

WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

JOE MANCHIN, III

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

Form #5

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2002 JUN -7 P 3:47

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: West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission TITLE NUMBER: 127

CITE AUTHORITY: W.Va. Constitution, Article XII, §2, 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 ___

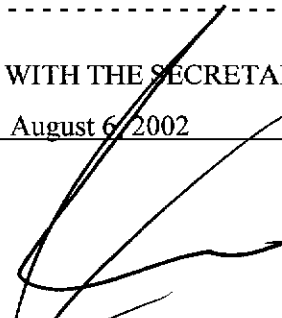
IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: 3

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 August 6, 2002



William J. Luff, Jr.
Deputy State Superintendent of Schools

SCANNED

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION RULES

Comment period ends: June 3, 2002.

Background: These amendments are required to keep the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission current with regard to changes, trends and issues in the band and athletic programs.

Recommendations: It is the Department's recommendation that all proposals be approved with the exception of the following:

- Proposal One - This proposed amendment would change the boundaries of districts from five to eight.
- Proposal Sixteen - This proposed amendment would allow a coach to receive a lifetime pass with twenty years of coaching.
- Proposal Twenty-three - This proposed amendment would require three classifications in all sports.

Minor editorial revisions such as formatting - to be compliant with the Secretary of State's office, and gender preference - SSAC preference, were made.

PROPOSAL 1

Amend §127-1-5 Administration (pg. 2) as follows:

5.4 The Board of Control of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission shall delegate and assign to the Board of Appeals Directors, hereinafter constituted, the ~~power and authority to define, devise and/or create five (5) eight (8)~~ administrative districts in the State of West Virginia:

(a) Effective July 1, ~~1974~~ 2002, and until such time as it is necessary to change the boundaries of such districts, the ~~five (5) eight (8)~~ administrative districts shall be as follows:

- (1) First District: ~~Brooke, Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Hancock, Harrison, Marion, Marshall, Ohio, Taylor, Tyler and Wetzel. Mercer, Monroe, McDowell, Raleigh, Summers, Wyoming.~~
- (2) Second District: ~~Barbour, Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Monongalia, Morgan, Pendleton, Preston, Randolph, Tucker, and Upshur. Cabell, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Wayne.~~
- (3) Third District: ~~Boone, Braxton, Clay, Kanawha, Lewis, Nicholas, Putnam and Roane. Boone, Clay, Kanawha, Putnam~~
- (4) Fourth District: ~~Cabell, Jackson, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Pleasants, Ritchie, Wayne, Wirt and Wood. Braxton, Fayette, Greenbrier, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Webster.~~
- (5) Fifth District: ~~Fayette, Greenbrier, Mercer, Mingo, McDowell, Monroe, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Summers, Webster and Wyoming. Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wirt, Wood.~~
- (6) Sixth District: Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, Wetzel.
- (7) Seventh District: Barbour, Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker, Upshur.
- (8) Eighth District: Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, Pendleton.

PROPOSAL 2

Amend 127-1-5 Administration (pg. 2) as follows:

5.4(b) Any change in the boundaries of said administrative districts adopted by the Board of Appeals Directors shall be submitted for approval to the Board of Control at the annual meeting. ~~Such adopted change may be remanded to the Board of Appeals for further study and action only by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Board of Control present and voting at the annual meeting. If the adopted change in boundaries is not remanded for further study and action, it shall be considered approved. Said change requires two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present and voting at the annual Board of Control meeting.~~

PROPOSAL 3

Amend 127-1-6 Officers and Duties (pg. 3) as follows:

6(d) An elected officer-member shall be eligible to serve two (2) regular five (5) year terms in succession. Upon completion of the two successive terms, a former officer-member shall not be appointed to nor elected to fill a vacancy of an unexpired term during the five (5) year period immediately following the expiration of his regular term. ~~An alternate officer member who serves more than one (1) year of an officer member's unexpired term shall be eligible to be elected to the next succeeding regular five (5) year term. Serving more than one half of an unexpired five (5) year term shall constitute one of the two permitted successive terms.~~

PROPOSAL 4

Amend 127-1-8 Board of Appeals as follows:

§127-1-8 Board of Appeals. Directors.

PROPOSAL 5

Amend 127-1-11 Executive Secretary (pg. 6) as follows:

§127-1-11 Executive Secretary. Director.

PROPOSAL 6

Amend 127-1-11 Executive Secretary (pg. 6) as follows:

11.3 The Executive Secretary Director shall serve during at the will and pleasure of the Board of Appeals but shall not be removed during his/~~her~~ the term of office contract period except for just and reasonable cause. ~~Inefficiency, failure to carry out duties hereinafter set forth shall be deemed sufficient cause for removal of the Executive Secretary. Reasonable cause may include, but not be limited to the following: immorality, incompetency, cruelty, insubordination, intemperance, willful neglect of duty, unsatisfactory performance, the conviction of a felony or a guilty plea or a plea of nolo contendere to a felony charge.~~

PROPOSAL 7

Amend 127-1-12 Duties of the Executive-Secretary-Director (pg. 6) as follows:

- 12.1(b) Based on employee evaluations and/or employee performance, the Executive Director shall make the appropriate recommendation of the employment status of all other employees.

