



WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

MAC WARNER

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

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Office of West Virginia
Secretary Of State

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

AGENCY: Secondary School Activities Commission TITLE-SERIES: 127-04
RULE TYPE: Legislative Exempt Amendment to Existing Rule: Yes Repeal of existing rule: No
RULE NAME: Provisions Governing Conduct (WVSSAC Series 4)
CITE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 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); and, W. Va. Bd. of Educ. v. Bd. of Educ., 239 W. Va. 705, 806 S.E. 2d 136 (2017)

COMMENTS LIMITED TO:

Written

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:

DATE WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: 06/12/2023 4:00 PM

COMMENTS MAY BE MAILED OR EMAILED TO:

NAME: Bernie Dolan, Executive Director
ADDRESS: West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission
2875 Staunton Turnpike, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26104
EMAIL: bernie.dolan@wvssac.org

PLEASE INDICATE IF THIS FILING INCLUDES:

RELEVANT FEDERAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE RULE:

WVSSAC Series 4 governs conduct for active and spectator participants, coaches, and all other school personnel at interscholastic athletic events.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER CONTENTS OF CHANGES IN THE RULE AND A STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE RULE:

Amendments are brought forth to keep the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission current and updated on changes, trends, and issues in athletic, band, and other programs. Each year the principals of member schools submit revisions to the rules and regulations. The submitted proposals are presented and voted upon at the annual Board of Control meeting and are then submitted to the West Virginia Board of Education for review and placement on public comment. A full description of proposed changes is found in the Executive Summary.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER THE OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

A. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON REVENUES OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

There will be no economic impact on revenues of state government as a result of the proposed amendment of 127CSR4, WVSSAC Series 4.

B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS:

There will be no economic impact on special revenue accounts as a result of the proposed amendment of 127CSR4, WVSSAC Series 4.

C. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RULE ON THE STATE OR ITS RESIDENTS:

There will be no economic impact on the state or its residents as a result of the proposed amendment of 127CSR4, WVSSAC Series 4.

D. FISCAL NOTE DETAIL:

Effect of Proposal	Fiscal Year		
	2023 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	2024 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost	0	0	0
Personal Services	0	0	0
Current Expenses	0	0	0
Repairs and Alterations	0	0	0
Assets	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
2. Estimated Total Revenues	0	0	0

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

There will be no economic impact on revenues of state government, special revenue accounts, or the state or its residents as a result of the proposed amendment of 127CSR4, WVSSAC Series 4.

BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Yes

Michele L Blatt -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Series 1 Constitution
Series 2, Athletics, Provisions Governing Eligibility
Series 3, Provisions Governing Contests
Series 4, Provisions Governing Conduct**

**West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission
Proposed Changes in Rules and Regulations**

BACKGROUND

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

PURPOSE

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

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

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

CONTENT

Twenty-seven proposals were submitted by member schools for consideration; twenty-two proposals were approved. Following is a brief description of the proposal and outcome of the vote. Series 2 was further amended in compliance with recent legislative action.

1. Administration §127-1-5.1 (Vote: Yes-125 No-2 Proposal PASSED)
2. Review Board §127-1-13.4 (Vote: Yes-129 No-0 Proposal PASSED)
3. Scholarship §127-2-6 (Vote: Yes-116 No-17 Proposal PASSED)
4. Residence Transfer §127-2-7.1.f.4 (Vote: Yes-124 No-5 Proposal PASSED)
5. Duties and Responsibilities of the Principal §127-3-2.10 (Vote: Yes-65 No-68 *Proposal FAILED*)
6. Out of Season Coaching §127-3-7 (Vote: Yes-76 No-56 Proposal PASSED)
7. Out of Season Coaching §127-3-7.7 (Vote: Yes-125 No-12 Proposal PASSED)
8. Classification §127-3-10 (Vote: Yes-117 No-12 Proposal PASSED)
9. Appendix 1 §127-3 (Vote: Yes-112 No-16 Proposal PASSED)
10. Appendix 1 § 127-3 (Vote: Yes-58 No-72 *Proposal FAILED*)
11. Sanctioning and Travel §127-3-16.6 (Vote: Yes-129 No-1 Proposal PASSED)
12. Baseball §127-3-19 (Vote: Yes-105 No-21 Proposal PASSED)
13. Basketball (Boys and Girls) §127-3-20 (Vote: Yes-68 No-58 Proposal PASSED)

14. Basketball (Boys and Girls) §127-3-20 (Vote: Yes-109 No-20 Proposal PASSED)
15. Basketball (Boys and Girls) §126-3-20 (Vote: Yes-24 No-112 Proposal FAILED)
16. Football §127-3-23 (Vote: Yes-25 No-111 Proposal FAILED)
17. Soccer (Boys and Girls) §127-3-25 (Vote: Yes-102 No-9 Proposal PASSED)
18. Softball §127-3-26 (Vote: Yes-49 No-62 Proposal FAILED)
19. Softball §127-3-26 (Vote: Yes-93 No-16 Proposal PASSED)
20. Volleyball (Girls) §127-3-30 (Vote: Yes-122 No-0 Proposal PASSED)
21. Volleyball (Girls) §127-3-30 (Vote: Yes-131 No-0 Proposal PASSED)
22. Volleyball (Girls) §127-3-30 (Vote: Yes-116 No-7 Proposal PASSED)
23. Wrestling §127-3-31 (Vote: Yes-126 No-0 Proposal PASSED)
24. Code for Interscholastic Athletics §127-4-3 (Vote: Yes-130 No-0 Proposal PASSED)
25. Transfer §127-2-7.2 (Vote: Yes-131 No-0 Proposal PASSED)
26. Football §127-3-23 (Vote: Yes-129 No-0 Proposal PASSED)
27. Officers and Duties §127-1-6.4 (Vote: Yes-125 No-1 Proposal PASSED)

