

WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

NATALIE E. TENNANT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

Form #5

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OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

NOTICE OF AGENCY ADOPTION OF A PROCEDURAL OR INTERPRETIVE RULE
OR A LEGISLATIVE RULE EXEMPT FROM LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

AGENCY: Secondary Schools Activities Commission
West Virginia Board of Education TITLE NUMBER: 127

CITE AUTHORITY: W. Va. Constitution, Article XII, §2 and W. Va. Code §18-2-25

RULE TYPE: PROCEDURAL _____ INTERPRETIVE _____

EXEMPT LEGISLATIVE RULE X

CITE STATUTE(S) GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM LEGISLATIVE REVIEW
W. Va. Code §§ 29A-3B-1, et seq.; W. Va. Board of Education
v. Hechler, 180 W.Va. 451; 376 S.E.2d 839 (1988).

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES X NO _____

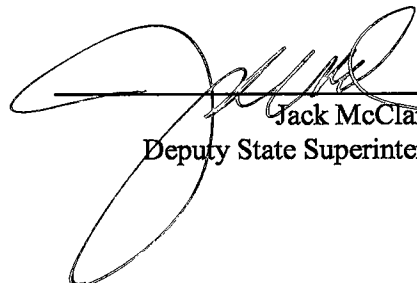
IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: 3

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: Provisions Governing Contests

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF NEW RULE BEING PROPOSED: _____

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: _____

THE ABOVE RULE IS HEREBY ADOPTED AND FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE
EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RULE IS September 8, 2009.



Jack McClanahan
Deputy State Superintendent of Schools

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Series 3, Provisions Governing Contests
West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission
Proposed Changes in Rules and Regulations

BACKGROUND

The majority of public and most private schools in West Virginia belong to the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission. Each year, the principals of member schools submit revisions to the rules and regulations. The submitted proposals are presented and voted upon at the annual Board of Control meeting. Any approved changes are then submitted to the West Virginia State Board of Education for its review and approval.

PURPOSE

These amendments are brought forth to keep the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission current and updated on changes, trends and issues in the band and athletic programs.

These proposals were distributed for public comment in May and June. The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission will present to the Board the comments received for its review at the June meeting.

The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission staff, Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and Board of Control respectfully request that the proposed rule changes to the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Rules and Regulations Handbook be approved.

CONTENT

Ten proposals are being submitted to the State Board by the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission. Each rule change is presented with the whole rule being included. This will help the State Board members understand the significance of the rule change.

The following is a brief summary of the effect of each proposal:

1. Allows for consistency with WV Dept. of Education policy and current rules and Regulations of the WVSSAC. (Vote: Yes-122 No-1)
2. Allows the WVSSAC to work with local BOE policy related to Rule 127-2-6.7. (Vote: Yes-120 No-4)
3. Provides clarification of current application of Out of Season Coaching rule. (Vote: Yes-111 No-10)
4. Provides time limitations for forfeiting individual or team awards. (Vote: Yes-122 No-2)

5. To decrease the disparity in student enrollment from the largest school to the smallest school in each class. Would afford more schools an opportunity to compete in football playoffs. (Vote: Yes-64 No-58)
6. Provides an extra week to schedule games due to weather and the post season tournament structure. (Vote: Yes-109 No-12)
7. To reduce lost instructional time and to relieve economic pressures including rising costs of transportation for parents and member schools.. (Vote: Yes-71 No-45)

IMPACT

Instruction

None

Leadership

None

Financial

None

Administrative

None

ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS, PRINCIPALS, AND COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS WILL NEED TO BE AWARE OF THE CHANGES IN ORDER TO ADMINISTER THEIR SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT RULES. THERE IS NO MAJOR CHANGE THAT WOULD IMPACT ADMINISTRATION NEGATIVELY.

WVSSAC
Rules and Regulations Handbook
2009-10 Proposed Rule Changes

Proposal 1 Passed (122-1)

Amend §127-2-6. Scholarship. (Pg. 18) as follows:

6.1. A student is required to ~~do passing work~~ be enrolled in the equivalent of at least 20 periods (four subjects with full credit toward graduation) per week. ~~Failure to earn passing marks in four full credit subjects during a semester shall render a student ineligible for the following semester.~~

6.5. A student not attempting four (4) full credit subjects during a semester must complete one ~~semester~~ 9 weeks of school work to regain consideration for eligibility.

Constitution and By-Laws

Rationale:

Allows for consistency with West Virginia Department of Education policy and current Rules and Regulations of the WVSSAC.

Proposal 2 Passed (120-4)

Amend §127-2-6. Scholarship. (Pg. 18) as follows:

6.7. Credit deficiencies cannot be made up after the last day of the semester, except in a case where a student whose final examinations and course credit are delayed due to illness which can be verified by a physician or as established by local Board of Education Policy.

Constitution and By-Laws

Rationale:

Allows the WVSSAC to work with local Board of Education policy related to Rule 127-2-6.7.

Proposal 3 (Passed 111-10)

Amend §127-3-7. Out-of-Season Coaching. (Pg. 37) as follows:

7.4. A coach or surrogate shall not work with individuals in any form of drills or practice of the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except during those dates specified as the season for that specific sport or as designated in subsections 7.2 and 7.3.

7.7. Coaches may not promote, initiate, organize, supervise, or participate in out-of-season events involving students of the same sport as the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except as specified in Rules 127 3-7.2 and 127-3-7.3. The county board of education shall be authorized to approve a coach to organize and/or supervise a recreation program for students. However, this type assignment must be recreational in nature, include a variety of activities, and comprise no coaching or instruction of that same sport as the school coaching assignment. In addition to the above, gymnasiums or facilities opened for recreational activities must use the following guidelines:

Constitution and By-Laws

Rationale:

Provides clarification of current application of Out of Season Coaching rule.

Proposal 4 Passed (122-2)

Amend §127-3-8. Forfeit and Restitution. (Pg. 38) by adding the following and renumbering:

8.1. A written request for investigation of an eligibility issue may be filed by a member school Principal with the Executive Director in any sport. Individual and/or team awards will not be affected if the request is filed in excess of 42 calendar days from the conclusion of the State Championship in that sport.

8.4. 2 When a student is declared ineligible subsequent to competing as an individual or a penalty has been imposed or action taken by the WVSSAC, said student's performance shall be stricken from the records and the points contributed to the team total deleted. The team standings will be adjusted accordingly and any awards involved shall be returned.

8.2. 3. When a student is declared ineligible subsequent to representing the school in team competition or a penalty has been imposed by the WVSSAC, the contest(s) shall may be forfeited. The team standing in the final standing will be adjusted, and the team awards and the ineligible student's awards shall may be returned.

Constitution and By-Laws

Rationale:

Provides time limitations for forfeiting individual or team awards.

Proposal 5 Passed (64-58)

Amend 127-3-10. Classification. (Pg. 40) as follows:

10.1. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, ~~Each~~ member high school schools shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A for football only. All other sports will remain under the current classification. These classifications will be based on the enrollment figures in grades 9-10-11 at the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification.

Warren Grace
Paden City High School

Rationale:

The purpose of this proposal is to decrease the disparity in student enrollment from the largest school to the smallest school in each of the respective classes. The addition of a new classification would afford more schools a more equitable opportunity to compete for playoff competition in football and boys/girls basketball.

Proposal 6 Passed (109-12)

Amend 127-3-20 Basketball (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 45) as follows:

20.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice for girls will begin on Monday of Week 19 and Monday of Week 20 for boys. The first contest for girls may be played on Tuesday of Week ~~23~~ 22 and Tuesday of Week 24 ~~23~~ 23 for boys.

Constitution and By-Laws

Rationale:

Provides an extra week to schedule games due to weather and the post season tournament structure.

Proposal 7 Passed (71-45) (Effective with winter sports 2009-10 season.)

Amend 127-3-19 Baseball (Pg. 45) as follows:

19.4. Maximum Team Contests: A baseball team will be permitted to play no more than ~~32~~ 28 games exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournament contests.

19.9.1. Middle school/9th grade teams may play ~~48~~ 16 games including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

Amend 127-3-22. Cross Country (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 47) as follows:

22.4. Maximum Team Contests: A cross country team will be permitted ~~46~~ 14 meets exclusive of regional and state contests.

Amend 127-3-24. Golf (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 50) as follows:

24.4. Maximum Team Contests: A golf team will be permitted to play no more than ~~48~~ 16 matches exclusive of regional and state tournament contests. Each interscholastic contest counts as one, whether it is 9 or 18 holes, and regardless of number of opponents.

24.7.1. Middle school/9th grade teams are permitted to play no more than ~~44~~ 12 matches.

Amend 127-3-25 Soccer (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 51) as follows:

25.4. Maximum Team Contests: A soccer team will be permitted to play no more than ~~20~~ 18 matches exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournaments.

25.9.1. Middle school/9th grade teams may play ~~44~~ 12 matches including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

Amend 127-3-26 Softball (Pg. 52) as follows:

26.4. Maximum Team Contests: A softball team will be permitted to play no more than ~~32~~ 28 exclusive of sectional, regional and state contests.

26.7.2. A student shall not participate in more than ~~32~~ 28 games in one season, exclusive of sectional, regional and state tournament contests. Serving as a "courtesy or pinch runner" is not considered "participation" in a game.

26.9.1. Middle school/9th grade teams may play ~~48~~ 16 games including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

Amend 127-3-27 Swimming (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 53) as follows:

27.4. Maximum Team Contests: A swimming team will be permitted ~~46~~ 14 contests exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

27.8.1. Middle school/9th grade teams will be permitted ~~44~~ 12 meets.

Amend 127-3-28 Tennis (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 53) as follows:

28.4. Maximum Team Contests: A tennis team will be permitted ~~22~~ 20 matches exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

28.8.1. Middle school/9th grade teams may play ~~46~~ 14 matches including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

Amend 127-3-29 Track and Field (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 54) as follows:

29.4. Maximum Team Contests: A track and field team will be permitted ~~46~~ 14 meets exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

29.9.1. Middle school/9th grade teams will be permitted ~~44~~ 12 meets and only 2 meets per week.

Amend 127-3-30. Volleyball (Pg. 55) as follows:

30.4. Maximum Team Contest: A volleyball team will be permitted no more than ~~22~~ 20 playing dates exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

30.10.1. Middle school/9th grade teams will be permitted ~~46~~ 14 playing dates.

Amend 127-3-31 Wrestling (Pg. 56) as follows:

31.4. Maximum Team Contest: A wrestling team will be permitted to have ~~48~~ 16 matches exclusive of regional and state tournaments.

