2
ATHLETICS, PROVISIONS GOVERNING
ELIGIBILITY

§127-2-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- These rules establish the provisions governing eligibility to participate in athletics.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §18-2-25

1.3. Filing Date. -- August 31, 1984

1.4. Effective Date. -- September 30, 1984

§127-2-2. Note.

The word "student" used in these rules refers to either a boy or girl participant in interscholastic athletics. Therefore, according to correct grammatical usage, since the antecedent "student" can involve persons of both sexes, the masculine pronouns he and him used throughout these rules will refer to either male or female participants.

§127-2-3. Enrollment.

3.1. Any person competing in interscholastic athletics must be a bona fide student of the member school of this Commission which he represents and must be enrolled in said school on or before the eleventh (11th) school day of the semester in which he competes.

3.2. A student shall be ineligible for one year in all sports, should he participate with a school's athletic team without enrolling in that school.

3.3. Enrollment is accomplished by completion of the usual formalities of registration in the principal's office.

3.4. A student who has failed to enroll in a high

school on or before the eleventh (11th) day of a semester would not be immediately eligible in another school in which he might transfer, even though there had been a change in residence to another school zone by the parents or guardians. If the student was ineligible in the school from which he transferred, he would not be eligible in the school to which he transferred.

§127-2-4. Age.

4.1. A student in a senior high school whose nineteenth (19th) birthday, and a student in a junior high school whose sixteenth (16th) birthday, occurs before September 1 shall be ineligible for all sports. (NOTE: Regulations governing the establishing of age for eligibility appears in series 3, subsections 6.1 and 6.2 of these regulations.)

§127-2-5. Team membership.

5.1. The following grades of member schools of this Commission are recognized as junior high schools, for athletic purposes: Grades seven (7) and eight (8) of two (2) year junior high schools; grades seven (7), eight (8) and nine (9) of three (3) year junior high schools; grades seven (7), eight (8) and nine (9) of six (6) year high schools; and grade nine (9) of four year senior high schools. Students enrolled in said grades of said high schools may compete in junior high school interscholastic athletics which are sponsored by this Commission, if they are otherwise eligible.

5.2. A student who is enrolled in a grade below the ninth (9th) is ineligible to play on a senior high school team.

5.3. A student who is enrolled in a grade below the

seventh (7th), or above the ninth (9th), is ineligible to play on a junior high school team.

5.4. A student who is enrolled in the ninth (9th) grade of an approved junior high school is ineligible to play on a senior high school team.

5.5. A student who is enrolled in the ninth (9th) grade of a four (4) or six (6) year high school may participate as a member of either the junior high school or the senior high school team, Provided, however, That after a ninth (9th) grade student in either of said schools becomes a member of the senior high school team, he immediately becomes ineligible as a member of the junior high school team, in that sport.

5.6. A student who is ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic events under 9.1 of these regulations shall not be permitted to practice with the school's athletic teams.

5.7. Should a student, knowingly, or inadvertently violate any provision of these rules, the penalty shall be the loss of eligibility for the ensuing three hundred sixty-five (365) days.

5.8. A three (3) year junior high school, consisting of grades seven (7), eight (8) and nine (9) organized as a single educational unit, separate and apart from a senior high school, and administered by a principal who is not connected with a senior high school, is considered by the State Department of Education to be an approved junior high school; therefore, if a student who is enrolled in the ninth (9th) grade of an approved junior high school played on a senior high school team, he would be in violation of section 3 of these regulations because he would be representing a school in which he was not enrolled; however, since a student who is enrolled in the ninth (9th) grade of a four (4) or six (6) year high school is a bona fide member of a senior high school, he is eligible to play on the teams of that school.

5.9. A student graduating at the end of a school term is eligible to represent his school until the close of the school's season in baseball, track, tennis, golf, or other regular high school activities.

5.10. Any person who has graduated from a senior high school, or a school of equal grade, is not eligible to participate in high school athletics, except as pro-

vided in subsection 5.9 of these regulations.

§127-2-6. Seasons for Competition.

6.1. A student who is enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8) or nine (9) of any junior or senior high school shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics more than three (3) seasons in each sport while he is enrolled in these grades.