IMPACT

Instruction

None

Leadership

None

Financial

None

Administrative

None

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

WVSSAC
Rules and Regulations Handbook
2023-2024 Proposed Rule Changes Passed by BOC

Proposal 1 (Vote: Yes-125 No-2)

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

5.1. The administration of the WVSSAC shall be vested in the secondary school principal and who shall constitute a Board of Control. The Board of Control shall determine the regulation of interscholastic athletic and band activities among the schools represented by the members of the Commission and shall have charge of all Commission funds, and in order to expedite the regulations of activities shall delegate and assign to the Board of Directors hereinafter constituted, and the Executive Director, hereinafter constitute, and working through the Board of Directors, authority to interpret and enforce these regulations. The Board of Control shall delegate and assign to the Board of Trustees, hereinafter constitute, the power and authority to hold title to and manage the property owned by the Commission. These regulations of the Commission shall be the articles, rules, explanations, and interpretations which have been voted upon and approved by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Control present and voting at the annual meeting of the Commission. Fifty members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at the annual meeting and approval is by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Control present and voting at the annual meeting of the Commission. If the result of a vote by the Board of Controls has a margin of five or less after the vote is counted, a second confirmation vote will be taken.

Rationale:

In situations of a close vote to margin of 5 or less, it is good practice to have a confirmation vote to verify the results and to rule out any counting errors.

**Kenny Demoss, Principal
Parkersburg High School
Shawn Wheeler, Principal
Buffalo High School**

Proposal 2 (Vote: Yes-129 No-0)

Amend §127-1-13.4. Review Board (Pg. 13) as follows:

13.4. Proceedings for review shall be instituted by filing a petition, ~~and five copies of same,~~ with the State Superintendent within 14 days after the date upon which such party received notice of the final order or decision of the Board of Directors. A copy of the petition shall be served upon the WVSSAC or its Executive Director and all other parties of record by registered or certified mail. The petition shall state whether the appeal is taken on questions of law or questions of fact, or both. No appeal bond shall be required to effect any such appeal.

Rationale:

Five copies are not needed.

Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Proposal 3 (Vote: Yes-116 No-17)

Amend §127-2-6. Scholarship (Pg. 20) as follows:

6.1. A student is required to be enrolled in the equivalent of four content area courses toward graduation. If the student is a senior, they are required to only be enrolled in the class(es) necessary for graduation.

Rationale:

West Virginia currently requires 22 credits for graduation. If schools operate on a block schedule or an eight period day, students could have 32 credits at the end of their high school career. If students take dual credit courses, they potentially may only need one credit their senior year to count for graduation.

Home school students currently only need one (virtual) course from the home school each year to be eligible to play, and these students will not be in the building at all except for practice and play. It seems that we are holding our traditional brick and mortar students to a higher standard than the home school students. This leads to issues that involve overfilled classes, as well as students enrolled in classes they do not like nor strive for achievement which then results in lower GPAs.

**Kendra Rapp, Principal
Nicholas County High School**

Proposal 4 (Vote: Yes-124 No-5)

Amend §127-2-7.1.f.4. Residence-Transfer (Pg. 22) as follows:

7.1.f.4 However, a student who has started participation in a sport, which would include practice or contest, that they were participating in at a ~~WVSSAC member school~~, the former school may not participate in that sport for that sport season at the WVSSAC member school to which they transferred. ~~So long as that transfer was within one contiguous county of their former member school.~~

Rationale:

To clarify and consider the geographical location of every school and student residence, as well as provide fairness across the board for student-athletes with these circumstances.

**Kenny Demoss, Principal
Parkersburg High School
Alicia Riggleman, Principal
Musselman High School**

Proposal 6 (Vote: Yes-65 No-68 Proposal FAILED)

Amend §127-3-2.10 Duties and Responsibilities of the Principal (Pg. 41) as follows:

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

Rationale:

To allow feeder elementary principals and assistant principals from member schools admittance to all WVSSAC sanctioned events at no cost. A county level administrator has asked that it be proposed with the rationale that some elementary principals like to attend events in support of former students.

**Mike Kelley, Principal
Herbert Hoover High School**

Proposal 6 (Vote: Yes-76 No-56)

Amend §127-3-7 Out of Season Coaching. (Pg. 43) as follows:

~~7.2. School organized out of season practice or related activities shall be permitted with principal approval during three consecutive weeks established by each school and approved by each county board of education or by the governing body of a private/parochial school. These three consecutive weeks may begin on or after Monday of Week 49, and must conclude by Friday of Week 4 of the NFHS Standardized Calendar; provided, there will be no out of season practice or related activities during the week of July 4th as determined by the NFHS Standardized Calendar (refer to handbook appendix). Participation 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 §127.2.13.4.~~

7.2.a. With principal approval, each sport program may use ~~twelve~~ 32 “flex-days” from Monday of Week 49 through Friday of Week 48 of the next academic year. A flex-day is a day, outside the regular season and ~~outside the three week practice window~~, when a coach may have sport-specific contact with student athletes. Flex-days shall not be used during the first week of each high or middle school sport season. Use of any part of a day for an activity will count as a full day of activity.