31.8.2. Middle school/9th grade school teams may have ~~46~~ 14 matches including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

Constitution and By-Laws

Rationale:

To reduce lost instructional time and to relieve economic pressures including rising costs of transportation for parents and member schools.

Refer to appendix A for current and proposed number of contests.

Proposal 8 Appendix "A"

Sport	HS Current Contests	Proposed Contests	MS Current Contests	Proposed Contests
Baseball	32	28	18	16
Cross Country	16	14	16	14
Golf	18	16	14	12
Soccer	20	18	14	12
Softball	32	28	18	16
Swimming	16	14	14	12
Tennis	22	20	16	14
Track	16	14	14	12
Volleyball	22	20	16	14
Wrestling	18	16	16	14
Total	212	188	156	136

FILED

TITLE 127
LEGISLATIVE RULE
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION

2009 JUL 10 PM 1:17

SERIES 3
PROVISIONS GOVERNING CONTESTS

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

§127-3-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- These rules govern the conduct of athletic contests.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Constitution, Article XII, §2 and W. Va. Code §18-2-25.

1.3. Filing Date. -- July 10, 2009.

1.4. Effective Date. -- September 8, 2009.

1.5. Repeal of Former Rule. This legislative rule amends W. Va. §127CSR3, West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Series 3, Provisions Governing Contests, filed July 11, 2008 and effective September 8, 2008.

§127-3-2. Duties and Responsibilities of the Principal.

2.1. The principal of each member school is recognized as the school representative and as such is accountable to the Commission for conduct of the athletic program of that school.

2.2. The principal and/or his designee shall notify his staff faculty (as defined in Rule §127-3-6) of the rules and regulations of this Commission. It shall be that individual's responsibility to notify those students participating in West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (WVSSAC) activities. Failure of the principal in performing this responsibility will not prevent the Commission from enforcing said rules.

2.3. The principal shall have the authority to delegate responsibilities or duties; however, such delegation shall not relieve said principal of the responsibility of any infraction of the rules and regulations of this Commission by the members of his staff.

2.4. The principal has the authority to designate a member of the faculty who must supervise all interscholastic activities.

2.5. The principal is responsible for adequate team and crowd control measures at home contests in which the school participates, assuring that the school's participants and fans conduct themselves in a proper manner, and assuring that all fans and officials are provided adequate protection. In situations where contests are played on neutral sites, it will be the responsibility of both participating school principals.

2.6. The principal has the right to exclude a contestant who would not represent his school in an appropriate manner, a student who fails to maintain a satisfactory scholastic standing, or a student who has been excluded for a serious illness or injury.

2.7. The principal will be responsible for signing all game contracts, seeking sanctioning of

necessary events, and signing all certificates of eligibility prior to student participation.

2.8. The principal may designate the assistant principal or other faculty member to provide representation and/or to participate in all voting matters at a Board of Control meeting which is further explained in the Constitution.

2.9. The principal shall have such other powers as will encourage the growth, development and expansion of the athletic program for the welfare of the students, the school and the WVSSAC.

2.10. The principal, assistant principal, and athletic director of each member school shall be allowed admittance to any WVSSAC sanctioned event. Vocational principals and assistant principals shall also be allowed admittance. This admittance will be by presentation of the WVSSAC Courtesy Card and a photo identification.

2.11. The principal and assistant principal of each member school who upon retirement is a member in good standing with the WVSSAC shall receive a WVSSAC permanent Courtesy and Identification Card. This card shall allow admittance to any WVSSAC sponsored event. This admittance will be by presentation of the WVSSAC Courtesy Card and photo identification.

2.12. WVSSAC Courtesy and Identification Cards shall be honored at all events involving WVSSAC member schools with the exception of state tournaments.

§127-3-3. Physical Examination - Parental Permission.

3.1. Note: The Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physician's Certificate Form allows for annual updates rather than a complete physical examination.

3.2. A student shall not be permitted to engage in interscholastic practice or participate in an interscholastic contest until that student has filed with the principal a completed Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physician's Certificate Form. This form must be signed by all parties: student, parent(s), physician. Consent and approval for sport(s) in which a student is requesting participation must be approved by both parent and physician.

3.3. A physical examination form must be completed no earlier than June 1 for an upcoming year.

§127-3-4. All-Star Participation.

4.1. A graduating senior, or any student completing athletic eligibility at the end of the current school year because of age or completion of semesters of eligibility, may play in one All-Star game upon conclusion of the season without loss of athletic eligibility for the balance of that year.

§127-3-5. Awards.

5.1. Only a member school or a school sponsoring a sanctioned event may give the following awards to a student or team: medal, trophy, cup, certificate, ribbon, plaque, unattached letter, unattached chevron or any similar award.

5.2. A student may accept on an individual or team basis the above specified awards in the following situations:

5.2.1. from a member school for participation.

5.2.2. in a sanctioned event.

5.2.3. in a non-sanctioned event at any time in the following sports: cheerleading, cross country, golf, swimming, tennis, track, or wrestling.

5.2.4. in a non-sanctioned event but not during the school sports-season for the following sports: football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, lacrosse, softball or soccer.

5.3. A student may not receive the following awards from any source:

5.3.1. Wearing apparel - sweaters, jackets, jerseys, shoes, etc.

5.3.2. Equipment - radio, televisions, etc.

5.3.3. Athletic goods - batons, tennis rackets, bats, golf bag, tennis or golf balls, etc.

5.3.4. Money - (Scholarships to institutions of higher learning are exempted.)

5.4. Purchase of an item as mentioned in subsection 5.3 above whereby any portion is donated by a school, booster club, auxiliary agency or any other group or organization is prohibited.

5.5. Nothing in this Awards Rule shall be interpreted to affect the recognition of scholarship or scholastic achievements.

§127-3-6. Coaches.

6.1. A member of a school faculty, substitute teacher or student teacher, with or without West Virginia Department of Education Authorized Certification, within a public, private, or parochial school system shall be allowed to coach an athletic team. Also, an authorized certified individual may coach if he meets all of the requirements in subsection 6.5 of this rule.

6.2. A substitute teacher is defined as a person who has met the licensure requirements as specified by the West Virginia Board of Education and has been approved as a substitute teacher of that county board of education, private, or parochial school.

6.3. A college student fulfilling teacher training responsibilities as a student teacher may be assigned certain coaching responsibilities during that period of training. This assignment will be administratively consistent with said student teacher's role in the classroom and shall be approved by the county board of education or the governing board of a private or parochial school. Said student teacher will work directly under the supervision of the appointed coach or assistant coach.

6.4. An authorized certified coach must meet the following requirements:

6.4.1. The coach is employed under a contract with a county board of education which specifies a rate of pay equivalent to the rate for professional educators who accept similar duties as extra duty assignments and which provided for liability insurance associated with the activity.

6.4.2. The coach has successfully completed approved training: NFHS Sport Science, Sport First Aid, and WV Component (14 hours of instruction and test) and has received West Virginia Department of Education Authorization.

6.4.3. The authorized certified coach may be contracted to coach only if an employed certified professional educator within the county has not applied for and accepted the coaching position.

6.4.4. Coaching authorizations are for one year. They may be re-issued upon request if a certified professional educator within a county is not available.

6.5. The head coach shall be required to attend any sports rules clinic in the coaching assignment which is sponsored by this Commission. Schools failing to have a head coaching position filled at the time of the clinic will be required to have a school representative present at the rules clinic.

6.6. All coaches and athletic directors of member schools who upon retirement from a member school with at least 20 years of service either as a coach, athletic director or combination of coaching and athletic director shall receive a lifetime WVSSAC Courtesy and Identification Card. This card shall allow admittance to any WVSSAC sponsored event. This admittance will be by presentation of the WVSSAC Courtesy and Identification Card and photo identification.

§127-3-7. Out-of-Season Coaching.

7.1. Philosophy - Students should have the opportunity to engage voluntarily in school athletic activities provided that the student is eligible, that such activities do not interfere with the students' educational development and the activities do not conflict with the principles of wholesome amateur athletics. The WVSSAC wishes to enhance that opportunity while at the same time discouraging the exploitation of students by overzealous individuals and organizations who attempt to impose an obligation or pressure on the student. There has been growing evidence of commercialism and specialization of secondary school students. Experience has revealed that such occurrences tend to divide the allegiance of students, undermine respect for coaches and officials, and encourage the type of adulation which gives students an exaggerated sense of importance of their own athletic prowess. Rather, athletic participation should be used for the pleasure and satisfaction that is derived from athletic competition in a variety of experiences.

7.2. School organized out-of-season practice or related activities shall only be permitted with principal approval during Weeks 50, 51 and 52 of the National Federation Standardized Calendar. Participation by students must be open to all students, voluntary, and not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school team. Participation by students during these weeks does not meet Practice Rule §127-2-13.4.

7.3. A coach or principal designee of each sport or activity may be present as an observer, lecture participant, staff member, or in any capacity at any summer camp during weeks 50, 51, and 52 of the National Federation Standardized Calendar.

7.4. A coach or surrogate shall not work with individuals in any form of drills or practice of the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except during those dates specified as the season for that specific sport or as designated in subsections 7.2 and 7.3 of this rule.

7.5. Coaches may participate in a formal development program of the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) involving students of the same sport as their coaching assignments. The formal development program must be under the official guidance of the USOC through the National Governing Body (NGB) of the sport. The NGB must assure in writing to the WVSSAC that coaches will receive formal orientation and that strict supervision and monitoring of coaches will ensure that no recruitment or inappropriate influence will be exerted on students.

7.6. Conditioning/Recreation Programs - Students throughout the school year who are not participating in a school's athletic program may voluntarily participate in an off season conditioning program. This program may also occur during the summer subject to county board of education or governing body approval and the following provisions:

7.6.1. Participation in the program must be open to all students enrolled in the school providing the program.

7.6.2. Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school team.

7.6.3. Students will provide their own clothing (sweatsuit, shoes, etc.).

7.6.4. Activities will be limited to running, weight training, and stretching exercises. Agility drills that do not involve specific skills of a given sport are permitted.

7.6.5. Specific equipment pertaining to a given sport may not be used. This includes such items as footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, wrestling mats, discus, etc.