6.2. A student shall be considered to be in the seventh (7th) grade until he has passed at least one and one-half (1 1/2) units of regular seventh (7th) grade work each semester. He shall be considered to be in the eighth (8th) grade until he has passed at least one and one-half (1 1/2) units of regular eighth (8th) grade work each semester.

6.3. A student in any high school who is enrolled in any grade ten (10) to twelve (12), inclusive, shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics more than three (3) seasons in each sport while he is enrolled in a member school of this Commission.

6.4. Athletic participation by any student is limited to six (6) seasons in each sport while he is enrolled in grades seven (7) to twelve (12), inclusive. Therefore, a student may participate three (3) seasons in each sport while he is enrolled in an approved junior high school and three (3) seasons in each sport while he is enrolled in a senior high school. A student who participates two (2) seasons in each sport in grades seven (7) and eight (8) of any school may have four (4) seasons of participation in each sport while he is enrolled in a senior high school.

§127-2-7. Semester rule.

7.1. A student who has been enrolled eight (8) semesters in grades nine (9) to twelve (12), inclusive, shall be ineligible for further interscholastic competition while he is enrolled in any of these grades. The seventh (7th) and eighth (8th) semesters must be consecutive.

7.2. A student enrolled in a fifth (5th) first (1st) semester or fifth (5th) second (2nd) semester of grades nine (9) to twelve (12), inclusive, shall be ineligible for any sport, the season of which falls wholly or in part of either of said semesters.

7.3. Ten (10) days of attendance shall constitute a semester.

7.4. The number of semesters of athletic eligibility to which a student is entitled is determined by semesters of enrollment and attendance and not by semesters of participation. The intent of section 7 of this regulation is to extend to each student the opportunity to enjoy eight (8) semesters of athletic eligibility while he is enrolled in grades nine (9) to twelve (12), inclusive. A student who has been enrolled in grades seven (7) and eight (8) for four (4) consecutive semesters is ineligible for further participation while he is enrolled in grades seven (7) and eight (8). A student who has been enrolled in grades nine (9) to twelve (12), inclusive, for eight (8) semesters during four (4) consecutive school terms is ineligible for further participation while he is enrolled in any grade from nine (9) to twelve (12). It is the further intent of the foregoing to prevent any contradiction between the provisions of section 7 and the provisions of section 6 of these regulations.

7.5. A student whose eligibility expires with the end of a semester will not become ineligible until the first (1st) day of the following semester. For example: Should the first (1st) semester end on Friday and the second (2nd) semester begin on the following Monday, a student who is eligible the first semester but ineligible the second (2nd) semester, would be eligible to participate on the Saturday between semesters. A student who is ineligible the first (1st) semester and becomes eligible the second semester would not be permitted to participate until the first (1st) day of the second (2nd) semester. For example: Should the first (1st) semester end on Friday and the second (2nd) semester begin the following Monday, the student who becomes eligible the second (2nd) semester could not participate until that said Monday.

7.6. Participation in any interscholastic athletic contest shall constitute a semester of participation in that sport.

7.7. Enrollment means the same as attendance in determining a semester of attendance. The period of enrollment or attendance includes the day of enrollments, the last day of attendance, and the elapsed time between these two (2) dates. If this period includes ten (10) days in which school was actually in session, the pupil will be charged with a semester's attendance.

7.8. Class room, home room and monthly register records may be required to establish periods of enrollment and attendance.

§127-2-8. Scholarship standing.

8.1. To be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition, a student must have earned a passing grade in at least four (4) subjects, or their equivalent, which count as two (2) units of credit toward meeting the specific or elective requirements for graduation. Said credit must have been earned at the end of the semester immediately preceding that in which the student desires to compete (unless said student has just been promoted to the ninth (9th) grade, in which case subsection 8.9 of this regulation would have the same effect.) Said student must also be currently enrolled in not less than four (4) subjects, or their equivalent, which count as two (2) units of credit toward meeting the specific or elective requirements for graduation.

8.2. A minimum of two (2) of the subjects must be english-language arts, social studies, mathematics or science. Said two (2) subjects may or may not be in the same content area. If and when a student has completed all state, county and school requirements for graduation, he may select his four subjects from any area of the curriculum offered by the school.

8.3. A unit of credit is that which is awarded for attainment of objectives from an area of study. For a unit to be awarded, a minimum of eight thousand one hundred (8,100) minutes of school time shall be allotted for teaching and learning.