These flex days shall be combined with all varsity and sub varsity sports by teams. (A flex day used by a sport, counts for all levels of that sport per school.) Participation must be open to all students, voluntary, and not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school team. Additionally, the (Sunday-Saturday) of July 4th and two weeks surrounding Christmas Day and New Year’s Day (Sunday-Saturday) shall also be eliminated from flex day use.

Rationale:

Rule is designed to lessen the stresses on multisport athletes that are crammed into the 3-week window. Rule is designed to allow for scheduling of all sports to be spread out over the entire year.

(Current 3-week window is often not used by Spring sports teams and would be better served through Fall and Winter) Rule would fall more in line with what surrounding states have already initiated. (many are wide-open/year round) Rule would allow for the experts (coaches) to perform tasks associated with that sport. Rule keeps the number of days similar (depending on which one passes), just spread out. Rule creates a more manageable situation for players, coaches, as well as availability of scheduling for facility limitations. Rule is still under the direction/guidance of the building principal and additional restriction could be put in place as needed.

**Alicia Riggleman, Principal
Musselman High School**

Proposal 7 (Vote: Yes-125 No-12)

Amend §127-3-7.7 Out of Season Coaching (Pg. 45) as follows:

7.7. Coaches may not promote, initiate, organize, supervise, or participate in out-of-season events involving students of the same sport as the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except as specified in §§127-3-7.2, 127-3-7.2.a, and 127-3-7.3 until the student has aged out of the coach’s coaching assignment. Middle school coach may coach an 8th grade student in the same sport after the conclusion of the season. High school coach may coach an athlete once they have completed the senior season. 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 requirements:

Rationale:

A coach should be able to coach an athlete in travel once they finish their last season with the school team. (8th grade for middle school and 12th grade for high school) There is no ability to recruit players or any advantages for the coach because at this point they are finished with that athlete. It is hard to find coaches in some sports because travel pays more but I think this makes sense and gives us more flexibility.

Colleen Hoyer, Principal
Charleston Catholic High School

**Proposal 8 (Vote: Yes-117 No-12
Amend §127-3-10 Classification (Pg. 47) as follows:**

Please see below the revisions regarding the classification rule as per recommendations from the WVSSAC Competitive Balance Committee.

10.1. ~~Excluding boys and girls basketball, e~~ Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the enrollment figures in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. The designation shall be done after at the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.

10.2. ~~Excluding boys and girls basketball, e~~ 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 the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.

10.4. ~~Excluding boys and girls basketball, t~~ The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA, AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.

10.5. ~~Excluding boys and girls basketball, i~~ If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. combined enrollment of 9, 10, 11, and 12 in the consolidating schools.

10.6 ~~Each member high school shall be classified in boys and girls basketball as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on a total score given by the classification model that considers the following factors: enrollment, location and economics. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.~~

10.7. ~~Classification of member high schools in boys and girls basketball shall be determined in the next regular reclassification year and will remain in effect for a two year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month and qualifies to be moved according to the classification model. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment and the classification model becomes effective next academic year.~~

~~10.8. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in one class above its classification in boys and girls basketball 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 two year period.~~

~~10.9. In boys and girls basketball, the Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.~~

~~10.10 If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the two year period, the new member school will be reclassified in boys and girls basketball based on the classification applied to the newly classification model applied to the new consolidated school consolidated school.~~

10.11. 6 No member school shall, based on the classification, be compelled to play more than one class up from where it would be classified in a ~~four~~ three class system based strictly on enrollment.

~~10.12.~~7 The WVSSAC Board of Directors is authorized to grant a waiver to a classification assignment when it determines the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended.

Rationale:

1. All member high schools will be classified according to the classification formula (as defined in Appendix 1) instead of simply enrollment.
2. The WVSSAC Board of Directors will determine tournament structure for each sport as well as the number of classes that will participate in the tournament for each sport.

**Mike Kelley, Principal
Herbert Hoover High School
Meredith Dailer, Principal
Wheeling Park High School**

**Proposal 9 (Vote: Yes-112 No-16)
Amend §127-3 Appendix 1**

This considers the following factors: enrollment, location, and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:

- The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1.
- The location score is ~~made up of two equally weighted pieces.~~
 - ~~Part 1 is determined by taking the school county's population divided by the driving distance between the school and the county seat, that value is then normalized between 0-1.~~
 - ~~Part 2 is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1. Each part is then multiplied by half of the location score weight.~~
- The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and

the sum is normalized between 0-1.

- For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score.
- For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average.

Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competition Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps.

Rationale:

The above revisions will provide the following:

1. The factor of proximity to county seat has been removed from the classification formula.

**Mike Kelley, Principal
Herbert Hoover High School
Meredith Dailer, Principal
Wheeling Park High School**

*Proposal 10 (Vote: Yes-58 No-72 Proposal FAILED)
Amend §127-3 Appendix 1*

This considers the following factors: enrollment, location, and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:

- The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1.
- The location score is ~~made up of two equally weighted pieces.~~
 - ~~Part 1 is determined by taking the school county's population divided by the driving distance between the school and the county seat, that value is then normalized between 0-1.~~
 - ~~Part 2 is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 40,000 8,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1. Each part is then multiplied by half of the location score weight.~~
- The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z- score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1.
 - For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score.
 - For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average.

Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competition Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household

income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps.

Rationale:

The above revisions will provide the following:

1. The factor of proximity to county seat has been removed from the classification formula.
2. The factor of proximity to a city of 10,000 has been revised to proximity to a city of 8,000 or more.