PROPOSAL 8

Amend 127-2-3 Enrollment and Team Membership (pg. 9) as follows:

- 3.2(e) students at a junior high or middle feeder school who are not provided the opportunity to participate because of age may move up to their high school if granted permission by the county board of education or governing body of a private/parochial school and the school principals involved.

PROPOSAL 9

Amend 127-2-3 Enrollment and Team Membership (pg. 10) as follows:

- 3.5 Students enrolled in the ninth grade of a four, five or six year high school may participate on the high school team. Also, ninth graders of a feeder school may participate on their high school team if granted permission by the county or governing body of a private/parochial board of education and the school principals involved. However, once a student becomes a member of that team said student will be ineligible for the junior high team in that sport.

- 3.2(d) Students enrolled in the ninth grade of a four, five or six year high school may participate on the high school team. Also, ninth graders of a feeder school may participate on their high school team and sixth grade students of a K-6 elementary feeder school may participate on their junior high team if granted permission by the county board of education or governing body of a private/parochial school and the school principals involved. Once a ninth grade student becomes a member of the high school team said student will be ineligible for the junior high team in that sport.

PROPOSAL 10

Amend 127-2-5 Semester and Season (pg. 10) as follows:

- 5.9g(c) The Board may also assess appropriate penalties to the student athlete or to the school if said Board determines through its investigation that said student athlete or said school did try to evade the rule by subterfuge. In no event may a student be allowed to participate in more than four (4) seasons in any one sport in grades 9-12.

PROPOSAL 11

Amend 127-2-6 Scholarship (pg. 11) as follows:

- 6.1(a) Two of those four full credit subjects must be in English Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics or Science and may or may not be in the same area. A semester course that constitutes 8100 minutes of instruction (block schedule) will count as two subjects.

PROPOSAL 12

Amend 127-2-6 Scholarship (pg. 11) as follows:

- 6.1(b) If a student has completed all state, county and school requirements for graduating, he or she The student may select four full credits from any area of the curriculum offered by the school.

PROPOSAL 13

Amend 127-2-7 Residence-Transfer (pg. 11) as follows:

- 7.14 g(f) Nine months at the new residence will be required to make it a bona fide move. If a family moves into a new school zone and remains there for less than nine months, the move will not be considered bona fide and the family's child who is enrolled and participating in athletics in the new school zone becomes ineligible there the day the family leaves the new school zone.

PROPOSAL 14

Amend 127-2-7 Residence-Transfer (pg. 11) as follows:

- 7.221Z (a) If there has been a divorce in a family and sole custody has been awarded by the court granting the divorce to one of the parents, the athletic eligibility of the student will be established at the school that serves the area where that parent resides. The eligibility of a student whose parents are divorced or legally separated by court decree is determined by establishing initial residency with one parent.

PROPOSAL 15

Amend 127-2-7 Residence-Transfer (pg. 11) as follows:

- 7.2217 (b) ~~If joint custody has been awarded, the student will be eligible in the zone where either parent resides.~~ After establishing initial residency with one parent, all subsequent transfers will require a period of ineligibility for the remainder of that school year unless a change of residency is decreed by the court.

PROPOSAL 16

Amend 127-3-6 Coaches (pg. 16) as follows:

- 6.86 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.

PROPOSAL 17

Amend 127-3-7 Camps/Out-of-Season Coaching (pg. 18) as follows:

- 7.1 ~~School organized out-of-season practice or school organized summer camps shall not be permitted.~~ 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.

PROPOSAL 18

Amend 127-3-7 Camps/Out-of-Season coaching (pg. 18) as follows:

- 7.2 A coach or ~~surrogate principal designee of each sport or activity~~ may not be present as an observer, lecture participant, staff member, or in any capacity at any summer camp ~~where the number of his athletes (students who would be under his supervision the next season in that sport) exceeds fifty percent of the number of persons designated as the starting line up or cheerleading squad (i.e. basketball two or less; football five or less; wrestling seven or less; baseball four or less; etc.)~~ Nor may a school or related organization ~~be involved in fund raising projects to subsidize student attendance at or in camps during Weeks 50, 51, and 52 of the National Federation Standardized Calendar.~~

PROPOSAL 19

Amend 127-3-8 Forfeit and Restitution (pg. 19) as follows:

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

PROPOSAL 20

Amend 127-3-9 Game Officials (Does Not Apply to Cheerleaders) (pg. 19) as follows:

- 9.3 ~~The visiting school is responsible for selection of game officials to the extent that selection is made possible by mutual agreement. The initiative is placed upon the host school by the rules. However, if names are not submitted in accordance with the rules, the visiting school should take steps to secure agreement upon satisfactory officials. 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.~~

PROPOSAL 21

Amend 127-3-10 Classifications (pg. 20) as follows:

- 10.1 ~~Classification of member high schools shall be determined every two years on the even number years. Such classification shall be based on the enrollment of grades 10-11-12 at the end of the second month of the odd numbered year preceding the reclassification. Such classification shall remain in effect for a two period.~~ 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.

