

Action		Type	
N	No Response	-	Negative
NA	Not Accepted	+	Positive
A	Accepted	o	Neutral

Policy 127CSR2 Athletics, Provisions Governing Eligibility
Comment Log
May 14, 2015 – June 15, 2015

DATE	INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION	COMMENTS	ACTION/ TYPE	RATIONALE
§127-2-3 2 d Enrollment and Team Membership				
05-16	Belinda Harness Delbarton WV	I think year round coaching is great it will promote the kids being able to receive correct training year round. Coaches will be allow to take teams to camps and have them learn stuff that is applicable to their school	N+	
05-18	Charles maynard Ex. director WVSACA Princeton Wv	I support year around practice for sports teams WV	N+	
05-18	Arthena Roper Parent Charles Town WV	My concern is against the Year Round Coaching. The fact that the vote was 54-53 in favor of the year round coaching should give the Board a reason to table the proposed change. The certified coaches if given access to our students all year long will hurt the development of student athletes. There are plenty of skilled coaches that work out side of public schools that our student-athletes can learn from. To vote for the year round coaching will prevent the public from gaining access to school gymnasiums and fields during off season and the community pays for these facilities. This would be a huge public relations mistake.	N-	
05-19	Shawn L Dilly Superintendent Mineral County Schools Keyser WV	127-3-7 Out of Season Coaching Proposal 4 discusses the potential for moving to year-round athletic programs for high schools and middle schools. Understanding the rationale behind the request to enhance athletic programs neglects to review the full implications of this proposed change. More athletic time would presume an outcome of greater athletic performance. However, one needs to consider several factors not presented with the rationale.	N-	

First, the yearlong programs would significantly hinder or even eliminate smaller athletic programs. This impact could lead to Title 9 implications and a lack of opportunity for students attempting to move into college athletics beyond football and basketball.

Secondly, there is the concerns over student overuse injuries. Many coaches from my experience do not fully comprehend the importance of quality fitness programs that equalize the demands of maintaining balanced approaches to teenage bodies. This lack of knowledge heightens the potential for injury especially when training programs will be extended to a full year.

Thirdly, the extra cost associated with extended use of facilities and equipment needs to be considered. Added use would prematurely wear out fields, equipment, training apparatuses, etc. to support this change additional funds would have to be allocated. Unfortunately, in most districts they do not have the funds to allocate for other expenditures related to athletics. Raising cost have burdened the entire state, and allocated funding has to be more creatively and efficiently used to sustain growing educational demands.

Finally, the lengthening of seasons would prompt demands from coaches for greater compensation. This demand would ultimately lead to changes in pay rates. These changes would in turn eliminate opportunities and equipment for students. With most districts having fixed budgets for athletics, the only means to supply raising pay rates is to cut something else within the athletic budgets. These cuts usually impact smaller sports' allocations, equipment, and maintenance budgets.

In conclusion, the extended athletic season needs to be further developed before being approved throughout the state. The above-listed concerns are not adequately addressed to resolve many of the implications resulting from an approval of this proposal. I would encourage you to please review these consequences as they have potentially severe outcomes to student athletes and schools.

status.

8:22am

PROPOSED POLICY CHANGE TO PERMIT YEAR ROUND
COACHING

- (1) Primary purpose of public schools is education and not athletics.
- (2) Primary purpose of high school athletics is to compete athletically in

05-24 alex mclaughlin
Charleston WV

N-

high school and not to prepare athletes for college competition.

(3) A case can be made that year around coaching would take too much of the kid's time and make it more like a job rather than an extracurricular activity in the school year.

(4) High school athletics should be for all kids. Year around coaching makes it more unlikely that kids that need to work or have family obligations will be able to compete.

(5) The NCAA restricts out of season coaching.

(6) The collective bargaining agreement of the NFL restricts the availability of players for off season workouts and coaching.

(7) Off season coaching enhances the built in advantage that urban schools with populations close to school have over rural schools with populations that are located farther away from schools.

(8) West Virginia is a small rural state with very limited number of athletes that can compete at the major college level

(9) There is no evidence that year around coaching will have any significant or any impact on the number of kids that receive scholarships at major schools.

(10) If WVU coaches are concerned about how many West Virginia kids get major college scholarships, then WVU should guarantee more. scholarships for in state kids.

(11) The only compelling reason for off season coaching is that it appears that surrounding states for the most part have unrestricted off season coaching. This has the potential to put West Virginia athletes who compete with these schools at a disadvantage. Most West Virginia athletic contests are West Virginia schools playing West Virginia schools. There is no apparent rationale why the new rule should be imposed on all schools for the suggested benefit of the limited number of schools that play a few or some out of state schools.

(12) There is no groundswell of support for the proposal. The principals by a razor thin margin of 54-53 voted to advance the proposal to the State Board for consideration, In essence it was a tie.

I would urge the board vote against this proposal

In a state where obesity reigns, if secondary school coaches and athletes are willing to put in extra off season time to improve their fitness, skills, competitiveness with other states and college scholarship opportunities, I

N+

05-27 Stacey Whitmore
Team Mom
Cabell Midland High School Wrestling

Barboursville WV

feel it should DEFINITELY BE ALLOWED! I am a parent of 4 children active in school and recreational sports. There were times when the High School Wrestling Coach was willing to transport and coach my son in off season wrestling tournaments, however, was not allowed. Therefore, I had to sacrifice time from my other children's activities, to transport and find coaches for my son. Very ridiculous when kids from other states were allowed to travel with their coaches (AS A TEAM) to these events.