**Mike Kelley, Principal
Herbert Hoover High School
Meredith Dailer, Principal
Wheeling Park High School**

Proposal 11 (Vote: Yes-129 No-1)

Amend §127-3-16.6 Sanctioning and Travel (Pg.50) as follows:

16.6. 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~~ is approved by the member school's county board of education. ~~The WVSSAC must sanction the event.~~

Rationale:

Currently, the WVSSAC BOD has been approving trips of more than 600 miles in addition to the member school's local board. There is no need for WVSSAC approval if the local board approves. Current sanctioning rules would still apply.

**Kenny DeMoss, Principal
Parkersburg High School**

Proposal 12 (Vote: Yes-105 No-21)

Amend §127-3-19 Baseball (Pg. 52) as follows:

19.9.a. Baseball Middle school teams may play ~~48~~ 20 games not including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

Rationale:

High School baseball is allowed 32 games exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournament contests. In Middle School we are currently permitted 18 games including season-ending conference tournaments. That is a wide disparity in the number of allowed contests for Softball compared to other sports. In other sports, middle school to high school are within 80% of games. Softball Middle School is 56% to High School. We are asking to increase this amount of games to 20 regular season games in order to better prepare student/athletes for the endurance required to complete a high school season. This would move the percentage difference to 63%/69%.

**Brian Atkinson, Principal
Logan Middle School**

Proposal 13 (Vote: Yes-68 No-58)

Amend §127-3-20 Basketball (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 53) as follows:

20.9.f. All middle students may play a maximum of ~~five~~ six quarters per day.

Rationale:

Due to declining participation from a variety of reasons, it is becoming difficult to maintain junior varsity teams which then affects skills development and ensuring that all who wish to play and

apply those skills in a game. Rules for the High School teams for the 2022-23 school year changed from five quarters to six for the same reasons. This should also be applied to Middle Schools to ensure continuity from the Middle School to High School program.

This will also affect Rule 127-3-20 Section 20.9.e – All Middle School students will play a maximum of 100 quarters for one season, which will have to be increased.

**Brian Atkinson, Principal
Logan Middle School**

Proposal 14 (Vote: Yes-109 No-20)

Amend §127-3-20 Basketball (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 54) as follows:

20.9.d. Boys and girls basketball teams will be permitted to play no more than 20 games. Tournament exception does not apply. Schools may play no more than 3 extra games during the end of season conference/county tournament.

Rationale:

Middle school teams in our current conference (10 teams) are having to play few regular season games because they have to “hold out” three games for the conference tournament. This would allow for all teams to play the maximum number of games, while allowing them to hold a conference tournament. In this single-elimination format, only half the teams would play more than one extra game, while only 2 teams would play 3 extra games. Other sports such as wrestling, and football exclude conference or league championships from their total number of season games or weigh-ins.

**John Rogers
Mountaineer Middle School**

Proposal 15 (Vote: Yes-24 No-111 Proposal FAILED)

Amend §127-3-20 Basketball (Boys and Girls) (Pg.53) as follows:

20.9.d. Boys and girls basketball teams will be permitted to play no more than 20 games. End of season conference/county tournament exception does not apply.

Rationale:

Middle schools who participate in a conference should have the same opportunity for season-ending championships as the High School. Middle School conference championships usually do not exceed 2-3 games whereas high schools that are given the exemption could play up to an additional 8-9 games through the state tournament. If a middle school has to plan accordingly to accommodate conference championships, they could lose games if eliminated and not play their maximum of 20. We are asking for the exemption to be applied for Middle Schools.

**Brian Atkinson, Principal
Logan Middle School**

Proposal 16 (Vote: Yes-25 No-111 Proposal FAILED)

Amend §127-3-23 Football (Pg.55) as follows:

23.8. The Board of Directors shall develop a four classification system of four geographic regions.

Rationale:

Football is the only sport that does not have a regional format to determine the state championship. Requiring in-region games will help balance scheduling, and maintaining the point system for eight at-large teams will assure that the sixteen best teams in each classification will

make the playoff field.

Football is the only sport where scheduling affects the post-season eligibility and the student-athletes should not suffer because schools will not agree to play each other.

**David Decker, Principal
Lincoln High School**

Proposal 17 (Vote: Yes-102 No-9)

Amend §127-3-25 Soccer (Boys and Girls) (Pg. 58) as follows:

25.9.a. Middle school teams may play 14 matches. ~~including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC. Tournament exception does apply. Schools may play no more than 3 extra games during the end of season conference/county tournament.~~

Rationale:

Middle school teams in our current conference (10 teams) are having to play few regular season games because they have to "hold out" three games for the conference tournament. This would allow for all teams to play the maximum number of games, while allowing them to hold a conference tournament. In this single-elimination format, only half the teams would play more than one extra game, while only 2 teams would play 3 extra games. Other sports such as wrestling, and football exclude conference or league championships from their total number of season games or weigh-ins.

**John Rogers
Mountaineer Middle School**

Proposal 18 (Vote: Yes-49 No-62 Proposal FAILED)

Amend §127-3-26 Softball (Pg. 59) as follows:

26.9.a. Middle school teams may play 18 games ~~including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.~~

Tournament exception does apply. Schools may play no more than 3 extra games during the end of season conference/county tournament.

Rationale:

Middle school teams in our current conference (10 teams) are having to play few regular season games because they have to "hold out" three games for the conference tournament. This would allow for all teams to play the maximum number of games, while allowing them to hold a conference tournament. In this single-elimination format, only half the teams would play more than one extra game, while only 2 teams would play 3 extra games. Other sports such as wrestling, and football exclude conference or league championships from their total number of season games or weigh-ins.

