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Charter
Member
National
Federation of
State HS
Associations



Bob Gardner Named NFHS Executive Director

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – Bob Gardner, who has served as chief operating officer of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) for the past 10 years, has been chosen by the NFHS Board of Directors as the organization's next executive director.

Gardner was selected by the Board of Directors to succeed Bob Kanaby, who will be retiring on or about May 1 after serving as NFHS executive director for the past 17 years. Gardner will be the sixth executive director in the 90-year history of the NFHS, which is the national leadership organization for high school athletic and fine arts activities.

"We are pleased to announce Bob Gardner as the new executive director of the NFHS," said Dr. Ennis Proctor, executive director of the Mississippi High School Activities Association and current NFHS president. "Bob has a long and successful background with our member state associations, along with his outstanding work as the chief operating officer for the past 10 years. The Board of Directors believes he is the ideal candidate to continue to move this organization forward in the years to come."

Gardner, 61, has been involved in high school athletics in the state of Indiana throughout his entire 40-year career in secondary education. He started as a teacher and coach in 1970 and concluded as commissioner of the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) for five years prior to joining the NFHS staff in 2000.

From 1970 to 1978, Gardner was an English teacher and coach at West Washington High School, Milan High School and Scottsburg High School. He coached football, basketball, baseball and track, and also served as athletic director at Scottsburg.

In 1978, Gardner began his high school administrative career, serving as principal of Milan Junior-Senior High School and was named superintendent of the Milan Community Schools. While at Milan, Gardner was a member of the IHSAA Board of Directors.

Gardner joined the IHSAA staff as assistant commissioner in 1985 and served 10 years in that role prior to becoming commissioner in 1995.

Among his notable accomplishments at the IHSAA, Gardner led the change in the IHSAA football playoffs to permit participation by all schools, negotiated the association's largest corporate sponsorship agreement in history with Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance and led the transition to multiple classes in team sports. He also was instrumental in the IHSAA winning a landmark Indiana Supreme Court case affirming the restitution rule and a Federal Court case protecting the state's right to enforce eligibility standards.

During his years with the IHSAA, Gardner was a voting member of the NFHS Football Rules Committee and served on the NFHS Football Officials Manual Committee. He also chaired the Fiscal/Funding Subcommittee of the NFHS Strategic Planning Committee.

As chief operating officer of the NFHS since July 1, 2000, Gardner has chaired the NFHS Rules Review Committee, an internal committee composed of all NFHS rules editors. He has been responsible for NFHS insurance programs and the NFHS committee nomination process. He represented the NFHS on the NCAA Anti-Gambling Task Force, has been a presenter at numerous state and national meetings, and has served on the USA Football Board of Directors.

Gardner, who earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Evansville (Indiana) and his master's and Ed.S. degrees from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, previously served on the USA Basketball Board of Directors and the Indiana Sports Corporation Board of Directors, and he is a member of the Indiana High School Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Previous executive directors of the NFHS were L.W. Smith (1920-27), C.W. Whitten (1927-40), H.V. Porter (1940-58), Cliff Fagan (1958-77), Brice Durbin (1977-93) and Bob Kanaby (1993-2010). +



Bob Gardner

Board of Control and Advisory Council Elections in Progress

The time period for individuals to declare their candidacy for the Board of Control and Advisory Council positions has expired. The following are the declared candidates:

BOARD OF CONTROL

DISTRICT 1 – Mark Gobler, Luck

DISTRICT 6 – Dean Sanders, Lake Mills

DISTRICT 7 – Beth Sternig, Oak Creek and Jack Klebesadel, Germantown

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL AT-LARGE – Jim Dyer, Pacelli

ADVISORY COUNCIL

LARGE (1 position) – Mike Gosz, Hamilton; Dan Retzki, Green Bay Preble and Todd Stiede, Shawano

MEDIUM (2 positions) – Pete Nusbaum, St. Croix Falls; Eric Russell, Baldwin-Woodville; Ronald Rasmussen, Mauston and Scott Winch, Stratford

SMALL (2 positions) – Mark Gruen, Eleva-Strum; Brad Pettit, Brookwood and Reed Welsh, Abbotsford

The only primary will be in the Advisory Council Large Schools race. Primary ballots were mailed to schools on March 2, 2010 and are due back March 23, 2010. General election ballots will be mailed on March 26, 2010 and the return deadline is April 20, 2010. +

Annual Meeting at Holiday Inn in Stevens Point On April 28

*Live Web Stream of Meeting will be
Available on WIAA.TV*

The 2010 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association will be held at the Holiday Inn located at 1001 Amber Avenue, right off Highway 10 in Stevens Point on Wednesday, April 28. School district administrators, principals, or others designated by the local board of education or governing body will be allowed to vote. The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for all authorized personnel to participate. Inasmuch as proxy votes are not allowed, school districts with two or more high schools must have a representative from each school in order to have as many votes as there are schools in their districts. The Holiday Inn's phone number is 715-344-0200.