7.6.6. In those cases where schools schedule all students into the last period of the school day, the guidelines in items (c), (d), and (e) shall apply unless the class is considered a part of the physical education program and credit is given. There shall be no teaching of sport specific skills in this case unless those same skills and course of study are taught in all physical education classes at this same time of the school year.

7.6.7. The county board of education may choose to compensate the supervisor or director.

7.7. Coaches may not promote, initiate, organize, supervise, or participate in out-of-season events involving students of the same sport as the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except as specified in Rules §127-3-7.2 and §127-3-7.3. The county board of education shall be authorized to approve a coach to organize and/or supervise a recreation program for students. However, this type assignment must be recreational in nature, include a variety of activities, and comprise no coaching or instruction of that same sport as the school coaching assignment. In addition to the above, gymnasiums or facilities opened for recreational activities must use the following guidelines:

7.7.1. The gymnasium or field is open to all students for participation.

7.7.2. A variety of activities is available to students and is not limited to one sport or activity on a given day.

7.7.3. Supervisor or director must be approved by the county board of education or governing body.

7.7.4. There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and technique in any sport.

7.7.5. Comparable opportunities are provided both sexes.

7.7.6. Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school team.

7.8. The principal assumes the responsibility for making certain that there is adherence to these guidelines.

§127-3-8. Forfeit and Restitution.

8.1. A written request for investigation of an eligibility issue may be filed by a member school Principal with the Executive Director in any sport. Individual and/or team awards will not be affected if

the request is filed in excess of 42 calendar days from the conclusion of the State Championship in that sport.

8.2. When a student is declared ineligible subsequent to competing as an individual or a penalty has been imposed or action taken by the WVSSAC, said student's performance shall be stricken from the records and the points contributed to the team total deleted. The team standings will be adjusted accordingly and any awards involved shall be returned.

8.3. When a student is declared ineligible subsequent to representing the school in team competition or a penalty has been imposed by the WVSSAC, the contest(s) may be forfeited. The team standing in the final standing will be adjusted, and the team awards and the ineligible student's awards may be returned.

8.4. If a team or student participating in an individual contest leaves the playing area in protest and fails to complete the contest, the contest is forfeited and the school principal or his designee and the violator may be required to appear before the Executive Director to indicate why additional action should not be taken.

8.5. If a coach is ejected from a contest and an assistant coach or assigned school representative is not available to continue as coach, the contest is terminated and forfeited to the opponent.

8.6. If a student is ineligible according to WVSSAC rules but is permitted to participate in interscholastic competition contrary to such WVSSAC rules but in accordance with the terms of a court restraining order or injunction and said order or injunction is subsequently vacated, stayed, reversed or finally determined by the courts that injunctive relief is/was not justified, any one of the following actions may be taken in the interest of fairness or restitution to the competing schools.

8.6.1. Require that individual or team and performance records achieved during participation by such ineligible student shall be vacated or stricken.

8.6.2. Require that team or individual victories shall be forfeited to opponent(s).

8.6.3. Require that team or individual awards earned by such individual or team be returned to the Commission.

§127-3-9. Game Officials.

9.1. All officials used in interscholastic games and contests in West Virginia must be registered with the WVSSAC, except in case of emergency subsection 9.4 may be invoked. A game officials' registration plan shall be established by the Board of Directors.

9.2. Officials for interscholastic contests shall be mutually agreed upon by the competing schools at least two weeks before the scheduled date of contest. Coaches or other persons connected with competing schools shall not officiate at the contest unless the consent of all competing schools is given.

9.3. The host school initiates the selection of game officials. It is highly recommended that the host school contract officials for all interscholastic contests. Contractual agreements are between the school and the official.

9.4. The Executive Director shall be empowered to authorize the use of non registered officials for athletic contests where registered officials are not available and schools threaten the cancellation of said scheduled athletic contests.

9.5. All officials registered with the WVSSAC are subject to and required to abide by the rules and regulations set forth in these bylaws and the "West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Officials' Handbook", which is revised and published yearly. Also, the WVSSAC registered officials are provided the same opportunity for appeal of any decisions as set forth in these same bylaws.

9.6. The official shall:

9.6.1. Attend a state WVSSAC rules clinic in the sport for which the official is registered. Failure to comply will result in suspension for the current year.

9.6.2. Attend four (4) local officials Board meetings. Failure to comply will result in suspension for the current year.

9.6.3. Take Part I and Part II National Federation Rules Examinations in the sports where specified. Failure to comply will result in suspension for the current year.

9.6.4. Abstain from intoxicating beverages on the day of the contest the official is assigned to prior to, during, and after in the vicinity of the playing area of the contest.

9.6.5. Abstain from the use of smokeless or any other forms of tobacco in the vicinity of the playing area of the contest.

9.6.7. Abstain from the use of illegal drugs.

9.6.8. Be fair, impartial, unbiased, professional, and competent in officiating.

9.6.9. Be in and maintain proper physical and mental condition as verified by the physical examination form submitted to the WVSSAC; dress and appearance must be appropriate.

9.6.10. Be at the site of the contest in adequate time to care for necessary pre contest duties or as specified in the National Federation Rules.

9.6.11. Maintain self-control under all conditions.

9.6.12. Refrain from commenting upon or discussing a team, play, game situation, or fellow official.

9.6.13. Conduct the game so as to enlist the cooperation of students, coaches, and spectators in the interest of good sportsmanship.

9.6.14. Comply with any WVSSAC rule, regulation, Constitution or directive, and particularly those regulations pertaining to filing Special Reports and Official Ratings of Schools.

9.6.15. Honor all existing officiating contracts with member schools unless a valid reason is presented and accepted by the involved school. Accepting a game involving a higher level of competition is not a valid reason.

9.6.16. Comply with local board rules as set forth in board constitution.

9.7. The Executive Director shall have the power to penalize for violations of these rules. Any official penalized under these rules shall have the right to appeal to the WVSSAC Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall inform fully a penalized official of his appeal rights.

§127-3-10. Classification.

10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAA, AA, or A based on the enrollment figures in grades 9-10-11 at the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification.

10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four year period unless a 20% change in enrollment using West Virginia Department of Education enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Change of classification due to 20% change in enrollment would not go into effect until the next school year.

10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in one class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to April 1 of a new classification year. Approval of this option will be for a four year period and will be effective for all sports sponsored by the school.

10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. Prior to any change of structure of any given sport, a survey of the membership must be conducted by WVSSAC.

10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the enrollment of grades 9-10-11 in the consolidating schools.

§127-3-11. Exchange of Eligibility Certificates.

11.1. Eligibility certificates will be required at the beginning of the season of each sport approved by this Commission and prior to the first contest.

11.2. The principal will be responsible for the proper completion of the certificate and completion of said information as per WVSSAC policy.

11.3. The names of the students on all junior high and middle school teams and teams from the ninth grade of the four year high school and sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth of a six year high school shall be submitted on the master eligibility certificate prepared for use by the school.

11.4. Additions to the team shall be certified at once on an eligibility certificate to the WVSSAC.

11.5. Verification of student eligibility will be made by the principal. Birth certificates must be used to confirm a student's age. Questionable cases shall be approved by the Executive Director prior to participation.

11.6. If a change is made in the record of age, number of semesters of attendance or semester credits from that which has previously appeared on an eligibility certificate, it must be reported to the WVSSAC and approved prior to participation.

11.7. Failure to send the required eligibility information to the WVSSAC prior to the first contest shall render the offending school liable to a fine of \$25.00 payable to the WVSSAC.

§127-3-12. Legal Opponents.

12.1. Member schools of the WVSSAC shall not participate against any public, private or parochial

secondary school whose status has not been recognized by that group's governing body.

12.2. Member schools of the WVSSAC shall not participate against those schools that have been placed under a specified sanction. This would include either member schools or out-of-state schools.

12.3. Member schools of the WVSSAC shall not participate in any interscholastic contest or practice against non-school teams or in any interscholastic contest or practice which involves alumni participants.

§127-3-13. Contracts.

13.1. It is recommended that contracts of games for all interscholastic contests be prepared in duplicate. Contract forms are furnished by the WVSSAC office. These should include specific dates, financial guarantee provisions, adequate forfeiture stipulations, and all other items listed on the contract.

13.2. In order for a contract to be binding, it must be signed by the principal or his designee from both schools.

13.3. Contracts may be canceled in the following situations:

13.3.1. If both principals or designee fail to sign the contract.

13.3.2. If one of the two schools is forced to suspend its school schedule.

13.3.3. If one school fails to return the signed contract to the other school within thirty (30) days.

13.3.4. If there is written mutual consent of the two parties of the contract.

13.3.5. If the Board of Directors annuls a contract when it deems such action necessary for the furtherance of interscholastic athletics in West Virginia or if provisions of the contract are contrary to the rules of the Commission.

13.4. Athletic contracts made by the principal are considered binding on his successor.

13.5. An athletic contest will be considered forfeited during regular season as per contracted or tournament play as per scheduled if contest cancellation is caused by a strike by teachers, support personnel, or school patrons acting as a striking body. In cases where both participating schools are on strike, it shall be considered no contest. Games or contests canceled during regular season may be rescheduled during that same season by agreement of the involved parties and the Board of Directors.

§127-3-14. Sunday Contests.

14.1. Member schools of the WVSSAC shall not engage in any contest, meet or tournament on Sunday. This rule shall also apply to Sunday practice. However, in case of emergency, State Championship finals may be played on Sunday after 1:00 p.m.

14.2. Sunday practice shall be defined as any team, group or individual meeting to view films, hold shooting practice, or any other activity associated with the activity of that season.

§127-3-15. Sports Rules - Game Protests.

15.1. The current edition of official High School Rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations will be the official rules used in contests, meets, and tournaments played by members of this Commission. The Board of Directors may modify such rules as also provided by the

National Federation of State High School Associations. In this case, the rules of the Board of Directors as published in special bulletins or "The Interscholastic" shall apply.

15.2. In the absence of published National Federation rules, the Board of Directors may authorize competition under prevailing rules and regulations as modified for amateur competition.

15.3. The protest of a contest or ejection will not be allowed. Accordingly, the Board of Directors is not authorized to order contests to be replayed or ejections to be reconsidered.

§127-3-16. Sanctioning and Travel.

16.1. A member school shall not enter a contest/competition which requires sanctioning until it is approved.

16.2. All applications for sanctioning must be submitted to the WVSSAC 30 days prior to the event with the exception of international events.