PROPOSAL 22

Amend 127-3-10 Classification (pg. 20) as follows:

- 10.2 ~~Each member high school shall be classified as either AAA, AA, or A based on the enrollment figures as described in subsection 10.1 above.~~
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 State 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.

PROPOSAL 23

Amend 127-3-10 Classification (pg. 20) as follows:

- 10.4 The Board of Appeals may shall 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.

PROPOSAL 24

Amend 127-3-12 Legal Opponents (pg. 21) as follows:

- 12.1 ~~Member schools of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission shall not participate in any interscholastic athletic contest, meet or tournament with any West Virginia public or parochial secondary school which is not a member of this Commission.~~

PROPOSAL 25

Amend 127-3-12 Legal Opponents (pg. 21) as follows:

- 12.4-3 ~~Member schools of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission shall not participate in any interscholastic contest or practice against non-school teams or in any interscholastic contest or practice which involves alumni participants, with the exception of that provision provided for member high schools against that school's alumni team in basketball, softball, and volleyball.~~

PROPOSAL 26

Amend 127-3-16 Sports Rules - Game Protests (pg. 22) as follows:

- ~~16.3~~ 15.3 The protest of a game contest or ejection will not be allowed, by the Board of Appeals when it is based on judgement decision on the part of an official or even a misinterpretation or misapplication of the rules. Accordingly, the Board of Appeals is not authorized to order contests to be replayed or ejections to be reconsidered.

PROPOSAL 27

Amend 127-3-16 Sports Rules - Game Protests (pg. 22) as follows:

- ~~16.4~~ As the rules of this Commission do not give the Board of Appeals authority to order games replayed, protests arising from decisions of officials will not be considered.

PROPOSAL 28

Amend 127-3-18 State Championships (pg. 22) as follows:

- ~~17.2~~ 17.2 The Board of Appeals may shall divide the state into sections and regions for the purpose of determining championships in the sports sponsored by this Commission. The Board of Appeals shall have charge of directing and making necessary arrangements for tournaments, meets and contests leading to and including state championships. ~~The principals of involved schools will be consulted and given the opportunity to participate in the alignment of schools for sectional and regional tournaments. 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 Appeals. 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.~~

PROPOSAL 29

Amend 127-3-23 Cross Country (Boys and Girls) (pg. 25) as follows:

- ~~23.2~~ 22.2 ~~Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 7 and the first meet may be held on Wednesday of Week 9.~~ Organized team practice will begin on Monday Week 5 and first meet may be held on Wednesday of Week 7.

PROPOSAL 30

Amend 127-3-23 Cross Country (Boys and Girls) (pg. 25) as follows:

~~2322.4~~ Maximum Team Contests: ~~No limit. A cross country team will be permitted 16 meets exclusive of regional and state contests.~~

PROPOSAL 31

Amend 127-3-24 Football (pg. 26) as follows:

~~2423.9(g)~~ Junior High/Middle School football teams may be permitted to play overtime periods in ~~County or League Playoffs or when advancement to finals must be determined during county or League Championship Playoffs 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.

PROPOSAL 32

Amend 127-3-25 Golf (Boys and Girls) (pg. 27) as follows:

~~2524.2~~ Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week ~~7~~ 5 and the first contest may be played on any day after the opening of practice ~~the first day of the season.~~

PROPOSAL 33

Amend 127-3-26 Soccer (Boys and Girls) (pg. 27) as follows:

~~2625.4~~ Maximum Team Contests: A soccer team will be permitted to play no more than ~~49~~ 20 matches if participating in a conference tournament; otherwise the regular season will be 49 matches exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournaments. ~~The conference tournament is to count as one (1) match.~~

PROPOSAL 34

Amend 127-3-27 Softball (pg. 28) as follows:

~~2726.4~~ Maximum Team Contests: A softball team will be permitted to play no more than 31 games if participating in a conference tournament or a tournament with a minimum of four participating teams; otherwise, the regular season will be 30 games exclusive of sectional, regional and state contests. ~~The conference tournament is to count as one (1) game.~~

PROPOSAL 35

Amend 127-3-31 Volleyball (Girls) (pg. 30) as follows:

~~3430.4~~ Maximum Team Contest: A volleyball team will be permitted to play in no more than 23 matches if participating in a conference tournament; otherwise the regular season will be 22 matches exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests. ~~The conference tournament is to count as one (1) match.~~

PROPOSAL 36

Amend 127-3-32 Wrestling (pg. 31) as follows:

~~3231.4~~ Maximum Team Contest: A wrestling team will be permitted to have ~~46~~ 18 matches exclusive of one ~~(1)~~ conference or county tournament, regional and state tournaments.