**John Rogers
Mountaineer Middle School**

Proposal 19 (Voted: Yes-93 No-16)

Amend §127-3-26 Softball (Pg.59) as follows:

26.9.a. Softball Middle school teams may play ~~48~~ 20 games not including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.

Rationale:

High School softball is allowed 32 games exclusive of sectional, regional, and state tournament contests. In Middle School we are currently permitted 18 games including season-ending conference tournaments. That is a wide disparity in the number of allowed contests for Softball compared to other sports. In other sports, middle school to high school are within 80% of games. Softball Middle School is 56% to High School. We are asking to increase this amount of games to 20 regular season games and up to 2 conference championship games in order to better prepare student/athletes for the endurance required to complete a high school season. This would move the percentage difference to 63%/69%.

**Brian Atkinson, Principal
Logan Middle School**

Proposal 20 (Vote: Yes-122 No-0)

Amend §127-3-30 Volleyball (Girls) (Pg. 60) as follows:

30.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 6 5 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 8 7.

Rationale:

Currently, the volleyball season begins one week later than other fall sports. The volleyball coaches' committee unanimously recommended this change. The change was needed to allow sectionals to be played on week earlier and the regional championship games to be played during week 18 (one night per class), with eight regional champions advancing to the state tournament. The change will also eliminate conflicts of having both volleyball and cheer regionals on the same day.

**Matt DeMotto, Principal
Bridgeport High School
Mike Kelley, Principal
Herbert Hoover High School
Kenny Demoss, Principal
Parkersburg High School**

Proposal 21 (Vote: Yes-131 No-0)

Amend §127-3-30 Volleyball (Girls) (Pg. 63) as follows:

30.10.b. Organized team practice will begin on Monday of Week 7 6 and the first contest may be played on Wednesday of Week 9 8.

Rationale:

Makes the middle school season length consistent with the high school change of starting one week earlier. Also makes middle school volleyball start date consistent with other middle school fall sports.

**Matt DeMotto, Principal
Bridgeport High School
Mike Kelley, Principal
Herbert Hoover High School
Kenny DeMoss, Principal
Parkersburg High School**

Proposal 22 (Vote: Yes-116 No-7)

Amend §127-3-30 Volleyball (Girls) (Pg. 63) as follows

30.10.a. Middle school teams will be permitted 18 playing dates. Tournament exception does

apply. Schools may play no more than 2 extra dates during the end of season conference/county tournament.

Rationale:

Middle school teams in our current conference (10 teams) are having to play few regular season dates because they have to "hold out" two dates for the conference tournament. This would allow for all teams to play the maximum number of dates while allowing them to hold a conference tournament. In this single-elimination format, only half the teams would play more than one extra date, while only 4 teams would play 2 extra dates. Other sports such as wrestling and football exclude conference or league championships from their total number of season games or weigh-ins.

**John Rogers, Principal
Mountaineer Middle School**

Proposal 23 (Vote: Yes-126 No-0)

Amend §127-3-31 Wrestling (Pg.64) as follows:

31.4. Maximum Team Contest: A high school wrestling team will be permitted to have 18 weigh-ins exclusive of regional and state tournaments, no more than 18 varsity weigh-ins, and 18 girls' JV weigh-ins. A male or female participant may participate in no more than a total of 18 weigh-ins exclusive of the state duals qualifier and state duals tournament as well as the regional and state tournament contests between the varsity, jv and girls' jv matches.

Rationale:

To clarify the number of weigh-ins that are allowed for Varsity and JV, wrestlers, including males and females that participate in the state duals qualifier and state duals tournament.

**Kenny Demoss, Principal
Parkersburg High School**

Proposal 24 (Vote: Yes-130 No-0)

Amend §127-4-3 Code for Interscholastic Athletics (Pg. 69) as follows:

3.7.c. Any coach, student, or bench personnel ejected by an official will be suspended for the remainder of the game, match, meet or contest. The coach, student, or bench personnel ejected by an official will also be suspended in an additional contest(s); the suspension will be is assessed based upon ten (10) percent of the allowed regular season contests for that sport, or post season progression in a playoff tournament for each sport. Regardless of when the suspension occurs (regular season or post season), the length of the suspension (number of contests) will be as follows: golf (2); cross country (2); soccer (2); volleyball (2 play dates); football (1); cheer (1); swim (2); wrestling (2 weigh ins); boys basketball (2); girls basketball (2); tennis (2); track (2); softball (3); and baseball (3). Any tenth of a percentage from .1 to .4 will be a suspension equal to the whole number of the percent. Any tenth from .5 to .9 will be an additional contest added to the whole number. The suspension will include the number of indicated contests in that sport and at that level and all other sport contests in the interim at any level. A second ejection will result in the doubling of the suspension assessed for the first ejection. If an individual is ejected for a third time during the same sport season, the individual will be suspended from participating or coaching for 365 calendar days from the date of ejection. In accordance with Rule 127315.3, an individual ejected by an official may not appeal that ejection, or but may appeal any subsequent suspension that is a consequence of the ejection by an official.

Rationale:

The rule change is necessary as a result of a recent court case.

Proposal 25 (Vote: Yes-131 No-0)
Amend §127-2-7 Transfer (Pg. 23) as follows:

7.2.b If the transfer is from a ~~private/parochial school~~ home school or non-member school to a member school in the zone where the student's parents reside, a student is eligible providing: (1) the student is enrolling in a member school for the first time, and (2) the principals of both ~~private/parochial~~ the non-member and member schools involved concur that undue influence is not involved with the transfer.