Note: These eight thousand one hundred (8,100) minutes may be attained in a number of ways. Examples of how schools can schedule include, but are not limited to: one (1) period daily of at least forty-five (45) minutes for one hundred eighty (180) days; at least two hundred twenty-five (225) minutes weekly for thirty-six (36) weeks; five hundred forty (540) minutes of at least fifteen (15) minutes for the school year of thirty-six (36) weeks.

8.4. One-half (1/2) unit of credit shall be awarded for attainment of objectives from an area of study provided a minimum of four thousand fifty (4,050) minutes of school time have been allotted for teaching and learning. These four thousand fifty (4,050) minutes are generally equivalent to one (1) semester's work; examples would be one-half (1/2) the duration of days

quoted in the note in subsection 8.3 of these regulations. One-quarter (1/4) unit of credit shall be awarded for attainment of objectives from an area of study provided a minimum of two thousand twenty-five (2,025) minutes of school time have been allotted for teaching and learning. These two thousand twenty-five (2,025) minutes are generally equivalent to nine (9) weeks work; examples would be one-fourth (1/4) of the duration of days quoted in the note of subsection 8.3 of these regulations.

Note: The definition of unit of credit and examples above are taken from West Virginia Department of Education Graduation Requirements for West Virginia Public Schools; Adolescent Education (Grades 9-12)(March, 1982).

8.5. Schools providing for planned programs of independent learning during the regular school term may not wish to require all students to attend classes a specific amount of time. In such instances the necessary credit may be awarded for satisfactory performance in administered proficiency examinations or for successful completion of curricular units, steps or phases which have been established by the school as comprising the equivalency of a unit of credit as defined in these regulations and approved by the West Virginia Department of Education.

8.6. Credit may be awarded for subjects taken in addition to those offered by the school as well as for experimental programs developed by the school itself. In each instance certain criteria must be met. Such criteria has been established by the West Virginia Department of Education and will be found in the Graduation Requirements. Such credit must be earned during the regular school term.

8.7. A multiple period subject such as those pursued at a vocational or trade and industrial center for a full morning or a full afternoon session may be counted as more than one (1) subject. The number of subjects counted will be equal to the units of credit as determined by subsection 8.4, series 2 of these regulations. Requirements stipulated in subsection 8.1, series 2 of these regulations must also be met.

8.8. A student shall be ineligible if he did not earn, during the immediate preceding semester, credit for at least four (4) subjects as prescribed in subsections 8.1 and 8.2 of these regulations.

8.9. A student promoted to the seventh (7th) grade

for the first time is considered to have satisfied scholastic requirements and is permitted to participate during the first (1st) semester of his initial enrollment in that grade, provided he is otherwise eligible.

8.10. Scholastic deficiencies if made up in any manner after the close of a semester shall not render the student eligible for interscholastic participation during the following semester. Only that work which is given in regular school classes, excepted as noted in sections 8.5 and 8.6 of these regulations, shall be counted for credit. A further exception is noted and permitted in the case of a student whose final examinations and course credits were delayed beyond the end of a semester due to the student's illness which is verified by a physician. Work taken by a student from a tutor or a special instructor may not be counted for eligibility. Credit earned in summer school shall not count for or against a student's record for eligibility purposes.

8.11. The purpose of subsection 8.2 of these regulations is to exclude from interscholastic participation any student who has withdrawn from school until he has completed a semester of school work following his re-enrollment.

8.12. A student who is expelled or suspended from school during any semester without having completed the amount of work required for eligibility cannot be eligible during the immediate subsequent semester.

8.13. The eligibility of a student who attended another school during the preceding or current semester must be established by an official transcript or certificate signed by the principal of the school from which said student transferred.

8.14. Credits or grades recorded in the established and approved school manner shall be regarded as official and final in determining eligibility.

8.15. In addition to the requirements established in the foregoing section 8, the eligibility of a student must also conform to the requirements of the State Board of Education Policy #2463.10.

§127-2-9. Residence requirements.