PROPOSAL 37

Amend 127-4-3 Code for Interscholastic Athletics (pg. 35) as follows:

3.87(d) In case of spectators physically molesting an official, administrator, coach, or player student, the school may be given one of two options: 1) take action file charges against the offender (s) or 2) accept discipline from the WVSSAC. Any person found guilty of WV State Law 61-2-15a Assault, Battery on Athletic Officials while these individuals are working or as a result of working an athletic contest shall be banned from all WVSSAC athletic events for a minimum of 365 days from the date of being found guilty. The school filing charges shall notify the WVSSAC of the incident and outcome of any legal action.

127CSR3

FILED

TITLE 127

LEGISLATIVE RULE

WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION

2002 JUN -7 P 3:47

SERIES 3

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

PROVISIONS GOVERNING CONTESTS

§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 - June 7, 2002.
- 1.4. Effective Date - August 6, 2002.

§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.

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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 and assistant principal of each member school shall be allowed admittance to any WVSSAC event. 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.

§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.

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§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 6.5 of this rule.

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6.2. A member of a faculty shall be considered one who is a full-time teacher as defined by the West Virginia Department of Education. A member of a faculty in one school may coach in another school provided that it meets with the approval of the said county board of education or two different county boards of education.

6.3. 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.

6.4. 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.

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

6.5.1. 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.

6.5.2. The coach has successfully completed approved training: NFHS Sport Science and Sport First Aid (12 hours of instruction and test) and has received West Virginia Department of Education Authorization.

6.5.3. 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.

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

6.6. 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.

6.7. 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.

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§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 coaching assignment except during those dates specified as the season for that specific sport or as designated in Rules 7.2 and 7.3.

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.

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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 coaching assignment except as specified in §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.

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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. 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. 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 be forfeited. The team standing in the final standing will be adjusted, and the team awards and the ineligible student's awards shall be returned.

8.3. 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.

8.4. 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.

8.5. 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.

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

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

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

§127-3-9. Game Officials (Does Not Apply to Cheerleaders).

9.1. All officials used in interscholastic games and contests in West Virginia must be registered with the WVSSAC, except in case of emergency Section 9.4 may be invoked. A game

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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.

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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

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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 including signatures and the mailing of said certificate to the Executive Director. Certificates are to be mailed to scheduled opponents only upon written request from said opponents.

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. Additions are to be mailed to scheduled opponents only upon written request from said opponents.

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 certificate to the WVSSAC prior to the first contest shall render the offending school liable to a fine of \$25.00 payable to the WVSSAC. Postmarked envelopes will be used to determine violators.

§127-3-12. Legal Opponents.

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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

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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 competition involving two (2) or more schools which is co-sponsored by 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

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through the NFHS office interstate competition by a member school involving either:

a. Eight (8) or more 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

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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 31 games if participating in a tournament with a minimum of four participating teams; otherwise, the regular season will be 30 games exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournament contests. The tournament is to count as one (1) game.

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

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 23 and Tuesday of Week 24 for boys.

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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 19 and boys on Monday of Week 20. The first contest for girls will 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.

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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.

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

21.3. Length of Season: The high school cheerleading 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 cheerleading season will end on the last day of the

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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 Wednesday 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 on the Friday of Week 8.

23.2.1. The Board of Directors, upon written request, may grant permission for a football team to play its first game one day earlier if the playing field is used by more than one high school.

23.2.2. 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.

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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
2002	Aug. 5	Aug. 9	Aug. 13	Aug. 17	Aug. 30	Nov. 9
2003	Aug. 4	Aug. 8	Aug. 12	Aug. 16	Aug. 29	Nov. 8
2004	Aug. 2	Aug. 6	Aug. 10	Aug. 14	Aug. 27	Nov. 6
2005	Aug. 1	Aug. 5	Aug. 9	Aug. 13	Aug. 26	Nov. 5
2006	July 31	Aug. 4	Aug. 8	Aug. 12	Aug. 25	Nov. 4

23.2.3. 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.

23.2.4. 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.

23.2.5. 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 2-17-2, 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.

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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:

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.	Earliest Date For Scrimmage	Date For First Game	Season Must Be Completed
2002	Aug. 12	Aug. 19	Aug. 26	Aug. 29	Week 9	Nov. 2
2003	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	Aug. 25	Aug. 28	Week 9	Nov. 1
2004	Aug. 9	Aug. 16	Aug. 23	Aug. 26	Week 9	Oct. 30
2005	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 22	Aug. 25	Week 9	Oct. 29
2006	Aug. 7	Aug. 14	Aug. 21	Aug. 24	Week 9	Oct. 28

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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 127-3-24.4.

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.

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§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

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matches exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournaments.