Rationale:

The rule applies to any non-member school, not just private/parochial.

Constitution and Bylaws

Proposal 26 (Voted: Yes-129 No-0)
Amend §127-3-23 Football (Pg. 57) as follows:

127-3-23.9.g Middle school football teams ~~may~~ shall play overtime periods in regular season games. Overtime periods will be played until a winner is determined in accordance with the NFHS Football Rules "20 yard line overtime procedure."

Rationale:

The rule was changed last year to read "shall." Editorial change needed to correct the language in the rule book.

Constitution and Bylaws

Proposal 27 (Vote: Yes-125 No-1)
Amend §127-1-6 Officers and Duties (Pg. 7) as follows:

127-1-6.4 The annual honorarium of each of the officer-members shall be ~~\$500~~ \$1000.

Rationale:

This amounts to \$100 per meeting. Board of Directors are spending on average 7 hours per meeting with an increased number of appeal hearings at each meeting coupled with long drives for many of them.

**Trent Sherman, Principal
Martinsburg High School**

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TITLE 127
LEGISLATIVE RULE
WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION

SERIES 4
PROVISIONS GOVERNING CONDUCT

§127-4-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- These rules govern conduct for active and spectator participants, coaches and all other school personnel at interscholastic athletic events.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Constitution, Article XII, §2 and W. Va. Code §18-2-5.

1.3. Filing Date. -- ~~July 11, 2019.~~

1.4. Effective Date. -- ~~September 9, 2019.~~

1.5. Repeal of Former Rule. -- This legislative rule amends W. Va. 127CSR4, West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Series 4, Provisions Governing Conduct, filed ~~July 9, 2015~~ July 11, 2019, and effective ~~September 8, 2015~~ September 9, 2019.

§127-4-2. Sportsmanship.

2.1. Member schools are required to conduct all relations with other schools in a spirit of good sportsmanship. Acts which are prima facie evidence of failure to abide by this rule are those which are noted below and others of similar nature which violate the accepted code of good sportsmanship.

2.2. It shall be the responsibility of the home schools to take proper steps and precautions to insure that crowd and spectator control is handled reasonably at all interscholastic athletic contests including all post season athletic contests whether home or away. In addition to the spectators, attention must be directed to the safety, comfort, and security of the coaches, officials, and students. Their seating accommodations should protect them from spectator interference.

2.3. It shall be the responsibility of any team, student, coach, or attendant to remain in or a part of a contest until its normal end as provided by the National Federation Rules of that particular sport. The exception to the above would be provided by the same National Federation Rules of that particular sport. The penalty for a violation by a coach, student, or team attendant will not only involve ejection during that particular contest but shall also involve that student, coach, or team attendant not being a part of that school's team for the next regularly scheduled contest(s) or post season progression in a playoff tournament, as regulated in §127-4-3.7.3. The coach, student, or team attendant may practice in the days prior to the contest but may not dress or participate on the day of the contest. Rule 127-3-8 further explains the forfeiture consequences.

2.4. It shall be the responsibility of a member school to use every means at its disposal to impress upon its faculty, student body, team members, coaching staff, and officials the values of sportsmanship in preparation for the conduct and management of interscholastic contests.

2.5. It shall be the responsibility of an administrator, spectator, student, or coach to follow those directions provided for in the Code for Interscholastic Athletics.

§127-4-3. Code for Interscholastic Athletics.

3.1. The school administrator shall:

3.1.a. Encourage and promote friendly relationships and good sportsmanship throughout the school by requiring courtesy and proper decorum at all times, by acquainting students and others in the community with ideals of good sportsmanship and by so publicizing these concepts and attitudes that all members of the school and community will understand their meaning.

3.1.b. Insist upon implicit compliance with all rules and regulations of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission, hereinafter referred to in this rule as the WVSSAC.

3.1.c. Secure WV registered officials for all contests.

3.1.d. Insist upon adequate safety provisions for all activities, for both participants and spectators.

3.1.e. Approve only those activities and schedules which are educationally and physically sound for the student.

3.1.f. Encourage all to judge the success of the athletic program on the basis of the education goals and the attitude of the participants and spectators, rather than on the basis of the number of games won or lost.

3.1.g. Insist that the students exemplify the highest standards of good sportsmanship as a means of inculcating desirable spectator attitudes.

3.1.h. Provide adequate hygienic, sanitary, and attractive facilities for the dressing and housing of visiting teams and officials.

3.1.i. Review with staff the Sportsmanship Rule.

3.2. The coach shall:

3.2.a. Demonstrate high ideals, good habits, and desirable attitudes in personal behavior and demand the same standards of the students.

3.2.b. Recognize that the purpose of competition is to promote the physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being of the students and that the most important values of competition are derived from playing the game fairly.

3.2.c. Be a modest winner and a gracious loser.

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3.2.d. Maintain self-control at all times, accepting adverse decisions without public display of emotion or of dissatisfaction with the officials.

3.2.e. Cooperate with the school principal in the planning, scheduling and conduct of sports activities.

3.2.f. Employ accepted educational methods in coaching, giving all students an opportunity to use and develop initiative, leadership, and judgment.

3.2.g. Pay close attention to the physical condition and well-being of the students refusing to jeopardize the health of an individual for the sake of improving the team's chances to win.

3.2.h. Teach students that it is better to lose fairly than win unfairly.

3.2.i. Prohibit gambling, profanity, abusive language, and similar violations of good sportsmanship.

3.2.j. Refuse to disparage an opponent, an official, or others associated with athletic activities and discourage gossip and questionable rumors concerning them.