16.3. Events requiring National Federation approval are:

16.3.1. Co-sponsorship Sanction Requirement: Any interstate event involving two (2) or more schools which is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the high school community (e.g., a university, a theme park, a shoe company), in addition to being sponsored by a member school, an approved school or a state association, shall require sanction of the NFHS office.

16.3.2. Non-bordering State Sanction Requirement: Each state association shall sanction through the NFHS office interstate competition by a member school involving either:

a. More than eight (8) schools, at least one (1) of which is from a state that does not border the host state; or

b. Five (5) or more states, at least one (1) of which does not border the host state.

16.3.3. International Event: Each member state association shall approve and receive NFHS approval for competition by a member school against a school from a foreign country, except for two (2) school and three (3) school competition with a school or schools from Canada or Mexico which necessitates a round trip of less than 600 miles.

16.3.4. International Event: Games against Canadian or Mexican schools involving travel of greater than 600 miles, or an event involving more than three (3) schools, one or more of which are from Canada or Mexico, requires a request to the NFHS for international sanction and notice to and sanction by the appropriate National Governing Body.

16.4. Bordering state events requiring approval are:

16.4.1. Any interstate event in which four or more schools participate. (All schools from neighboring states.)

16.4.2. Any interstate event which involves schools from three or more state high school associations.

16.5. Intrastate events requiring approval are:

16.5.1. An event with more than four schools participating or awards given.

16.5.2. Any event where awards are given.

16.6. The WVSSAC may assess a fine and/or other penalties against the participating school for violations of the sanction provisions.

16.7. A member school shall not enter an event that involves travel of more than 600 miles round trip unless it occurs on days when school is not in session. Sanctioning from the WVSSAC must be granted.

§127-3-17. WVSSAC Tournaments.

17.1. Participation in sectional, regional and state tournaments sponsored by this Commission and directed by the Board of Directors, shall be limited exclusively to members of this Commission.

17.2. The Board of Directors shall divide the state into sections and regions for the purpose of determining championships in the sports sponsored by this Commission. The Board of Directors shall have charge of directing and making necessary arrangements for tournaments, meets and contests leading to and including state championships. Member school principals will receive the proposed tournament alignment from the WVSSAC office and will be given the opportunity to comment on the alignment prior to the presentation to the Board of Directors. Principals will sign a form to verify receipt and return the form to the WVSSAC office within ten (10) days from the date of the bulletin.

17.3. The Board of Directors shall have general control over sectional tournaments. The detailed management of these sectional tournaments, however, shall be under the control of the schools assigned to each respective section.

17.4. All net earnings from tournaments conducted under the supervision of the Board of Directors shall be turned over to the Commission unless otherwise specified by the Board of Control. Sectional or regional assessments may be charged to cover the cost of a tournament trophy furnished by the WVSSAC.

17.5. The Board of Directors may approve participation by member junior high schools in county, league or conference tournament. Tournament play on the state level for member junior high schools shall be prohibited.

17.6. No state tournament shall be concluded until all games, matches, or events at the state tournament are completed.

§127-3-18. Season Regulations.

18.1. The National Federation standardized calendar shall be used to schedule all activities sponsored by this Commission. Each sport season shall have an established beginning and ending date for practice and interscholastic contests which will be based on a standardized calendar of numbered weeks so the length of each season will be consistent from year to year.

§127-3-19. Baseball.

19.1. Rules: Baseball rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided herein.

19.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin Monday of Week 35 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 37.

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19.3. Length of Season: The baseball season will end for each team by WVSSAC tournament elimination.

19.4. Maximum Team Contests: A baseball team will be permitted to play no more than 32 games exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournament contests.

19.5. Scrimmages: Two baseball scrimmages with another high school may be conducted. See Glossary.

19.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

19.7. Student Participation:

19.7.1. A student may not play or practice on a non-school baseball team while a member of his school team.

19.7.2. A student shall not participate in more than 32 games in one season, exclusive of sectional, regional and state tournament contests. Serving as a "courtesy or pinch runner" is not considered "participation" in a game.

19.8. A student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events during the season of that sport. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule. Students may accept only this same type of an award in non-sanctioned events outside the sport season.

19.9. *Junior High Schools* - The above will apply for junior high schools with following adaptations:

19.9.1. Junior high teams may play 18 games including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

19.9.2. Junior high season will be completed by Saturday of Week 45.

19.9.3. Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage. See Glossary.

§127-3-20. Basketball (Boys and Girls).

20.1. Rules: Basketball rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

20.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice for girls will begin on Monday of Week 19 and Monday of Week 20 for boys. The first contest for girls may be played on Tuesday of Week 22 and Tuesday of Week 23 for boys.

20.3. Length of Season: The boys and girls basketball season will end for each team at tournament elimination.

20.4. Maximum Team Contests: A varsity or junior varsity basketball team will be permitted to play no more than 22 games in the regular season. Sectional, regional and state tournament contests are not included in the above number.

20.4.1. The maximum number of quarters for a student in one season is 110 exclusive of sectional, regional and state tournament contests.

20.4.2. A student can play only 5 quarters in one day.

20.4.3. Participation in a quarter, regardless of time, will be considered one quarter.

20.4.4. Overtime is considered as an extension of the fourth quarter.

20.5. A high school basketball team is permitted to participate in a preview and a scrimmage or two scrimmage games. See Glossary.

20.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

20.7. A student may not play or practice on a non-school team while a member of the school team.

20.8. A student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events during the season of that sport. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule. Students may accept only this same type of an award in non-sanctioned event outside the sport season.

20.9. *Junior High Schools* - The above rules will apply for Junior High Schools with the following adaptations:

20.9.1. Girls may begin practice on Monday of Week 18 and boys on Monday of Week 19. The first contest for girls may be played on Wednesday of week 21 and Wednesday of week 22 for boys.

20.9.2. The girls basketball season will end on Saturday of Week 33 and Saturday of Week 34 for boys.

20.9.3. Tournament play on the state level shall be prohibited.

20.9.4. Boys and girls basketball teams will be permitted to play no more than 20 games. Tournament exception does not apply.

20.9.5. All junior high students may play a maximum of 80 quarters for one season.

20.9.6. All junior high students may play a maximum of 4 quarters per day.

20.9.7. Games involving only students below the 9th grade shall be played in 6-minute quarters. A member school sponsoring games involving teams which combine 9th grade students with students in the 8th and/or 7th grades may play those games in quarters of 8 minutes.

20.9.8. Junior highs are not permitted to play an alumni game.

20.9.9. Scrimmages: Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage. See Glossary.

20.9.10. A ninth grade team in a high school program will follow the rules provided for junior high schools.

§127-3-21. Cheerleading.

21.1. Rules: Cheerleading rules established by the WVSSAC will be used as the official rules for all interscholastic competition and regular season contests.

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21.2. Organized Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 5.

21.3. Length of Season: The high school spirit and competitive season will begin Monday of Week 5. The competitive season will end for each team at their cheer tournament elimination. The high school spirit season will end on the last day of the Girls' State Basketball Tournament or Boys' State Basketball Tournament.

21.4. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

21.5. A student may accept awards in WVSSAC sanctioned events and non-sanctioned events during the entire year. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule.

21.6. *Junior High Schools* - The above rules will apply for Junior High Schools with the following adaptations:

21.6.1. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 6.

21.6.2. The junior high/middle school spirit and competitive cheer season will begin Monday of Week 6. The competitive season will end Saturday of Week 18. The junior high/middle school spirit season will end on the last day of the junior high/middle school girls' or boys' basketball season.

§127-3-22. Cross Country (Boys and Girls).

22.1. Rules: Cross country rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

22.2. Organized team practice will begin on Monday Week 5 and first meet may be held on Saturday of Week 7.

22.3. Length of Season: The cross country season will end for each team or individual at tournament elimination.

22.4. Maximum Team Contests: A cross country team will be permitted 16 meets exclusive of regional and state contests.

22.5. Scrimmages: Two cross country scrimmages with another high school may be conducted. See Glossary.

22.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

22.7. A student may accept awards in WVSSAC sanctioned events and non sanctioned events during the entire year. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule.

§127-3-23. Football.

23.1. Rules: Football rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

23.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team conditioning practice will begin on Monday of

Week 5 and the first contest may be played during Week 8.

23.2.1. The following table establishes for senior high school the first date pads with no live contact, first date to use pads with total contact, earliest date for scrimmage or Grid-O-Rama, date for first contest and date season must be completed.

Year	First Date Organized Practice	First Date Pads No Live Contact	First Date Live Contact Allowed	Earliest Date For Scrimmage or Grid-O-Rama	Date For First Contest	Date Season Must Be Completed
2009	Aug. 3	Aug. 7	Aug. 11	Aug. 15	Aug. 24	Nov. 7
2010	Aug. 2	Aug. 6	Aug. 10	Aug. 14	Aug. 23	Nov. 6
2011	Aug. 1	Aug. 5	Aug. 9	Aug. 13	Aug. 22	Nov. 5
2012	July 30	Aug 3	Aug. 7	Aug. 11	Aug. 20	Nov. 3
2013	Aug. 5	Aug. 9	Aug. 13	Aug. 17	Aug. 26	Nov. 9

23.2.2. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

23.2.3. No in season football camps sponsored by a member school or by other school related organizations where football coaching and instruction are given are permitted.

23.2.4. The use of football uniforms, protective equipment, tackling or blocking dummies, charging sleds, or similar devices are strictly prohibited during the conditioning program. However, during the DATE OF PADS NO LIVE CONTACT, the use of sleds, shields and blocking dummies will be allowed. The purpose of this period is to permit gradual adaptation of the students to carrying the weight of their pads and adjusting to temperature variation.

23.3. Length of Season: The football season will end for each team at the end of the regular season or by play-off elimination.

23.4. Maximum Team Contests: A football team will be permitted to play no more than 10 games exclusive of the play-off games.

23.4.1. The total number of quarters for a student in one season is 40 exclusive of the play-off games.

23.4.2. A student may only play 4 quarters in one day.

23.4.3. Any student who participated in one or more downs in one quarter shall be charged with one quarter of play, except those downs in which the football teams are in a free kick formation, or the offensive team is in a scrimmage kick formation, as defined in the National Federation Football Rule Book, the down will not count as a down.

23.4.4. Overtime is considered as an extension of the fourth quarter.

23.4.5. Interscholastic practice game or games in which teams representing a member school play against alumni or other people shall not be allowed.