9.1. For the purpose of determining athletic eligibility there shall be in each county a geographic division (school zone) or territory from which each secondary school will receive students who reside or estab-

lish residence in said zone. A student whose parents reside, or who establish residence, within that zone shall be eligible in the secondary school which receives its students from the designated school zone. However, should a student enroll in a West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission member school of his home zone after having attended a private, parochial or other public secondary school located in the same or any other school zone or state, said student shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition for a period of one hundred twenty (120) instructional days from the date of enrollment in the school of said student's home zone. The same rule would apply to those students transferring from a public secondary school to a member private or parochial school located in the same zone or any other West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission member secondary school. (Exceptions to this rule are provided in subsections 9.11 and 9.14 of these regulations.

9.2. The geographic division (school zone) for public secondary schools shall be established either by official action of the Board of Education of the said county or by precedent. The geographic division (school zone) for Catholic secondary schools shall be defined by the West Virginia Diocesan Board of Education and approved by the Board of Appeals. The geographical division (school zone) for private secondary schools shall be defined by the governing body of said schools and approved by the Board of Appeals.

9.3. A student who completes the highest grade of an elementary school or a junior high school and enrolls for the first (1st) time in the next succeeding grade of the junior high school or the senior high school located in his home zone shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics, provided he is otherwise eligible.

9.4. In broken home cases, the mother's residence shall be considered to be the legal residence of the student except where court action has previously established another person as having custody of the student. In cases here neither parent is able to establish a home for a student or both parents refuse to do so, or both abandon the student, the Board of Appeals shall use discretionary power to determine the status of the student's eligibility for interscholastic athletic participation. The proof of such status must be established by the student or by close relatives, and by the school or schools desiring to permit him to participate in interscholastic athletics. Any attempt to establish

two (2) homes shall be considered as an attempt to evade the rule.

9.5. When the parents or guardians of a school have made a bona fide change of residence during the school term to a new school zone, the student is immediately as eligible in the school of the zone to which his parents or guardians move as he was in the school from which he withdrew. Should the student elect to remain in the school of the zone from which his parents moved, he may retain eligibility in that school only until the end of that school year. However, should such change of residence take place after the student's eleventh (11th) grade year (junior), he may retain eligibility in that school during his twelfth (12th) grade year (senior) provided he is otherwise eligible.

9.6. An exception to the provisions of residence requirements in this regulation shall be made in the case of an "AFS" or other foreign-exchange student who desires to participate in interscholastic athletic or band activities during his one (1) year residence in the state. Said student must meet the other eligibility requirements. However, if said student is a "graduate" student, i.e. he has already graduated from a secondary school in his home country, he will not be eligible under any circumstances to participate in interscholastic athletic activities sponsored by this Commission.

9.7. A student is not eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic activities in any secondary school located outside his zone until he has been enrolled in a member school in that zone for a period of one hundred twenty (120) instructional days, unless that student has been in attendance in that school zone for no less than three (3) immediate preceding years (as a nonresident of that zone). There can be no change of residence to any other attendance zone at any time during this three (3) year period. A student who has established eligibility in a junior high school of a particular zone shall not be required to forfeit a second year of eligibility upon his promotion to a senior high school in that same zone.

9.8. School executives are reminded that the Activities Commission Transfer Forms are to be executed for all transfer pupils before the privilege of interscholastic competition is given in order that the participant's complete interscholastic record may be known.

9.9. A supply of transfer blanks may be secured from the executive secretary's office. A transfer form must accompany the student to a new school.

9.10. The fact that transfer has or has not been issued on the basis that the student pays or does not pay his tuition has no bearing on the interpretation of this rule.

9.11. A student from a broken home who is in the care of the Department of Public Assistance of West Virginia shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics as a member of the athletic teams of the high school in the zone in which said Department of Public Assistance places him in a home, provided he is otherwise eligible under the rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission.

9.12. Where a town or city is located partially in two counties and where only one high school is available in the town or city, students living in the town, or city, are eligible in said high school irrespective of the county in which they live. If each of the counties maintains a high school in the town or city, the county line defines the zone of each school, except as provided in subsection 9.2 of this regulation with respect to Catholic and private secondary schools.

9.13. State lines are considered zone lines in interpretation of these rules.

9.14. The Board of Appeals is authorized to grant exceptions to the provisions of section 9 of these regulations when it finds the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended, or when it finds that the rule works an undue hardship upon the student.

§127-2-10. Adoption and Guardianship.

10.1. The residence of parents by adoption shall constitute the residence of their adopted child for the purposes of these rules when, and only when, the student is legally adopted.