3.2.k. Properly supervise students under their immediate care and specifically observe a coach's responsibilities in conjunction with state interscholastic contests.

3.3. The spectator shall:

3.3.a. Realize that they represent the school just as definitely as does the member of a team, and, therefore, has an obligation to be a true sportsman, encouraging through this behavior the practice of good sportsmanship by others.

3.3.b. Recognize that good sportsmanship is more important than victory by approving and applauding good team play, individual skill and outstanding examples of sportsmanship and fair play exhibited by either team.

3.3.c. Recognize that, since the primary purpose of interscholastic athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the students through the medium of contests, victory or defeat is in reality of secondary importance.

3.3.d. Treat visiting teams and officials as guests, extending to them every courtesy.

3.3.e. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

3.3.f. Respect the judgment and integrity of officials, realizing that their decisions are based upon game conditions as they observe them.

3.4. The student shall:

3.4.a. Be courteous to visiting teams and officials.

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3.4.b. Participate to the limit of their ability. The true student does not give up, nor do they quarrel, cheat, bet, or grandstand.

3.4.c. Be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat. A true "sport" does not offer excuses for failures.

3.4.d. Maintain a high degree of physical fitness by observing team and training rules conscientiously.

3.4.e. Demonstrate loyalty to the school by maintaining satisfactory scholastic standing and by participating in and supporting other school activities.

3.4.f. Understand and observe the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.

3.4.g. Respect the integrity and judgment of officials and accept their decisions without questions.

3.4.h. Respect the facilities of host schools and the trust entailed in being a guest.

3.4.i. The cheerleader shall always cheer positively for the team and never negatively against the opponent.

3.5. The official shall:

3.5.a. Place the welfare of the student above all other considerations.

3.5.b. Know the game rules thoroughly and give intelligent interpretations.

3.5.c. Maintain confidence and control from start to finish.

3.5.d. Work cooperatively with fellow officials and game administrators.

3.5.e. Refrain from exhibiting emotions or arguing with a student or coach. Maintain self-control under all conditions.

3.5.f. Be fair, impartial and professional.

3.5.g. Be neat and dress in the appropriate uniform.

3.5.h. Be in adequate physical condition for the demands of the particular sport.

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

3.5.j. So conduct the game as to enlist the cooperation of students, coaches, and spectators in the interest of good sportsmanship.

3.6. *Protection, Facilities, and Assistance.* The home team is expected to furnish supervision. Outdoor facilities or playing facilities should be separated from the spectators by a restraining barrier (fence, wire,

rope, etc.). Officials should be provided with a parking space, private dressing facilities not accessible to unauthorized personnel, and should be paid no later than half-time of game. The use of trained, competent, adult "assistant officials," i.e., scorers, timers, chain and down marker crews, etc., is strongly recommended.

3.7. *Statement of Policy.* Insofar as unsportsmanlike actions by students, school administrators, officials, coaches, faculty members, and spectators are concerned, the identical items under the Sportsmanship Rule along with the following guides will be referred to by the WVSSAC:

3.7.a. The school whose coach behaves in a manner likely to have adverse influence on the attitudes of students or spectators may be provided with the choice of taking disciplinary action against that coach or having the entire school disciplined by the WVSSAC.

3.7.b. Any student who in protest lays hands or attempts to lay hands upon an official may be declared ineligible by the principal or by the WVSSAC for up to one year. Any student who strikes an opponent, coach, or a spectator during or following an athletic event may be declared ineligible by the principal or the WVSSAC for a specified period of time up to one year, depending on the seriousness of the act.

3.7.c. Any coach, student, or bench personnel ejected by an official will be suspended for the remainder of the game, match, meet or contest. The coach, student, or bench personnel ejected by an official will also be suspended ~~in~~ an additional contest(s); the suspension ~~will be~~ is assessed based upon ten (10) percent of the allowed regular season contests ~~or post season progression in a playoff tournament for each~~ for that sport. ~~Any tenth of a percentage from .1 to .4 will be a suspension equal to the whole number of the percent. Any tenth from .5 to .9 will be an additional contest added to the whole number. Regardless of when the suspension occurs (regular season or post season), the length of the suspension (number of contests) will be as follows: golf (two); cross country (two); soccer (two); volleyball (two play dates); football (one); cheer (one); swim (two); wrestling (two weigh ins); boys basketball (two); girls basketball (two); tennis (two); track (two); softball (three); and baseball (three).~~ The suspension will include the number of indicated contests in that sport and at that level and all other sport contests in the interim at any level. A second ejection will result in the doubling of the suspension assessed for the first ejection. If an individual is ejected for a third time during the same sport season, the individual will be suspended from participating or coaching for 365 calendar days from the date of ejection. In accordance with Rule 127-3-15.3, an individual ejected by an official may not appeal that ejection, ~~or~~ but may appeal any subsequent suspension that is a consequence of the ejection by an official.

3.7.c.1. Any coach, player or bench personnel who has been ejected shall not be permitted to attend any contest(s) during said suspension. He/she shall not be affiliated with the team in any capacity. This would include but not be limited to transportation to or from the contest, meeting with the team before, during or after said contest. He/she is not permitted to be in sight or sound of said contest venue. Regular practice or team meetings not affiliated with a contest are permitted.

3.7.c.2. If suspensions are imposed to a student or bench personnel at the end of the sport season and no contest remains, the suspension is carried over to that particular sport until the next school year. In the case of a senior student, the penalty will continue to the next WVSSAC sponsored sport.