25.4.1. The maximum number of quarters for a student in one season will be 80, exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournaments.

25.4.2. A student shall not be permitted to participate in more than four quarters during any one day. Any part of a quarter counts as one quarter. In an overtime game, the overtime shall be considered an extension of the fourth quarter.

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 quarters for a student in one season will be 56.

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.

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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 31 games if participating in a conference tournament or a tournament with a minimum of four participating teams; otherwise, the regular season will be 30 games exclusive of sectional, regional and state contests. The tournament is to count as one (1) game.

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

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

127CSR3

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.

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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.

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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 7 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.

30.4. Maximum Team Contest: A volleyball team will be permitted no more than 23 playing dates if participating in a conference tournament; otherwise the regular season will be 22 playing dates exclusive of sectional, regional, and state contests. The conference tournament is to count as one (1) playing date.

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.

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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 matches.

30.10.2. Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 8 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.

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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. Junior high school teams may have 14 matches including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

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

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

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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 West Virginia Board of Education §126-136-1 et seq., "Minimum Requirements for the Licensure of Professional/Paraprofessional Personnel and Advanced Salary Classification" (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 provided by West Virginia Board of Education §126-30-1 et seq., "Graduation Requirements for West Virginia Public Schools: Adolescent Education (Grades 9-12)" (Policy 2444.01) and West Virginia Board of Education §126-42-1 et seq., "Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs" (Policy 2510).

FULL TIME STUDENT - a student doing passing work in the equivalent of at least 20 periods per week. (Traditional Schedule - four subjects will 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.

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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 WV registered officials.

SEMESTER - a block of instructional time that is equivalent to at least one-half of the school year. West Virginia Board of Education §126-42-1 et seq., "Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs" (Policy 2510).

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

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

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 WORKSHEET

(submit 4 copies)

HD NO. _____ DRAFT NO. _____ BILL NO. _____ RESOLUTION NO. _____

SUBJECT **WV Secondary School Activities Commission** FUND _____

SOURCE OF REVENUE: GENERAL FUND SPECIAL OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

COST ESTIMATE BASED ON: AN ORIGINAL ESTIMATE BUDGET BILL OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

INCOME ESTIMATE BASED ON: AN ORIGINAL ESTIMATE BUDGET BILL OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

SHOW OVER-ALL EFFECT IN ITEMS 1 AND 2, AND GIVE EXPLANATION OF BREAKDOWN BY FISCAL YEAR INCLUDING LONG RANGE EFFECT IN ITEM 3.

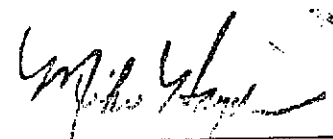
EFFECT OF PROPOSAL	ANNUAL		FISCAL YEAR		
	INCREASE	DECREASE	CURRENT	NEXT	THEREAFTER
1. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$ 32,679	\$	\$ 59,847	\$ 92,526	\$
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ (1a) 6,000	\$	\$ (1a) 10,000	\$ (1a) 16,000	\$
CURRENT EXPENSES	(1b) 2,520		(1b) 7,560	(1b) 10,080	
REPAIRS/ALTERATIONS	(1c) 1,500		(1c) 2,500	(1c) 4,000	
EQUIPMENT	(1d) 19,500		(1d) 32,500	(1d) 52,000	
OTHER	(23) \$147 Cross Country		(23) (447)	(594)	
	1480 Swim		(2,246)	(3,726)	
	1532 Tennis		(4,594)	(6,126)	
2. ESTIMATED TOTAL REVENUES	\$ (23) \$1,586.00	\$ (16) 2,000.00	\$ (16) 2,000.00	\$ (16) (-2000.00)	\$ (23) 1,586.00 \$ 0

3. EXPLANATION OF ABOVE ESTIMATES (INCLUDING LONG-RANGE EFFECT):

Continued on Attached Page

4/22/02
DATE

WV Secondary School Activities Commission
AGENCY


AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

FISCAL NOTE WORKSHEET - CONTINUED

Proposal 1

- a. If the number of administrative districts is raised from five to eight, the amount of annual student scholarships of \$1,000 each would increase from \$10,000 to \$16,000.
- b. If the number of administrative districts is raised from five to eight, three additional representatives would need to be added to each of the fourteen Sport Coaches' Committees. Currently, each representative's expenses are approximately \$60.00 annually. The increase of 42 more representatives would be an additional expense of \$2,520.00.
- c. If the number of administrative districts is increased, the number of Board of Appeals members would increase from five to eight. There would be an increase of \$1500 in personal services due to a \$500 honorarium received by each member.
- d. The current expense for each Board member is \$6,500 annually. The additional three members would result in an increase expense of \$19,500.

Proposal 23

Additional classes would require more days of tournament play which would increase expenses and possibly decrease instructional time. Possible increased revenue could result in wrestling (\$936) and soccer (\$650). However, the sports which have shown losses may have increased losses due to additional days of tournament play (cross country - \$147; swim - \$1480; tennis - \$1582).