10.2. The residence of a testamentary guardian shall constitute the residence of his ward when, and only when:

(a) Such testamentary guardian has been duly appointed by the last will and testament of the student's last surviving natural parent,

(b) Said testamentary guardian has duly quali-

fied as such before the proper tribunal in West Virginia, and

(c) The student is actually residing in the household of his testamentary guardian at the time of his sports participation.

10.3. The residence of a guardian shall constitute the residence of his ward when, and only when:

(a) The guardian has been appointed or approved as such by order of a circuit court of West Virginia or by a court record in some other state;

(b) Such circuit court of record in some other state has in addition to such appointment or approval awarded or approved the awarding of the legal custody of such student to his guardian; and

(c) The student is actually residing in the household of his guardian/custodian at the time of his sports participation.

10.4 Except as provided in subsection 9.11 of these regulations, the residence of a person exercising the position of guardian but not custodian of a student or exercising the position of custodian but not guardian of a student shall not constitute the residence of such student under these rules.

10.5. Effective retroactively orders of any circuit court or court of record of any other state shall not have the effect of retroactively establishing residence of a student under these rules.

10.6. A person shall not be considered the guardian of a student for the purpose of these rules until he has qualified as such guardian by meeting all the prerequisites therefore as prescribed by law and the order of the appointing court of record.

10.7. Any student is eligible to practice in any sport for any school he then attends regardless of residence, except as provided in subsection 5.5 of these regulations, but no student may compete for his school in any sport on the basis of the residence of his guardian/custodian unless written evidence of:

(a) A court record appointment or approval of his guardian, and

(b) An order awarding custody or approving the award of custody to such guardian is furnished to the

executive secretary of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission before such sports participation. When a student has complied with the provisions of this rule, he becomes eligible immediately.

§127-2-11. Undue influence.

11.1. Any student who changes his place of residence and/or transfers to another school for athletic purposes through or by influence of any person and/or group of persons shall be ineligible in the school to which he transfers.

11.2. Transferring of a student from one zone to another by a board of education may be cause for investigation of the reason for his transfer and if the Board of Appeals believes the rule has been violated the student shall be ineligible in the high school to which he transferred.

11.3. On county borders where grade school graduates have been authorized by the two (2) boards of education to enter a high school in a bordering county, choice of a school not in their home county shall not be considered undue influence unless there is evidence that the rule has been violated, but the school of original high school entry shall be considered to be in the home zone.

11.4. Enrollment cases involving zone, county or state lines shall be forwarded to the executive secretary of the Board of Appeals by the high school and by the board of education or boards of education concerned with such transfers for approval before the right of competition is granted.

11.5. Nothing in any part of section 11 of this regulation shall abrogate any part of section 8 of these regulations.

§127-2-12. Definition of undue influence.

12.1. Undue influence means an act by any person or group connected with a school or not connected with a school to persuade a student to enroll in another member school or to persuade his parents or guardians to move to the zone of another school. Some specific examples of undue influence are:

(a) Being asked to move by a member of a school's faculty;

(b) Being asked to move by booster organiza-

tions or members of such organization;

(c) Persuasion by any member of a school's team;

(d) Being given tuition, free textbooks, allowances for transportation, or consideration not accorded other students, athletic or nonathletic; and

(e) Any other evidence that a transfer or enrollment was made because of athletic ability.

§127-2-13. Limited team membership.

13.1. During the school year and while a member of a school team, a student shall neither participate on any non-school team in the same sport, nor shall he compete as an individual unattached in non-school formally organized competition in the same sport. Violation of this provision shall cause the individual to be ineligible for further participation on his school team for that season in that particular sport. However, an exception may be made by the Board of Appeals if the student is trying out for or competing as a representative of the United States in Pan-American or Olympic activities.

13.2. The provisions of subsection 13.1 of this regulation do not apply to the following sports: cross country, golf, swimming, tennis, track and gymnastics.

13.3. A student who has participated on a non-school team or as an individual unattached in non-school formally organized competition after the beginning practice date of that sport as specified in series 3, subsection 21.1 of these regulations will be ineligible for participation on his school team for that season in that particular sport unless an exception has been made as permitted in subsections 13.1 and 13.2 of this regulation.

§127-2-14. Definition of a game or contest.