3.7.c.3. Any coach suspension that cannot be enforced during the sport season in which the ejection occurs will be enforced at the beginning of the next season of that same sport.

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3.7.d. In case of spectators physically molesting an official, administrator, coach, or student, the school may be given one of two options: 1) file charges against the offender (s) or 2) accept discipline from the WVSSAC. Any person found guilty of W. Va. Code §61-2-15(a) 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.

3.7.e. The school that does not lend complete cooperation in the host school's effort to promote the spirit of good sportsmanship may be disciplined by the WVSSAC.

3.7.f. A coach may be considered as committing unsportsmanlike conduct if they make degrading remarks about officials during or after a game either on the field of play, from the bench, or through any public news media, argues with officials, or goes through motions indicating dislike for a decision, protests the decision and actions of officials pertaining to the game during and after the contest, or detains the official on the field of play following a game to request a ruling or explanation of some phase of the game. If a coach feels he/she has a legitimate criticism of a penalty call or a request for a rule interpretation, such criticism or request should be made in the privacy of the coach's office or the official's quarters and should be made in a courteous manner.

3.7.g. A student or team attendant shall not leave the bench area, team box area, or their designated off-field area during a game or contest other than during that time permitted by game or contest rules. A coach shall not leave the bench area, team box area, or the designated off-field area during a game or contest other than during that time permitted by game or contest rules unless a student altercation is taking place and the official requests assistance. Violation of this rule shall cause the coach, student, or team attendant to be immediately ejected from the contest; team penalized according to game or contest rules; and that coach, student, or team attendant will not be eligible to participate in the next contest as outlined in §127-4-2.3.

3.8. Procedure. Unsportsmanship action must be reported in detail to the WVSSAC. A copy of the complaint must also be filed with the principal of the school involved. Each principal involved shall report such information or answers to the report as they deem appropriate. Upon receipt of all reports, the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors of the WVSSAC shall investigate and adjudicate such reports in accordance with the powers afforded in §127-1-8.6 and 8.7 and §127-1-12.2 and 12.3 of the Constitution. Penalties up to and including suspension of member schools may be made in accordance with §127-4.

3.9. The following defines the different types of disciplinary action which may be assessed for violation of any WVSSAC rule by a member school, administrator, coach, athlete or contest official:

3.9.a. *Warning.* A warning may be given by the Executive Director or Assistant Executive Director. It is official notice that an inexcusable, unethical, or unsportsmanship action has occurred, is a matter of record, and that such an occurrence must not be repeated.

3.9.b. *Probation.* Probation is a much more severe type of warning and may be expressed two ways: 1) a school, coach, student, or team attendant on probation is told that further violations will lead to a fine or suspension; and/or 2) a school on probation is on conditional WVSSAC membership but may engage in its regular schedule, sanctioned events, and all WVSSAC tournament play, providing a program

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is filed with the Executive Director of the WVSSAC indicating measures to be taken to alleviate this problem which caused the school to be placed on probation.

3.9.c. *Suspension.* A school/coach suspended from the WVSSAC may not meet in interscholastic competition of any kind with a WVSSAC member school or a school that is a member of another state associated with the National Federation of State High School Associations.

3.9.d. *Fine.* A fine may be levied by the Executive Director.

3.9.e. Each of these sanctions (Warning, Probation, Suspension, and Fine) may be imposed or levied separately, or in a combination of one or more sanctions.

3.10. *Appeals.* All cases involving disciplinary action against member schools, coaches, students, team attendants, or officials may be protested in accordance with W. Va. §127CSR6, Violations of the Rules (Rule §127-6). However, disciplinary action imposed by an official, including disciplinary action that is a consequence of a decision by an official, such as a suspension for an additional game or games as a consequence of an ejection, is governed by Rule 127-3-15.3 and is not subject to appeal.

3.11. *Review of Ejections.* Disciplinary action imposed by a contest official, including disciplinary action that results in a suspension for an additional game or games as a consequence of an ejection, is not subject to appeal pursuant to Rule §127-6. However, if the individual ejected believes the ejection was improper, he/she may request a review of the ejection by his/her principal. If the principal believes there is merit in the requested review, the principal shall complete and submit the WVSSAC Ejection Review Form within 24 hours or the next business day of the ejection to the Executive Director of the WVSSAC. If a review is properly requested, the WVSSAC will review the officials' special report, the WVSSAC Ejection Review Form, and such other information as the WVSSAC deems appropriate. Upon review, the WVSSAC Executive Director or the designated Assistant Director will either sustain the ejection and any consequent suspension(s), or will determine the ejection was improper and void any consequent suspension(s). A decision by the WVSSAC upon reviewing an ejection is not subject to appeal pursuant to Rule §127-6.

**West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (WVSSAC)
W. Va. 127CSR4, Series 4, Provisions Governing Conduct**

COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: June 12, 2023

COMMENT RESPONSE FORM

NOTICE: *Comments, as submitted, shall be filed with the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office and open for public inspection and copying for a period of not less than five years.*

The following form is provided to assist those who choose to comment on **WVSSAC Series 4, Provisions Governing Conduct**. Additional sheets may be attached, if necessary.

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Title: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Please check the box below that best describes your role.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Support Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Personnel | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Superintendent | <input type="checkbox"/> Principal | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Office Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

§127-4-3.7.c. Code for Interscholastic Athletics.

Please direct all comments to:
Mr. Bernie Dolan, Executive Director
West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission
2875 Staunton Turnpike
Parkersburg, West Virginia 26104
bernie.dolan@wvssac.org
Fax No.: 304.428.5431