23.5. A football team is permitted to participate in a Grid-O-Rama and one (1) preseason scrimmage or two (2) preseason scrimmages. See Glossary for definitions of Grid-O-Rama and Scrimmage.

23.6. Special Regulations:

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23.6.1. All rules and regulations of these Bylaws pertaining to football are also applicable to six-man and eight-man football.

23.6.2. Any member of a freshman team in a 4-year high school that plays in a junior varsity or varsity contest (scrimmage, grid-o-rama or game) is ineligible to return to the freshman team.

23.6.3. A student may not play or practice on a non-school football team while a member of his school team.

23.7. A student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events during the school year. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule. Students may accept only this same type of an award in non-sanctioned event during non-school months.

23.8. The Board of Directors is authorized to adopt a point rating system and overall procedure for determining a state champion in each class.

23.9. *Junior High Schools* - The above rules will apply for Junior High Schools with the following adaptations:

23.9.1. Organized team conditioning practice will begin on Monday of Week 6 and the first game played during Week 9.

23.9.2. The following table establishes the first date for organized practice, the first date pads with no live contact, the first date for live contact, earliest date for a scrimmage, the date for first game and the date season must be completed.

Year	First Date Organized Practice	Pads No Live Contact	Contact Allowed Full Equip.	Date For Scrimmage	Earliest For First Game	Date Season Must Be Completed
2009	Aug. 10	Aug. 17	Aug. 20	Aug. 24	Week 9	Oct. 31
2010	Aug. 9	Aug. 16	Aug. 19	Aug. 23	Week 9	Oct. 30
2011	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 18	Aug. 22	Week 9	Oct. 29
2012	Aug. 6	Aug. 13	Aug. 16	Aug. 20	Week 9	Oct. 27
2013	Aug. 12	Aug. 19	Aug. 22	Aug. 26	Week 9	Nov. 2

23.9.3. The football season will end on Saturday of Week 17.

23.9.4. Not more than eight (8) interscholastic football games shall be played, with the exception of league playoff games in which one (1) game may be added for playoffs. There shall be a nine (9) game limit even if league playoff games are used, and the extra game would be limited to only two (2) teams in the league having the playoff. Leagues choosing to have the extra playoff game may participate in a 2 quarter Grid-O-Rama in place of a scrimmage game. This must be decided prior to the start of the season.

23.9.5. The total number of quarters for a student in one season is 32, exclusive of the playoff game in Rule 127-3-23.4.

23.9.6. A junior high school football team is allowed one preseason scrimmage under the following conditions:

- a. Scrimmage will not be played under game conditions.
- b. Scrimmage must be played prior to first game of regular season.

- c. Admission may be charged.
- d. Registered officials may be used.

23.9.7. Junior High/Middle School football teams may be permitted to play overtime periods in regular season games. Where conferences or counties are holding season ending championships, a tie breaking procedure shall be established if at the end of two overtime periods the score remains tied. A maximum of 2 overtime periods will be permitted in accordance with the National Federation Football Rules 20 yard line overtime procedure.

23.9.8. Junior High game ball: The football used involving only students in the eighth grade and below shall be the youth football. Games involving students of a combination seventh, eighth, and ninth graders may use the youth football by mutual agreement. Modification of the rule is listed in Rule 1-3-1, National Federation Football Rule Book.

23.9.9. Length of Quarters: The maximum length of quarters for ninth grade teams shall be 10 minutes. For teams composed of students below the ninth grade, the length of quarters shall be 8 minutes. For teams involving a combination seventh, eighth, and ninth graders shall be 10 minutes. If a team which includes ninth graders plays a team of only seventh and eighth graders the maximum length of quarter will be 8 minutes.

23.9.10. A ninth grade team in a high school program will follow the rules provided for junior high school.

§127-3-24. Golf (Boys and Girls).

24.1. Rules: Golf rules published by the United States Golf Association are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by WVSSAC modifications.

24.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 5 and the first contest may be played on any day after the first day of the season.

24.3. Length of Season: The golf season will end for each team or individual at tournament elimination.

24.4. Maximum Team Contests: A golf team will be permitted to play no more than 18 matches exclusive of regional and state tournament contests. Each interscholastic contest counts as one, whether it is 9 or 18 holes, and regardless of number of opponents.

24.5. Scrimmages: Not permitted.

24.6. A student may accept awards in WVSSAC sanctioned events and non-sanctioned events during the entire year. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule.

24.7. *Junior High Golf* - The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

24.7.1. Junior high teams are permitted to play no more than 14 matches.

24.7.2. There shall be one season for golf in junior high school, either fall or spring; however, the season selected shall be no longer than 10 weeks.

§127-3-25. Soccer (Boys and Girls).

25.1. Rules: Soccer rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modifications.

25.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 5 and the first contest may be played on Friday of Week 7.

25.3. Length of Season: The soccer season will end for each team by WVSSAC tournament elimination.

25.4. Maximum Team Contests: A soccer team will be permitted to play no more than 20 matches exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournaments.

25.4.1. The maximum number of halves for a student in one season will be 50, exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournaments.

25.4.2. A student shall not be permitted to participate in more than three halves during any one day. Any part of a half counts as one half. In an overtime game, the overtime shall be considered an extension of the second half

25.5. A high school soccer team is permitted to participate in a soccer-o-rama and one (1) preseason scrimmage or two (2) preseason scrimmages. See Glossary.

25.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

25.7. A student may not play or practice on a non-school soccer team while a member of the school team.

25.8. A student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events during the season of that sport. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule. Students may accept only this same type of award in non-sanctioned events outside the sport season.

25.9. *Junior High Schools* - The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

25.9.1. Junior high teams may play 14 matches including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

25.9.2. Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 6 and the first contest may be played on Monday of Week 10.

25.9.3. Junior high season will be completed by Saturday of Week 17.

25.9.4. The maximum number of halves for a student in one season will be 28.

25.9.5. Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage. See Glossary.

§127-3-26. Softball.

26.1. Rules: Softball rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided herein.

26.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 35 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 37.

26.3. Length of Season: The softball season will end for each team by WVSSAC tournament elimination.

26.4. Maximum Team Contests: A softball team will be permitted to play no more than 32 exclusive of sectional, regional and state contests.

26.5. Scrimmages: Two softball scrimmages with another high school may be conducted. See Glossary.

26.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

26.7. Student Participation:

26.7.1. A student may not play or practice on a non-school softball team while a member of the school team.

26.7.2. A student shall not participate in more than 32 games in one season, exclusive of sectional, regional and state tournament contests. Serving as a "courtesy or pinch runner" is not considered "participation" in a game.

26.8. A student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events during the season of that sport. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule. Students may accept only this same type of an award in non-sanctioned event outside the sport season.

26.9. *Junior High Schools* - The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

26.9.1. Junior high teams may play 18 games including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

26.9.2. Junior high season will be completed by Saturday of Week 45.

26.9.3. Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage. See Glossary.

§127-3-27. Swimming (Boys and Girls).

27.1. Rules: Swimming rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

27.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 17 and the first contest may be on Wednesday of Week 19.

27.3. Length of Season: The swimming season will end for each team or individual by WVSSAC tournament elimination.

27.4. Maximum Team Contests: A swimming team will be permitted 16 contests exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

27.5. Scrimmages: Two swimming scrimmages with another high school may be conducted. See Glossary.

27.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

27.7. A student may accept awards in WVSSAC sanctioned events and non sanctioned events during the entire year. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule.

27.8. The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

27.8.1. Junior high teams will be permitted 14 meets.

27.8.2. Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 18 and the first contest may be on Wednesday of Week 20.

27.8.3. Junior high season will be completed by Saturday of Week 31.

27.8.4. Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage. See Glossary.

§127-3-28. Tennis (Boys and Girls).

28.1. Rules: Tennis rules published by the United States Tennis Association are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

28.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 35 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 37.

28.3. Length of Season: The tennis season will end for each team or individual at tournament elimination.

28.4. Maximum Team Contests: A tennis team will be permitted 22 matches exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

28.4.1. Dual, triangular and quadrangular matches count as one. Matches in which five or more schools participate count as two.

28.5. Scrimmages: Two tennis scrimmages with another high school may be conducted. See Glossary.

28.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

28.7. A student may accept awards in WVSSAC sanctioned events or non sanctioned events during the entire year. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rules.

28.8. *Junior High Schools* - The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

28.8.1. Junior high teams may play 16 matches including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

28.8.2. Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage. See Glossary.

28.8.3. There shall be one season for tennis in junior high school, either fall or spring; however, the season selected shall be no longer than 12 weeks.

§127-3-29. Track and Field (Boys and Girls).

29.1. Rules: Track and Field rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

29.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 35 and the first contest may be on Wednesday of Week 37.

29.3. Length of Season: The track and field season will end for each team or individual by WVSSAC tournament elimination.

29.4. Maximum Team Contests: A track and field team will be permitted 16 meets exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

29.5. Participation Limitations: Maximum of 4 events per participant per meet.

29.6. Scrimmages: Not permitted.

29.7. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

29.8. A student may accept awards in WVSSAC sanctioned events and non-sanctioned events during the entire year. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule.

29.9. *Junior High Schools* - The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

29.9.1. Junior high teams will be permitted 14 meets and only 2 meets per week.

29.9.2. Junior high season will be completed by Thursday of Week 46.

29.9.3. Participation limitation: Junior high/middle school students, regardless of grade levels (6, 7, 8, or 9), may compete in a maximum of four events, of which only three may be running events including relays.

§127-3-30. Volleyball (Girls).

30.1. Rules: Volleyball rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

30.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 6 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 9.

30.3. Length of Season: The volleyball season will end for each team by WVSSAC tournament elimination.

127CSR3

30.4. Maximum Team Contest: A volleyball team will be permitted no more than 22 playing dates exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests.

30.4.1. Dual, triangular and quadrangular matches count as one date. Matches in which five or more schools participate count as two dates.

30.5. In dual competition, a student may participate in a maximum of three (3) games against the same opponent if a match is 2 of 3 games and five (5) games if the varsity match is 3 of 5 games.

30.6. Scrimmages: Two volleyball scrimmages with another high school may be conducted. See Glossary.

30.7. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

30.8. A student may not play or practice on a non-school volleyball team while a member of the school team.

30.9. A student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events during the season of that sport. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule. Students may accept only this same type of award in non-sanctioned events outside the sport season.