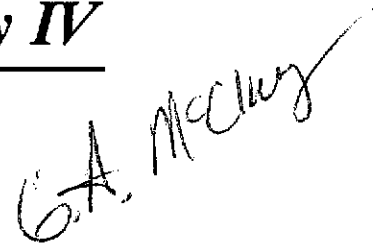
SPECIFIC AMOUNTS OF INCREASE OR DECREASE FOR ALL PROPOSALS ARE EXPLAINED ON THE FISCAL NOTE WORKSHEET.

MAY 3 2002

Regional Education Service Agency IV

404 Old Main Drive
Summersville, WV 26651
(304) 872-6440
(FAX) 872-6442

Braxton
Fayette
Greenbrier
Nicholas
Pocahontas
Webster



ELMER L. PRITT
Executive Director

April 26, 2002

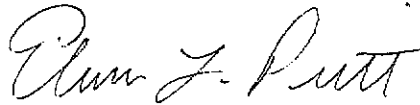
Dr. David Stewart
West Virginia Superintendent of Schools
West Virginia Department of Education
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Dr. Stewart:

Re: Proposed SSAC Rule Dealing with Summer Athletic Activities

At our Wednesday, April 24, 2002, Board of Directors meeting, discussion took place concerning proposed policy revision permitting student participation in summer activities related to athletics. The Board of Directors unanimously directed me to convey to you their desire to expressly prohibit allowing more involvement between coaches and student athletes during the summer session. They feel very strongly that present guidelines are adequate and that further expansion of summer activities would be detrimental to the students. The RESA IV Board of Directors unanimously supports last year's limiting out-of-season practice.

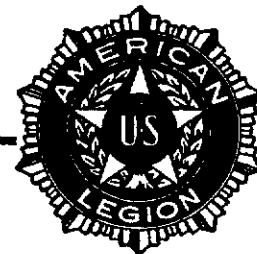
Sincerely yours,



Elmer L. Pritt
Executive Director

ELP/cmp

THE AMERICAN LEGION



Parkersburg Post 15, 2505 Ohio Avenue, P.O. Box 724, Parkersburg, WV 26102

23 May 2002

Mr. G. A. McClung, Asst. Superintendent
WV Department of Education
Charleston, WV. 25305

MAY 28 2002

Re: Proposed 21 Day Rule.

Dear Superintendent McClung,

On behalf of the American Legion Parkersburg Post 15 permit me to register a negative viewpoint regarding the proposed 21 day rule now being considered by the State Board of Education. I respectfully request the board vote against this proposal.

This proposal, if passed, will be very detrimental to the summer baseball program known as American Legion baseball. Here's why, legion baseball can not start each year until the high school teams have completed their seasons. This means in early June. If the high school coaches are allowed, as now proposed, to practice 21 days in June, this means most legion teams can not start until that 21 day period has been completed.

In WV most of our athletes play multiple sports, basically football and basketball. I know in the case of Parkersburg Post 15, if this rule was effective at this time we could not have a team until July because our team is made up of the football, basketball and baseball players.

I also see this proposal as being most unfair to the multi-talented athlete, if the boy excels in both football and basketball, as most do, he will be under extreme pressure from both the football and basketball coaches to participate in their particular sport. One might argue that is not a problem as the coaches will have to share the boy equally. We all know that this will not fly as each coach will look the boy in the eye and simply tell him if he wishes to play his sport he should choose to show up for his 21 day sessions. The proposal also says this a voluntary program. Oh yes, we can say that, but we know what the coaches say, be there or else. It's not fair to put the boy in this position. I view this proposal as real trouble for the schools athlete directors to settle coaches complaints against each other.

Please weigh this proposal carefully and do what is best for the athlete keeping in mind the negative aspects as it effects American Legion baseball.

Most sincerely,

R.T. Cunningham
Athletic Officer, Post 15

MAY 31 2002

TITLE 127
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
Athletics, Provisions Governing Eligibility
Comment Response Form

Please use this form when commenting. You may attach additional sheets if necessary.

Individual/Organization: Wheeling Park High School - Dick Dei

Title: Asst. Principal/Athletic Director

Street Address: 1976 Park View Rd. City/State/Zip Wheeling, WV 26003

Comments/Suggestions

§127-2-2. Waivers.

§127-2-3. Enrollment and Team Membership.

§127-2-5. Semester and Season.

§127-2-6. Scholarship.

§127-2-7. Residence - Transfer.

**§127-3 - Provisions Governing Contests.
Comment Response Form
Page Three**

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

§127-3-21. Cheerleading.

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

§127-3-23. Football.

§127-3-24. Golf (Boys and Girls).

§127-3-25. Soccer (Boys and Girls).

Schools who play in large conferences will be effected most by this change. In our conference, we could play four games. This would reduce our scheduled games to sixteen. It also presents a problem for scheduling.