Preregistration for the WIAA Annual Meeting is a must; therefore, please email those who will be attending from your school by Friday, April 16 to Julie Kage at jkage@wiaawi.org. Your registration materials, including the membership voting cards, treasurer's report and a copy of the proposed amendments (attached) will be available in the commons area. Coffee will be served at 8 a.m. with the meeting getting underway at 9 a.m. +

2010 Annual Meeting Agenda

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. - Registration & Coffee (Commons Area)

9:00 a.m. - Annual Meeting (Expo Rooms 3A, 3B and 4)

- Opening Remarks - President Roger Foegen
- 2009-10 Highlights
- Minutes of 2009 Annual Meeting
- Treasurer's Report - Mark Gobler
- Elections Report
- Vote on Amendments
- Director's Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- Announcements
- Adjournment

In This Issue

2010-11 Volleyball Rules Changes . . .	Page 2	Keep These Dates In Mind	Page 16
Annual Meeting Amendments	Page 8	Softball Information	Page 6
Coaches Education	Page 15	Tennis Interpretations	Page 10
Directory Changes	Page 15	Test Dates	Page 16
Eligibility Questions & Answers	Page 12	Track & Field Information	Page 4
Games Wanted	Page 5	WADA Insights	Page 15
Golf Interpretations	Page 7	White Soccer Jersey Required	Page 2

Web site < <http://www.wiaawi.org> >
email < info@wiaawi.org > **General Use** < refs@wiaawi.org > **Officials Department**

Volleyball

Marcy Thurwachter



2010-11 Volleyball Rules Changes

1-3-1 – Clarifies when a point is scored and when a rally has been completed

Rationale – Clarifies when a point is scored and when a rally has been completed.

2-1 New 8 – Defines the specific zone for libero replacements and its physical location in the playing area.

Rationale – Defines a specific zone for replacements similar to the substitution zone.

2-new 5, 9-8-1f – Defines non-team members as officials, media personnel, spectators located in a playable area.

Rationale – This definition clearly identifies non-team members and delineates the difference between a non-team member and a team member. This delineation is helpful when determining when such actions such as a replay should occur or various penalties are assessed.

4-1-1, 2, 3, & 4 – Updates and clarifies the rules regarding braces, casts, padding and prostheses.

Rationale – Clarification of rules regarding braces, casts, etc., from NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

4-1-5 – Expands the style of items that may be worn in the hair to include unadorned flat clips no longer than 2 inches.

Rationale – Flat clips will not create a risk of injury and will provide another viable method to use as a hair control device.

4-1-New 7 – Places a long standing informal procedure within the rules for the state association and school to follow when an accommodation/modification of the rules for participation is made due to medical, special needs or religious reasons.

Rationale – Includes a procedure to follow when an accom-

modation/modification of the rules for participation is made due to medical, special needs or religious reasons.

5-3-4e – Changes the end-of-set protocol for the last set in a match to require the first referee, after confirming the score with the second referee, to simply release the teams from the end lines and thus permit each state association to establish its own end of match protocol, such as a team handshake.

Rationale – These changes in court protocol will assist in a more logical end of set, will eliminate court congestion and permit individual states to establish a handshake procedure if desired.

6-New 1, 9-1-1 – Defines team members as school representatives located in the team bench area including coaches, teammates, managers, trainers and the players.

Rationale – Defines team membership which previously had not been included within the rules. This is helpful since there are penalties and actions related to players and nonplayers.

6-New 2 – Defines teammates as all players on the same team in uniform and further define players as those teammates on the playing court.

Rationale: – Defines team membership and players which previously had not been included in the rules. This is helpful since there are penalties and actions related to players, team members and nonplayers.

10-1-4, 7-1-2 – Once the lineup has been submitted by the required deadline and prior to play commencing, the coach may request and be granted a substitution.

Rationale – Rather than begin the set with a penalty of a loss of rally/point and confusion for the players and officials, allowing the head coach to substitute prior to the start of the set may alleviate the problem. Lineups shall not be re-

arranged. Only substitutions would be allowed.