30.10. *Junior High Schools* - The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

30.10.1. Junior high teams will be permitted 16 playing dates.

30.10.2. Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 7 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 10.

30.10.3. Junior high season will be completed by Saturday of Week 17.

30.10.4. Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage. See Glossary.

§127-3-31. Wrestling (Boys).

31.1. Rules: Wrestling rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

31.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 20 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 22.

31.3. Length of Season: The wrestling season will end for each team or individual at tournament elimination.

31.4. Maximum Team Contest: A wrestling team will be permitted to have 18 matches exclusive of regional and state tournaments.

31.4.1. Dual, triangular and quadrangular matches count as one. Matches in which five or more schools participate count as two.

31.5. Scrimmages: Two wrestling scrimmages with another high school may be conducted. See

Glossary.

31.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 14 SEPARATE days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

31.7. A student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events during the season of that sport. These awards must be consistent with the items specified in the Awards Rule. Students may accept only this same type of award in non-sanctioned events outside the sport season.

31.8. *Junior High Schools* - The above will apply for junior high schools with the following adaptations:

31.8.1. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 19 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 22.

31.8.2. Junior high school teams may have 16 matches including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

31.8.3. Junior high teams are permitted one (1) scrimmage under the same conditions as a high school.

31.8.4. Junior high season will be completed by Saturday of Week 33.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ALL-STAR GAME - a contest where all contestants on each team are students selected from four or more school teams. No more than three students from any one school may participate on the same team.

COACH - county board/governing body contracted or approved facilitator of any secondary school athletic team.

COMMISSION - The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (WVSSAC).

CONTEST or GAME - one or more of the following conditions are present: previous agreement, advertisement, score and/or time kept, spectators present, regulation or modified rules used, coverage appearing in local media, sufficient number of students to form teams, admission charged, and/or contest officiated by registered officials.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - nonacademic activities such as interscholastic athletics, student government, class officers, marching band that is not a part of the curricular band, and clubs which are not closely related to identifiable programs/areas of study.

FACULTY MEMBER - one who has a full-time teacher permit as defined by the West Virginia Department of Education. (Policy 5202)

FEEDER SCHOOL - the middle or junior high school designated by the county board of education/governing body as the school of attendance prior to entrance into the high school.

FULL CREDIT COURSE - one-half credit for a semester or 4050 minutes as taken from the West Virginia Department of Education, "Graduation Requirements for West Virginia Public Schools: Adolescent Education (Grades 9-12) (Policy 2510)".

FULL TIME STUDENT - a student doing passing work in the equivalent of at least 20 periods per week. (Traditional Schedule - four subjects with full credit toward graduation; Block Schedule - two subjects with full credit toward graduation).

GRID-O-RAMA - See Preview and Scrimmage definitions.

MEMBER SCHOOL - a school that is a member of the WVSSAC.

PREVIEW - must be 3 or more teams; teams are only allowed to play the equivalent of one contest; all conditions of a scrimmage.

PRINCIPAL - the individual charged with supervision, management, and control of a secondary school.

SCRIMMAGE - after 7 days of practice; prior to the first contest; without keeping score in a book or on a score board; not under game conditions (examples include basketball and soccer - quarters; 3 outs-baseball and softball); admission may be charged; free substitution; time-outs permitted; if officials are used, they must be West Virginia registered officials.

SEMESTER - a block of instructional time that is equivalent to at least one-half of the school year. (Policy 2510)

SECONDARY SCHOOL - a high school, junior high school or middle school as registered with the West Virginia Department of Education.

STUDENT - a male or female participant in interscholastic athletics or band activities.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER - a person who has met the licensure requirements as specified by the West Virginia Board of Education and has been approved as a substitute teacher of that county board of education, private, or parochial school.

VARSIITY - primary representative team of a high school.

FISCAL NOTE FOR PROPOSED RULES

Rule Title: **W. Va. 127CSR2 and 3, Rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission**

Type of Rule: Legislative Interpretive Procedural

Agency: West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Address: 2875 Staunton Turnpike
 Parkersburg, West Virginia 26104

Phone Number: 304.485.5494

Email: gary.ray@wvssac.org

Fiscal Note Summary

Summarize in a clear and concise manner what impact this measure will have on costs and revenues of state government.

No state costs or revenues will be impacted by the proposed amendment of W. Va. 127CSR2 and 3, Rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission.

Fiscal Note Detail

Show over-all effect in Item 1 and 2 and, in Item 3, give an explanation of Breakdown by fiscal year, including long-range effect.

FISCAL YEAR			
Effect of Proposal	Current Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Next Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost	0	0	0
Personal Services	0	0	0
Current Expenses	0	0	0
Repairs & Alterations	0	0	0
Assets	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
2. Estimated Total Revenues	0	0	0

Rule Title: **West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Series 2 and 3**

Rule Title: **West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Series 2 and 3**

3. Explanation of above estimates (including long-range effect);

Please include any increase or decrease in fees in your estimated total revenues.

No state costs or revenues will be impacted by the proposed amendment of W. Va. 127CSR2 and 3, Rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission.

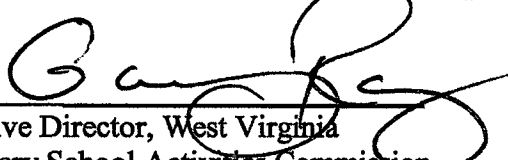
MEMORANDUM

Please identify any areas of vagueness, technical defects, reasons the proposed rule **would not** have a fiscal impact, and/or any special issues **not** captured elsewhere on this form.

No state costs or revenues will be impacted by the proposed amendment of W. Va. 127CSR2, and 3, Rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission. The amendments proposed will keep the WVSSAC current and updated on changes, trends and issues in the band and athletic programs. Proposed changes include: addresses criteria for middle and high schools seeking membership; updates vacancy procedure; clarifies enrollment and team membership with current middle/high school configuration; clarifies enrollment and team membership with current middle/high school configuration; consistency among all sports for participation; clarification of the residence and transfer rule; allow more flexibility in scheduling during the summer; decrease the size between the largest and smallest schools in each of the classes; increase number of weigh-in for junior high as was done for high school.

Signature of Agency Head or Authorized Representative

Date


Executive Director, West Virginia
Secondary School Activities Commission

April 8, 2009

WVSSAC Series 3 - Contests

COMMENT LOG

DATE	INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION	COMMENTS	ACTION/ TYPE	RATIONALE
		§127-3-10 Classification		
05-20	Edward Forshey edforshey@yahoo.com 609 Eastlawn Ave. Parkersburg WV 26101	<p>I know this has come up before, but it time to finally go to a 4 class system to even out the major difference between the highest enrollment and the lowest enrollment in both the current AAA and A classifications.</p> <p>The perfect cutoff numbers would be: A 0-250 AA 251-500 AAA 501-750 AAAA 751 and up</p> <p>and no I didn't select those numbers to help my own school cause my school, Parkersburg High, would be either the biggest or second from the top in any classifications.</p> <p>It finally time for a change to help the smaller schools out.</p>	+	<p>To decrease the disparity in student enrollment from the largest school to the smallest school in each of the respective classes. The addition of a new classification would afford more schools a more equitable opportunity to compete for playoff competition in football and boys/girls basketball.</p>
05-22	Jack Reger Director	Changing to a AAAA system will substantially increase travel cost for the AAAA schools. Most	-	

	<p>jireger@access.k12.wv.us Barvour County Schools 105 South Railroad St. Philippi WV 26416</p>	<p>importantly, the additional travel time will interfere with students' instructional minutes in the classroom.</p> <p>The system needs to remain AAA-AA-A in all sports.</p>		
<p>05-25</p>	<p>Bernie Dolan Principal bdolan@access.k12.wv.us Wheeling Park High School 1976 Park View Road Wheeling WV 26003</p>	<p>My support of this change surrounds 6 issues.</p> <p>1. Due to the number of players on the field at one time (11), the number of players on your team has a direct impact on your ability to field a full team as well as backups. For the most part, the size of your school has a direct relationship to the number of players on a team. Football is only played once a week because of the punishment that the body endures and the time needed to fully recover. Because athletes get hurt in football more often than any other sport, it is very important to have depth on the team. This is where teams begin to separate from others in the same class. The larger teams have the ability to replace athletes easier than smaller squads.</p> <p>Attrition plays a larger role in football than any other sport.</p> <p>2. State should separate schools into classes based on size not on the number of schools. Currently Ohio has 6 classifications in football only. PA has voted to go to 6 classes, a third and final vote will take place in the fall. In both cases the classes were increased to account for the difference within the class not the number of</p>	<p>+</p>	

schools in the class.

Ohio Classifications:

Enrollment range Difference

Division 1 1050 – 2437 1387

Division 2 730 – 1049 319

Division 3 514-729 215

Division 4 374 – 513 139

Division 5 262 – 373 111

Division 6 0-261 (unsure what the smallest school's enrollment)

PA new classifications have not been set yet.

**3. Will 4 classes water down the championship?
No. Is there much difference in 1st out of 36 and 1st out of 30. Not much difference.**

4. Do I have a vested interest? No, Wheeling Park will always be in the largest class.

5. Will this lead to a change in the playoff system? Probably. But that would be a good thing. Teams would not be punished for playing certain teams. You would benefit from a good schedule. In all other sports, your goal is to improve, to be ready at tournament time. No matter how bad a start you had. However, in football, a bad start usually means a lost season for the players.