§127-3-26. Softball.

§127-3-27. Swimming (Boys and Girls).

§127-3-28. Tennis (Boys and Girls).

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

§127-3-30. Volleyball (Girls).

JUN - 3 2002

§127-3 - Provisions Governing Contests.
Comment Response Form
Page Three

Valley (Fayette)

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

§127-3-21. Cheerleading.

*Reassignments of regions for cheering competition. If you look at
proposals and every thing appears to be okay and then someone changes
without being notified & takes the opportunity to express your opinion & then it
doesn't seem quite right.*

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

§127-3-23. Football.

§127-3-24. Golf (Boys and Girls).

§127-3-25. Soccer (Boys and Girls).

§127-3-26. Softball.

§127-3-27. Swimming (Boys and Girls).

§127-3-28. Tennis (Boys and Girls).

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

§127-3-30. Volleyball (Girls).

JUN - 3 2002

TITLE 127
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
Provisions Governing Contests
Comment Response Form

Please use this form when commenting. You may attach additional sheets if necessary.

Individual/Organization:

Title:

Street Address:

Tyles Consolidated High School
Jimmy Wyatt, Principal
1993 Silver Knight Dr. Sistersville, WV.
26175

Comments/Suggestions

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

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

§127-3-4. All Star Participation.

§127-3-5. Awards.

§127-3-6. Coaches.

This would place more free admission cards out there for the member schools to absorb the costs.

§127-3-7. Out-of-Season Coaching.

This would put pressure on multi sport athletes on which sports to attend camp, etc. - could get complicated among coaches.

§127-3-8. Forfeit and Restitution.

§127-3-9. Game Officials (Does Not Apply to Cheerleaders).

§127-3 - Provisions Governing Contests
Comment Response Form
Page Two

§127-3-10. Classification.

*This is a good move as it adds
some stability among classes.*

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

§127-3-12. Legal Opponents.

§127-3-13. Contracts.

§127-3-14. Sunday Contests.

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

§127-3-16. Sanctioning and Travel.

§127-3-17. WVSSAC Tournaments.

§127-3-18. Season Regulations.

§127-3-19. Baseball.

TITLE 127
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
Constitution
Comment Response Form

Please use this form when commenting. You may attach additional sheets if necessary.

Individual/Organization: Tyler Consolidated High School

Title: Jemima Wyatt, Principal

Street Address: 1993 Silver Knight Dr. City/State/Zip Sutroville WV
26175

Comments/Suggestions

§127-1-2. Name.

§127-1-3. Goals.

§127-1-4. Membership.

§127-1-5. Administration.

§127-1-6. Officers and Duties.

§127-1-7. Meetings.

§127-1-8. Board of Directors.

§127-1-9. Funds.

There is no need to expand the size of the board in these times of declining enrollment, wasting funds to pay for the expansion. There is no collusion among "non principals" on this ten member board.

MAY 31 2002

TITLE 127
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
Provisions Governing Contests
Comment Response Form

Please use this form when commenting. You may attach additional sheets if necessary.

Individual/Organization: Allen Osborne / Pocca High

Title: Athletic Director / Basketball Coach

Street Address: Rt. 2 Box 50 City/State/Zip Pocca, WV 25159

Comments/Suggestions

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

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

§127-3-4. All Star Participation.

§127-3-5. Awards.

§127-3-6. Coaches.

§127-3-7. Out-of-Season Coaching. - *See attachment*

§127-3-8. Forfeit and Restitution.

§127-3-9. Game Officials (Does Not Apply to Cheerleaders).

While this proposal is a step in the right direction, it possibly could cause more problems within each school. The possible problems will be caused due to the restrictive nature of the proposal. Allowing such a short window of time, 3 weeks, will cause problems for administrators, coaches, and athletes. If an athlete is a multi-sport athlete and coaches from a variety of sports are vying for his /her time during this time which sport will he or she choose? This situation will cause principals to place rigid time lines for sports and actually coaches and athletes will not have the 3 week time period, they will be able to work with the athlete maybe one week. This could cause friction between coaches, coaches and principals, and athlete and coach.

A more sensible approach would be to let a coach work with his athlete(s) anytime in the off season. There will be a need for regulations, so those multi-sport athletes will have the opportunity to participate in other sports and not be pressured to specialize in one sport. The following rules could allow this to happen:

1. A coach can work with up to 4 athletes at a time. Most coaches do not want to practice their TEAMS, but they do want to work individually with their athletes. For example, a football coach could work with his quarterback and receivers on passing and catching techniques. A basketball coach could work with his players on shooting techniques. This would give each coach an opportunity to work with players to help them develop better skills individually. After all, this is what we are trying to achieve. We want to allow our athletes the opportunity to improve individually.
2. To protect the multi sport athlete the months of August, mid-November to mid-December, and March will be dead months. This is the time that sports are beginning and coaches who are not coaching athletes will not be allowed contact with them. For example, in August, football, volleyball, cheerleading, soccer, golf, and cross-country begin. So, only those coaches will be allowed contact with athletes. Basketball, wrestling, track, baseball, softball, and tennis coaches would be dead or would not be allowed to work with their athletes. Once September 1 comes, any athlete not participating in an August sport could receive instruction and individual attention by their coaches.
3. During the summer a coach can coach his/her team in summer leagues. This would allow coaches to work with their teams and take away the AAU element, especially in basketball. Football coaches could work with teams in 7 on 7 passing leagues.
4. A coach can attend one team camp with his/her team.