14.1. One or more of the following factors usually are present in a contest or game, any of which will serve to determine a contest:

(a) Previous arrangement;

(b) Advertisement;

(c) Score and/or time kept;

- (d) Spectators present;
- (e) Regulation or modified rules followed;
- (f) Contest officiated;
- (g) Account of contest appearing in local paper;
- (h) Sufficient number of players to form two (2) teams; and
- (i) Admission charged.

§127-2-15. Awards.

15.1. Participants in interscholastic activities on an individual or team basis may accept a medal, trophy, cup, certificate, ribbon, plaque, unattached letter, unattached chevron, or any similar award given by his school or given by a non-school organization sponsoring an activity. Students who accept awards for participation in interscholastic activities, other than those approved in this rule, shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic activities for three hundred sixty-five (365) days. Any member school which gives awards in violation of the restrictions of this rule shall be subject to penalties imposed by the Board of Appeals.

15.2. The rules governing awards apply to a student of a member school participating (as an individual or as a member of a team or group) in an activity or contest sponsored by members of this Commission or by non-school agencies or groups. The acceptance of awards (other than those approved in these rules) for participation in impromptu interscholastic contests, or activities sponsored by clubs, churches, parent-teacher associations, etc., not approved by this Commission, shall be considered a violation of these rules.

15.3. Awards from any source, which are not approved by this Commission, consist of wearing apparel (sweaters, jackets, jerseys, shoes, etc.), equipment (radios, television sets, etc.), athletic goods (batons, tennis rackets, golf bags, tennis or golf balls, etc.), or any other merchandise or money.

15.4. Nothing in the awards rule shall be interpreted to affect the recognition of scholarship or scholastic achievements.

15.5. Purchase by students when any part of the purchase price is donated, paid by the school, or

raised through methods similar to those mentioned above is regarded as a violation.

15.6. The rules governing awards shall not apply during the summer months when school is not in regular session. However, students must still assume responsibility for maintaining their amateur standing as detailed in section 16 of these regulations.

15.7. This Commission does not nominate or select "all-state" teams in any sport.

15.8. Participants in conferences, meets or tournaments shall not receive awards as members of all-star, all-conference or all-tournament teams, Provided, however, That participants in meets, conferences and tournaments sponsored and approved by the Board of Appeals may receive awards for individual performance if such awards are presented by the school personnel approved by the Board of Appeals to direct the meet, conference or tournament.

15.9. Group action by auxiliary agencies, boosters clubs and associations in the raising of funds for the purpose of awards by such means as dances, shows, entertainment, sales of refreshments, etc., shall be a violation of this rule.

§127-2-16. Violations of amateur practices.

16.1. Any student who has used, or is using, his athletic skill or knowledge of athletics for personal gain, who has contested with or against a professional in any match, game or contest or who has competed under an assumed name shall be ineligible for any contest.

16.2. A student who has ceased to be an amateur athletic shall not be eligible to represent his school in any contest.

16.3. A pupil having lost his amateur standing may be reinstated by the Board of Appeals after the lapse of one complete high school season, provided he has not persisted in breaking the amateur rule.

16.4. An amateur athlete loses his amateur standing if he receives money for participating in any sport.

16.5. A professional in one sport is considered a professional in all sports.

16.6. Caddying for pay shall not be considered as a

violation under this rule.

16.7. This rule will be interpreted strictly in connection with all sports sponsored or promoted by outside groups. Interpretations for individual sport contests should be secured in advance.

16.8. In order that students may not be denied the opportunity or the right to play summer baseball, golf or tennis, the following exception to several provisions of section 16 is hereby authorized:

A student may play summer baseball, golf or tennis, with or against professional players and still retain his amateur standing, so long as he does not receive pay for his services or his expenses. However, he may have his expenses paid.

16.9. Since high school students must assume responsibility for keeping their amateur standing above suspicion, that part of the exception which provides that a student may have his expenses paid but may not receive pay for his expenses, is intended to assist in safeguarding against the practice of padding an expense account to the extent that pay may actually be received for playing.

§127-2-17. Ineligible participants.

17.1. Any student who participates in an interscholastic athletic event as an ineligible player, either knowingly or inadvertently, shall be ineligible for further participation in any interscholastic athletic event for a period of three hundred sixty-five days from the last day of such participation as an eligible player.