6. Possible playoff changes.

A. Keep each class less than 32.

		<p>B. Regionalize football like ever other sport.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This would reduce travel and expenses. 2. Limit out of school time. 3. No overnight stays except for the state finals. <p>C. Eliminate the bye week.</p> <p>D. Everyone get an additional football game, without increase expenses too much, to help with declining revenues.</p> <p>E. The additional week of the playoffs and the elimination of the bye week will cancel out and the championships will be held the same weekend.</p>		
06-02	<p>Larry Shaw Head Wrestling Coach lshaw@access.k12.wv.us Oak Glen High School 195 Golden Bear Dr New Cumberland WV 26047</p>	<p>I am opposed to creating a 4th class for football (proposal #5). In a state as small as ours there is no need for a 4th class. The cost factor alone is enough to defeat this proposal. The football playoff system in WV is too big as it is. There should be fewer teams, playing at neutral sites, with less travel. It is my hope that this proposal is soundly defeated. Thanks for allowing me to comment.</p>	-	
06-08	<p>Ethel Riser Head Coach eriser@access.k12.wv.us Oak Glen High School Volleyball 195 Golden Bear Drive New Cumberland WV 26047</p>	<p>If you are looking at cutting costs to schools, why would you ever add another classification of school for football.</p>	-	
§127-3-19 4 Baseball				
05-22	<p>Tom T-Bone Baker Scout tbone_baker@yahoo.com Pittsburgh Pirates</p>	<p>A reduction of baseball games would result in a loss of exposure for the players thus limiting their chances to further their education while playing baseball in college. Scouts and college</p>	-	<p>To reduce lost instructional time and to relieve economic pressures including rising costs of transportation for parents and</p>

	<p>1021 2nd St. West Huntington WV 25701-3001</p>	<p>coaches only have a few opportunities to see a player during competition. Please don't reduce these. Same holds true for all the minor sports.</p>		<p>member schools.</p>
<p>05-26</p>	<p>Pete Iquinto Head Coach emiquinto@yahoo.com Liberty Harrison Baseball 789 Twin Oaks Drive Bridgeport WV 2633</p>	<p>I am against the proposed schedule change. Due to weather conditions this season, we only played around 18 regular season games due to 16 rain outs. We were only able to reschedule a few of the cancelled games. Allowing us to schedule 32 games is necessary to give the athletes the best chance at success as well as college coaches to see them in action. Higher education is obviously a common goal that all of us share. In a society where young people are gaining weight and pressured by their peers, the last thing we should do is deter more activity. Please give our young people the very best chance to achieve greatness. Thank You.</p>	-	
<p>05-26</p>	<p>Wesley Knight Remarketing Account Manager Enterprise Rent-a-Car 5501 Porsche Blvd North Charleston SC 29418</p>	<p>I think it is ridiculous to shorten an already short season. Schools have been playing a 30+ game schedule for years in WV. Many other states play even more games each season. I feel this is one major factor in why other states have more players move on to the next levels, i.e. college and pros. It would be a huge disservice to the student athlete to shorten the season. If anything, I would suggest the season be lengthened to give our student athletes a better chance to keep up with student athletes from other states.</p>	-	
<p>06-01</p>	<p>Bill Mehle billmehle@gmail.com 733 Garvin Avenue Charleston WV 25302</p>	<p>I coach high school varsity baseball at Charleston Catholic High School. From talking with area coaches, I have listed some reasons why many of us oppose a reduction in the</p>	-	

number of allowable games:

- Given the reality of inclement spring weather, most baseball teams are not able to play the currently allowed 32 game schedule.
- Reducing the games allowed to be scheduled will make it difficult to play even the proposed 28 games. Once a game is rained out it is difficult to find mutually open dates with the rained out opponent.
- Principals, as they see fit, already have the decision-making power to limit the number of games their teams may play, as well as whether or not student athletes may miss any class time for athletic contests.
- Some student athletes will have their schedules reduced, while basketball and football players will not.
- Baseball and softball are revenue-producing programs in some schools.
- A schedule reduction potentially limits the exposure of some student athletes competing for college scholarship opportunities.

I urge you to keep the allowable number of high school baseball contests at 32.

Sincerely,

		Bill Mehle		
06-02	Ron Ujcich Jr. Head Golf and Baseball Coach rujcich@access.k12.wv.us Brooke High School Golf and Baseball 1522 Main Street Wellsburg WV 26070	I don't believe that the number of contests should be shortened. Due to weather in the spring, we have difficulty completing 28 contests now when we are allowed to schedule 32. If schools are effected financially, then they do have the option of only scheduling 28. Please don't punish the group for the few that are effected.	-	
§127-3-19 9 1 Baseball				
05-22	Tom T-Bone Baker Scout tbone_baker@yahoo.com Pittsburgh Pirates 1021 2nd St. West Huntington WV 25701-3001	A reduction of baseball games would result in a loss of exposure for the players thus limiting their chances to further their education while playing baseball in college. Scouts and college coaches only have a few opportunities to see a player during competition. Please don't reduce these. Same holds true for all the minor sports.	-	
06-01	Bill Mehle billmehle@gmail.com 733 Garvin Avenue Charleston WV 25302	For many of the same reasons I note above in 127-3-19.4, I urge you to maintain the number of allowable middle school baseball contests at 18. Sincerely, Bill Mehle	-	
§127-3-19 Baseball				
05-22	Tom T-Bone Baker Scout tbone_baker@yahoo.com Pittsburgh Pirates 1021 2nd St. West Huntington WV 25701-3001	A reduction of baseball games would result in a loss of exposure for the players thus limiting their chances to further their education while playing baseball in college. Scouts and college coaches only have a few opportunities to see a player during competition. Please don't reduce	-	

		these. Same holds true for all the minor sports.		
§127-3-20 Basketball (Boys and Girls)				
06-01	Glenda Lipsmeyer glendalipsmeyer@yahoo.com 484 Lincolnshire Mineral Wells WV 26150	Why not shorten this season also. Many games are in the middle of the week and students get home late. Also, why do schools have to play another team more than once? It doesn't happen in football. This change alone would shorten the season and expenses.	-	Provides an extra week to schedule games due to weather and the post season tournament structure.
§127-3-23 Football				
06-08	Ethel Riser Head Coach eriser@access.k12.wv.us Oak Glen High School Volleyball 195 Golden Bear Drive New Cumberland WV 26047	Why aren't the number of football games cut?	-	
§127-3-24 4 Golf (Boys and Girls)				
06-02	Ron Ujcich Jr. Head Golf and Baseball Coach rujcich@access.k12.wv.us Brooke High School Golf and Baseball 1522 Main Street Wellsburg WV 26070	It is difficult enough to get enough contests in now allowing the student athletes enough competition to prepare for the regionals and state tournaments, but to take away two contests would be unfair. Golf is not a sport that costs Athletic Department much money at all, so why cut much needed contests away from them.	-	
§127-3-26 Softball				
05-21	Kirk Aguirre Business Director kirk.aguirre@suddenlink.net BrickStreet Insurance 176 Nighbert Ave Logan WV 25601	I, as an active parent of two young ladies that play softball for Logan High School, completely disagree with this proposal. These girls work very hard through the scheduled season of 32 games and in the summer on a team I coach to compete a full season. The removal of more than	-	

10% of their games would be unfair to them. The experiences they gain from competition will better prepare them for the difficulties they will face in life. The inconvenience is minimal, the time away from class is minimal and the scheduling decision should be left to the school administration. Logan softball will periodically play teams in other states and participate in tournaments on Spring Break. This is often their first opportunity to experience other parts of the country and see how we as West Virginians, measure up in a greater pool of competition. This proposal seems punitive to the smaller sports. For the proposal to be fair, and to demonstrate a consistency to all sports, include all sports and reduce football and basketball by the same percentage. Those sports (football and basketball) require more time away from school and are more costly to travel. My daughters also cheer varsity for those sports as well. Please do not approve this proposal and punish the minor sports and the participants. Do not eliminate the opportunities for scholarship and exposure. Thank You.

Softball games are generally rained out. Therefore, we only get in about 65% of the scheduled games. This means we usually play under the 28 games as suggested, but if we don't schedule the maximum in the beginning the players will play even less. It is very hard to to schedule make-ups with other teams. I would much rather have the games scheduled upfront!

Michelle McHaffie
Softball Coach/Teacher
mmchaffi@access.k12.wv.us
Oak Glen High School
509 Florida Ave
Chester wv 26034

05-25

§127-3-28 Tennis (Boys and Girls)

06-11	<p>Rick Brown Parent rwbrown@access.k12.wv.us 897 Ross Road New Cumberland WV 26047</p>	<p>I do not like the proposed cuts in the number of events. I feel each school or county should be able to decide how many events can be scheduled. I also believe athletics are an important part of the educational process. Outdoor sports have difficulty competing in the total number of events allowed because of the weather. This proposal would hurt the students.</p>	-	
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§127-3-30 10 1 Volleyball (Girls)

05-25	<p>Michelle McHaffie Softball Coach/Teacher mmchaffi@access.k12.wv.us Oak Glen High School 509 Florida Ave Chester wv 26034</p>	<p>The maximum of 16 games hinders the teams that would like to participate in tournaments and their own conference. My players want the opportunity to play in tournaments, but because we a locked into a conference they do not get this opportunity. I am pleading that you please don't change the middle school contests to less!</p>	-	
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§127-3-30 4 Volleyball (Girls)

06-04	<p>Vince Stricker Head Volleyball Coach strickvj@dow.com Charleston Catholic High School 2027 Weberwood Drive Chalreston WV 25303</p>	<p>I oppose Proposal 127-3-30.4 for several reasons: 1) As a head volleyball coach, reducing the allowable scheduling dates, will make it more difficult for me to schedule local teams, and thus result in more travel. Most schools in my area are larger Class AAA schools, and many have conference scheduling requirements, and some prefer to play in weekend tournaments. That leaves them very few open dates for me to schedule them. As a Class A team, I am finding it hard to schedule local teams. A reduction in</p>	-	
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		<p>scheduling dates would make this even more difficult for me.</p> <p>2) Volleyball can be a revenue producing sport. For our week day matches, our gate plus concessions, exceed our cost for officials. We host two tournaments, where we charge an entry fee for teams to cover official costs. These are very big money makers for us. The other costs associated with volleyball, such as coaches' salaries, equipment costs, facility costs, etc. are a fixed cost, and is not reduced by reducing the schedule. Only the proceeds are reduced.</p> <p>3) My biggest issue, is that this proposal is not fair. The volleyball schedule would be reduced, but not football or basketball. It is a gender equity issue with volleyball, where this sport is only played by females, where an all male sport such as football is not reduced.</p> <p>Sincerely, Vince Stricker Head Volleyball Coach Charleston Catholic High School</p>		
§127-3-30 Volleyball (Girls)				
06-08	Ethel Riser Head Coach eriser@access.k12.wv.us Oak Glen High School Volleyball 195 Golden Bear Drive New Cumberland WV 26047	I would be opposed to any date cuts in the volleyball programs. Why take something that is working and cut away at it? If any cuts are made, they should be made across the board in ALL sports, not just a few.	-	

§127-3-31 4 Wrestling (Boys)