West Virginia is far behind other states in allowing good, qualified coaches to work with the student-athletes. We need to give our athletes the same opportunity that other states give to their athletes to be the best they can be. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Allen Osborne

G. A. McClung

From: Marcia Ritchie [mritchie@citynet.net]
Sent: Monday, May 27, 2002 11:00 AM
To: 'gmcclung@access.k12.wv.us'
Subject: Comment Response

Individual/Organization: Marcia Ritchie -Middle School Soccer Coach
101 2nd Avenue, Murraysville, WV 26164

Comments/ Suggestions:

In regard to WVSSAC Rules 127-2.4.2 and 127-2-4.3. Students at the junior high and middle school level who exceed the age limit should not be given special treatment. Having taught in the middle school, I have seen the immaturity level exhibited by these students. Age does not determine maturity. There are plenty of students in high school. School/coaches should not rush kids.

In regard to WVSSAC Rules that govern organized out-of-season practice and related activities during Weeks 50,51, and 52 of the calendar.

Being a parent of 3 students (middle /high school) and a middle school coach, I do not agree in allowing the coaches to start practices earlier than required.

It is hard on the student to make every practice, let alone out-of-season practices that coaches WILL require of them. There are coaches that will "weed out" students if they are unable or choose family vacations or other activities rather than practices. I do not see this as being beneficial to the students/family. That's what school sports are meant for-the children.

Schools and sports coaches are forcing children to pick one or 2 sports or activities earlier and earlier..then get burnt out in high school. Ages 11-14 are optimum learning ages for sports in the development of a child. Coaches are becoming too demanding and unaccommodating.

We need to develop better coaches. Not allow them to monopolize or waste time with longer and more unscheduled practices.

Speaking as a parent, coaches are turning kids off with their lack of consistency/direction and vision for their teams.

Thank you,

Marcia Ritchie

MAY 30 2002

TITLE 127
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
Provisions Governing Contests
Comment Response Form

Please use this form when commenting. You may attach additional sheets if necessary.

Individual/Organization:

Title:

Street Address:

City/State/Zip

Tom Wansley / Tygart's Valley H.S.
Athletic Director
Rt 250 South Mill Creek, WV 26280

Comments/Suggestions

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

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

§127-3-4. All Star Participation,

§127-3-5. Awards,

§127-3-6. Coaches.

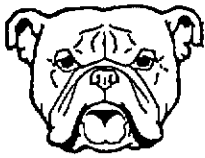
Proposal #16 → Good Change - hope it passes

§127-3-7. Out-of-Season Coaching.

§127-3-8. Forfeit and Restitution.

I have great concerns in regards to proposals 17 and 18. (please see Attachment)

§127-3-9. Game Officials (Does Not Apply to Cheerleaders).



Tygarts Valley High School

Home of the Fightin', Bitin', Bulldogs

Phone: 304-335-4824 / 4575 / 4345 (Main Office)
304-335-4427 (Athletic Director)

P.O. Box 68
Mill Creek, WV 26280

Fax: 304-335-6963

May 22, 2002

G.A. McClung, Assistant Superintendent
WV Dept. of Education
Building 6, Room 318 State Capitol Complex
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305-9969

Dear Mr. McClung:

I am writing in reference to Proposals #17 & #18 in regards to the proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook. I have 25 years of coaching experience, 20 of which I have been and am currently a head varsity boys basketball coach. I have just completed my 3rd year of being the Athletic Director at TVHS.

The people who support these proposals will say that it will allow our athletes a chance to improve themselves during this 3 week period. In reality, the coaches are more concerned with building team concepts and running team plays than they are with individual progress. These 2 proposals will cause a great amount of stress and discord between coaches of multi-sport athletes as someone will have to decide with which team the athlete will spend either all or the majority of the limited available time.

If the proponents of these proposals are truly concerned about the individual athlete, then let's have a rule that allows the coach to work only with small groups (3 or less) or just single individuals during the off season whenever the opportunity presents itself. Rather than scheduling the entire team for practices over a concentrated 3 week period, the small group settings would allow more flexibility for the individual athlete and the families involved. Our goals should be for more improvement for the individual athlete rather than improving the teams.

Please see fit to defeat Proposals #17 & #18.

Sincerely,

Coach Tom Wamsley
Athletic Director
Head Boys Varsity Basketball Coach
TVHS