Please, please, please reconsider the change to year-round coaching. My children attend a very small school and most kids play multiple sports. Choosing to limit to one is really not a very common practice. Although my children attend a small school, I think this will hurt students at large schools just as much. Some sports are much more popular than others, and some coaches are less willing to share their athletes willingly, leaving athletes with the possibility of attending several of these team's practices during a given day. I know that people will say that as parents, we need to make these choices for our kids, but simply, the coaches can have a very strong influence on them, and us, when the kids know that it will affect their playing time.

Most important, though, is that the more you read about youth sports and injury prevention, the more you will see that the specialist are strongly recommending "off seasons" even for those kids who choose to specialize in one sport. The mind, and more importantly, the young body need a break to heal from injuries and repetitive motions of specific sports. Running, pitching and tennis are perfect examples. Young, talented athletes are losing opportunities to play sports, due to more and more permanent overuse injuries. Surgeries that were only performed on top level athletes, are now, more commonly being done on young kids. Now, as parents, we can choose to give our kids this rest, or not, but when teams start to practice and play year round, and the school coaches are involved, the decisions to protect our kids' health can be strongly influenced by desire to please the coach and protect their playing time. Imagine the difficult decision a student is going to make when football and baseball practices are overlapping.

In addition, I think this will give big schools with larger enrollments, and more resources and even greater advantage over smaller schools. Even though some might think that bigger schools don't normally compete with smaller schools, the reality is that they do. Travel expenses and time limitations make this a necessity, and a reality. Schools with more

N-

05-28 Diana Vance
St. Joseph Catholic High School
Huntington WV

coaching staff will be able to spread the coaching responsibility among their staff, where small schools might have to be limited to the efforts of their smaller staff.

This change is not about saving parents money by providing free coaching to kids. With year round coaching, students who need to work in the summer to help their families, won't have that opportunity. This could certainly, further reduce the opportunities for involvement of kids who really need to work, creating a bigger disparity between kids who do and don't have necessary resources.

If you decide to do it anyway, please, consider drastically limiting the amount of time that this can take place. Even NCAA Division 1 teams have off season and are only allowed to have sport specific coaching for (I think) 2 hours per week. That is out of 8 hours of total coaching contact time which can include conditioning or fitness during the off season.

These are Division 1 restrictions, for elite athletes who have chosen their sport full time and are on scholarship. These restrictions protect the athletes from the possibility of overly zealous coaches who may fall to the temptation of requiring more and more commitment out of them.

These coaches can be found in every sport, and at almost every level. In addition, it's easy to find parents whose ambition for their children clouds their judgement and they fall prey to the idea that more coaching will automatically give their child more opportunities. Or who are afraid that their children will lose playing time or starting positions if they miss these "optional" practices. While that may be true, that more practice makes a kid better, you reach a point of diminishing return, where more is not better; where excess becomes damaging. Coaches don't always recognize where this point. Parents don't always either. What you want for your child, you should not demand of someone else. Isn't it true that the purpose of the WVSSAC is to protect the safety and wellbeing of the athletes, not to require the schools to fund the ambitions of a select few?

Additionally, consider the possibility of students looking for a coaching change during the summer. There are sure to be athletes and parents who believe that their coaches are wonderful and provide everything that the athlete needs, and welcome the opportunity for additional instruction by these wonderful coaches. You should, on the other hand, also consider that there are also many who would love the opportunity to get "different" coaching opportunities in the off season.

Since you are considering this significant change, with very far reaching impact, please don't rush into it. Take the necessary time to study the effects it will have on all the athletes, not just the very few who are looking to play collegiately. Their wellbeing should take precedence over anything. You've shown the ability to make that a priority with the intense emphasis you have put on concussion awareness and training, despite the many challenges and the resources required.

You are entrusted with protecting the health and wellbeing of these young, impressionable athletes. Please don't allow overly competitive influences, whether parents or coaches, in any sport, to persuade you that this is going to help young athletes. It is not the school's job to provide free coaching all summer so that a few college prospects can get extra training. Give parents the opportunity to provide their kids a break to pursue their own interest in the summer, even if that be sports. Let us have a break from additional school or team mandated activities. Our summer is short enough as it is, and seemingly getting shorter.

Respectfully submitted

Diana Vance

Huntington WV

§127-2-7 1 f 4 Residence - Transfer

As I understand it, as of now a student is able to attend any school in the state as long as he/she enrolls in the school as a 9th grader and is eligible to participate in sports. I believe the rule should be amended to include that the student should not be able to transfer out of the county and/or drive past two high schools just to attend another for obvious athletic reasons. When wrestlers drive from Nitro and bypass Nitro, Hurricane, Cabell Midland to attend the other high school in Cabell County, then it opens up the question of recruiting at middle school tournaments. If an athlete chose to not attend Winfield, why should he/she be able to drive past Hurricane to attend Cabell Midland, or drive past Nitro and South Charleston to attend George Washington. Until this rule is amended, it's open season recruiting at middle school athletic events. Huntington Wrestling- Jordan Allen, Nitro; Logan Grass, Hurricane; Josh Humphreys, St. Albans, and two more coming in next season from Wayne County and Hurricane.

No

§127-3-9 6 c Game Officials

Same

05-20 mark hill
parent/fan
Corridor G
charleston wv

05-15 Chris

Teacher
Berk. Co. Schools
Martinsburg Wv

05-18 Stacy Greely
Bridgeport West

This past season in basketball was the worst officiating I have witnessed in the past 12 years. I'm not sure what can be done, but something is needed. Some of these officials shouldn't be working a grade school game.

NA

06-05 mark hatcher
father/ex-coach
none
Logan WV

I did not even rate officials this year, the reason why is simple, it doesn't matter. One of the crews that did a state championship game this year has been wrote up multiple times over the last few years. Each of these write up's came from different coaches, and with many types of rule infractions. THE RATINGS ARE USELESS!!!!!!!

NA