<p>05-21</p>	<p>Terry Sands Head Wrestling Coach/ Teacher tsands@access.k12.wv.us Magnolia Wrestling New Martinsville School 20 East Benjamin Drive New Martinsville WV 26155</p>	<p>I am adamantly opposed to reducing the season length in wrestling. First of all it is not treating all athletes equally. Second it will deal a blow to our funding. We rely on sales of concessions etc. to pay for things that our school will not (including our coach). All wrestling tournaments hosted by schools will suffer a loss of competitors. Since all teams must reduce their points from 18 to 16 individual tournaments will have to be affected. It's ironic that in an effort to save the school money we will be losing money as our source of revenue declines. Our tournament is our main fundraiser. If this goes through I am sure we will lose teams and possibly have to cancel.</p>	<p>-</p>	
<p>05-21</p>	<p>Mike Hennessey Teacher/Coach mhennes@access.k12.wv.us Nicholas County High School 30 Grizzly Rd Summersville WV 26651</p>	<p>Concerning the cutting of weigh-ins for wrestling... This idea causes many problems and hampers many schools in their scheduling and in the student's participation in the sport. The number of weigh-ins must stay at 18 (if not raised). The sport is now encouraging more dual meets to be scheduled between teams. These count as a whole weigh-in although the wrestlers will only get one match. This is the same as if a tri or quad is held where a wrestler would get up to 3 matches for a weigh-in. Already, many schools do not compete in all 18</p>	<p>-</p>	

		<p>weigh-ins as it is due to snow days and cancellations. If 18 weigh-ins are scheduled, often, only 14-16 may be participated in. In wrestling, more than any other sport, it is very difficult to "reschedule" weigh-ins due to the number of teams involved in a single contest. If the number allowed to be scheduled is decreased to 16, the actual number of weigh-ins teams get to compete in may be only 12-14.</p> <p>If funding is a problem with 18 weigh-ins, the individual schools should have the responsibility of monitoring and regulating the team's travel. If the individual schools feel that 18 weigh-ins are too much, then the coach and AD need to control the scheduling. Don't try to solve a problem by creating more and restricting the ability to prepare students for competition.</p>		
05-22	<p>Kristal Culloden WV 25510</p>	<p>To whom it may concern: My son has wrestled since he was 3 and he will be in the 11th grade in the fall. As a parent i feel it is unfair to cut certain sports when at our school the school does not pay for any transportation. And has not since my son has wrestled. the parents volunteer to take our boys to meets and as for missing school they only had two days they were dismissed from class due to wrestling. I feel as a parent they should have the right to participate. As all students who plays sports has to maintain at least a 2.0 gpa. They would not be able to participate if not.</p>	-	
05-30	Darl Roberts	Please don't change the number of event form 18	-	

	<p>darl.roberts@comcast.net Fan 231 Stewart Run Rd. Chester WV 26034</p>	to 16		
05-31	<p>Andi Paolo school counselor paoloandi@yahoo.com Oak Glen High School 147 Patterson Road Weirton WV 26062</p>	<p>Reducing the season from 18 to 16 matches is definitely not going to increase instructional time nor is it going to relieve economic pressure for parents. I would like to know where this information came from and were parents/guardians, faculties, staffs polled in order to support these statements. Once again it is all about football and basketball. By enacting this policy, the Board is denying the rights of other students to participate fully in their chosen sport, the ability to obtain financial relief (scholarships)for college, and the right of each local school board to determine its own destiny. These decisions should be made locally, not by the WVSSAC. If you want to relieve economic pressure, be active in bringing employment opportunities to WV. If you want to increase instructional time, discontinue ISE days and impart to parents the importance of school attendance.</p>		
§127-3-31 8 2 Wrestling (Boys)				
05-30	<p>Darl Roberts darl.roberts@comcast.net Fan 231 Stewart Run Rd. Chester WV 26034</p>	Please don't change the number of event for the middle school/jr.high		
§127-3-31 Wrestling (Boys)				

I feel that it is very important for the athletes to be involved in sports for as long as possible. Shortening the seasons for all sports would be doing a great injustice to the students that participate in these sports. There are numerous students involved in these sports that would be engaging in other risky activities while out of sports, and by shortening the seasons it would be more likely that these students will get involved in activities that they would not usually be a part of because of their involvement in sports. It will also affect some students ability to participate in sports following their high school career. It is important that colleges see the students that have the ability to compete at the next level, and by shortening the seasons some students may not get the exposure they need to further their careers in sports. Some people may feel that this is not important, but for a person like me it is very significant. If it was not for sports I would not be in the situation that i am in today. I was a student that was not going to college without sports, because my parents were not financially able to send me to school. In our current economic state I feel that there are numerous students out there that are in the same situation that i was in just seven years ago. If the seasons are shortened some colleges may not look at these athletes, or could simply forget about athletes that have a shorter season than that of other organizations. These are just two concerns of many that i have about this new decision to shorten the sports season.

Derrick J. Stuckles
Teacher/Coach
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Oak Glen High School Football/Wrestling
294 north gate manor road
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<p>05-21</p>	<p>Fred Miller parent fred.miller@nndsonline.org Oak Glen High School 193 Dome Dr, New Cumberland WV 26047</p>	<p>As a former high school wrestler and the father of a WV state champion wrestler, I am distressed that the state would consider a reduction in the number of matches a high school or middle school team would be allowed to wrestle. I see no rationale provided to explain this proposal. It would limit opportunities for our wrestlers. Many schools in West Virginia are situated on state borders and wrestle against schools from other states. Our school gains valuable experience by wrestling teams from Ohio and Pennsylvania. I have not heard of any proposal that these states reduce their number of matches. Please do not implement a shorter season for wrestling - or for the other sports, for that matter.</p>	<p>-</p>	
<p>05-22</p>	<p>Ted Zervos Head Wrestling Coach tzervos@access.k12.wv.us John Marshall High School Ted Zervos 1300 Wheeling Ave. Glen Dale WV 26041</p>	<p>I am the head wrestling coach at John Marshall High School. Our wrestling schedule is dictated by Regional and Conference matches. By eliminating two weigh-ins, we lose the flexibility to schedule teams outside of the area that allow our wrestlers to see the caliber of wrestling that they would be competing against at the college level. Our schedule is also set up to be fan friendly with several dual matches. This does not keep the fans or athletes locked in a gym from sun-up to sun-down, or out of the classroom. By eliminating weigh-ins, these duals would be the first matches cut from our schedule. If time out of the classroom is a complaint that is being used in the reduction of weigh-ins, then I suggest rewarding teams for</p>	<p>-</p>	

		<p>scheduling more dual meets. A final thought, the Principal and AD have the power to approve the schedule. Allow them to make the final decision instead of making it a mandate.</p>		
06-01	<p>Wayne Yonkelowitz Science Teacher/Wrestling Coach wyonkelo@access.k12.wv.us Fayetteville High 515 W. Maple Ave Fayetteville WV 25840</p>	<p>This proposal was made by school administrators to save money, then ALL sports should be cut back 2 games!! Why should minor sports be penalized alone???? Also cutting back 2 games will have no effect on lost of instructional time (instructional time is also lost during football and basketball seasons). I receive NO money from my county or school and must raise money by having fund raisers and by having a couple of home matches. Removing 2 matches from the schedule would mean that I WOULD NOT have any home matches. You need to remember that in wrestling we use 2 weigh-ins for matches/tournaments with more than 4 teams, which would lower my season to 8 matches!!! We need to attend tournaments to expose my wrestlers to as many top wrestlers as possible to make them better wrestlers. Cutting back 2 matches will not save the school boards or schools that much money to make a difference and if you cut minor sports than Football and Basketball should be cut also (they cost more money to operate, so they should be cut more games).</p>		
06-02	<p>Larry Shaw Head Wrestling Coach lshaw@access.k12.wv.us Oak Glen High School</p>	<p>My comments are in opposition to proposal #7. It is absolutely ridiculous to consider expanding the number of football classes and then turn around and cut every other sport. In fact the</p>		

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proposal to allow basketball teams to start playing games a week earlier is just a reaction to the fact that they are now allowed to play 22 games instead of the traditional 20 which they have found out is too many for the length of that season. More to the point of my opposition of proposal #7 are the following 5 reasons. 1) Kids need extra curricular activities more than ever. Athletic participation should be encouraged and rewarded. This falls in line with the Healthy Schools initiative adopted by the state board of education. 2) Schools do not have to schedule the maximum number of contests allowed by the SSAC. The number of events a school schedules should be left to the discretion of each school and what that school can do for that sport. 3) Title 9 should be a concern with all the girls sports being cut (except basketball) and no cuts being made in football. 4) The economic impact could be felt in communities all across the state. With 10% fewer events there will be fewer overnight stays, meals eaten, stores shopped in, and less gas purchased. 5) In most counties in the state the tax payers have approved excess levies that provide money to the schools to assist with extra curricular activities. All activities not just football or basketball. It is my hope that proposal #7 is soundly defeated by the state school board. Thanks for allowing me to comment.

MARCIA WALLS
MWALLS@ELCH.ORG
24 WILLOW STREET

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY STRONG DISMAY FOR THE LEGISLATION THAT IS BEING PROPOSED THAT WILL PUNISH

06-02

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	CHESTER WV 26034	<p>THE WRESTLERS WHILE OTHER SPORTS ARE PERMITTED TO MAINTAIN THEIR NORMAL SCHEDULES. PLEASE CONSIDER THIS AS YOU MOVE FORWARD WITH YOUR DECISION. THANK YOU</p>		
06-02	<p>ROB WALLS ROB.WALLS@COMCAST.NET 24 WILLOW ST CHESTER WV 26034</p>	<p>Please consider the students as well as those who have put so much effort into building their programs throughout the years. This piece of legislation discriminates against certain sports. I feel that it should not pass. Thank you</p>	-	
06-07	<p>Mark Geary Community Volunteer mgeary@frontiernet.net 106 North Main St. Petersburg WV 26847</p>	<p>Wrestling season spans the core of the winter and most teams lose weigh-ins due to weather related cancellations. The current arrangement provides for enough events to cover cancellations. Reducing by 2 weigh-ins will shift some of the teams focus from smaller events to larger tournaments, creating longer travel times, more over night motel requirements, more food expense, entry fee costs, all probably having a net higher cost than local one day events.</p>	-	
06-11	<p>Rick Brown Parent rwbrown@access.k12.wv.us 897 Ross Road New Cumberland WV 26047</p>	<p>I do not like the proposed cuts in the number of events. I feel each school or county should be able to decide how many events can be scheduled. I also believe athletics are an important part of the educational process.</p>	-	