12-2-8d – It is unsporting conduct to disrespectfully address a referee and now assistant officials (line judges, scorer, libero tracker and timer) are included.

Rationale – It should be stated in the rules that any team member who disrespectfully addresses the referees, as well as the assistant officials (line judges, scorer, timer and libero tracker), shall be considered unsporting conduct. Current language limits such comments to be unsporting only if addressing the referees.

Official Signal #6 – Net Foul/Net Serve: The second referee is not required to touch the net or signal a net serve.

Rationale – It is obvious a ball is a net serve and is not necessary for the R2 to mirror the signal of the R1. This is an unnecessary signal for the R2.

Major Editorial Changes

1-7-2, 3-2-1, 4-1-5, 5-3-3c(17), 5-3-3c(21), 9-9-1h, 10-2-5a, 10-2-7a(1), 10-2-7c, 10-3-5, 10-4-2 new d, 10-4-3, 11-2-3, 11-2 PEN 1, 11-2 PEN 2, 12-2-6, 12-2-6 new NOTE, Procedure for Unsporting Conduct Violations #10, Line Judge Signals (using flags), NFHS Official Volleyball Signals # 6 & #8, How to Use the Signals #23, Scorer and Libero Tracker Duties, Case Book – Pre-match Responsibilities #5

Points of Emphasis

1. Conduct of head coach while standing
2. Libero review
3. Timer's responsibilities for all time-outs
4. Informal officials signals
5. Court management
6. Second referee responsibilities
7. Line judges responsibilities and training
8. Judging height of the ball on completed attack by libero ➦

Notice of Vacancy

Executive Secretary/Commissioner

The North Shore Conference is seeking a Executive Secretary/Commissioner position.

Part-time position with year round responsibilities. Hours vary depending upon the sport season. The position comes with a salary (no benefits) that is commensurate with experience.

The application deadline is March 15, 2010. Please send a letter of interest and resume to: Mr. Mark Roherty, Principal; Homestead High School; 5000 West Mequon Road; Mequon, WI 53092 or mroherty@mtsd.k12.wi.us ➦

White Soccer Jersey Required Effective in 2012

Beginning with the 2012 fall soccer season, the home team will be required to wear **solid WHITE** jerseys and socks and the visiting team shall wear dark jerseys and socks. This is according to a recent newsletter we received from the National Federation with the rule changes for next year. The only area of the jersey in which you may have color is the number, school name, or manufacturer logo. No colored trim.

The requirement for white jerseys is a change from the existing rule that allows a team to wear "light" jerseys at home. This will be a requirement for varsity teams only. Any light jerseys currently being used at the varsity level could be used for subvarsity teams.

This requirement is very similar to the change that was made in the sport of basketball in 2008. In addition, beginning with the 2012 fall season, the goalkeeper jersey will be required to have a number on the back and on the front of the jersey or short similar to a field player's jersey. The number on the back must be a minimum of 6" in height and the front number 4" in height.

Beginning in the fall of 2010, only those names, patches, emblems, logos or insignias referencing the school are permitted on the team uniform. This rule addition prohibits players from wearing any names, patches, emblems, or insignias that represent any soccer club, soccer association or sponsor(s) on their uniform. This rule clarifies that only names, patches, emblems or insignias that represent their school are permitted. ➦

NAIA to Begin Eligibility Center Next Fall

The WIAA has been asked to assist the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) in providing awareness to member schools about its launching of the NAIA Eligibility Center.

The Center will be a service to high school age youth wishing to gain eligibility at NAIA institutions. Given the fact that students wish to compete at NAIA schools, student-athletes and member schools should be aware of this new requirement.

The NAIA, which serves over 60,000 student-athletes and offers more than 450 million dollars in athletics grants, will launch the NAIA Eligibility Center this fall. ➦



OFFICIALS



2009-10 Officials Exams Due Dates

Officials exams will be sent with your rule books and also available online. Remember that corrected exams will not be returned to you. You can view your score in your profile information on the Officials Center. Make a copy of your exam answers before you submit them to the WIAA office so that you may review the ones you may have gotten incorrect once the answers are posted. Answers and rules references will be posted on the Officials Center one week after the due date.

PART II EXAMS

Will be sent in the mail only (will not be on the Web site) and are due back on the following dates:

SPORT	MAILED	DUE DATE
Baseball	March 22, 2010	April 8, 2010 ➔

Approved Officials Clinics/Camps

NOTE: Clinic participation does NOT exempt official from sport meeting requirements. ALL criteria for an advanced classification must be met. See Page 3 of the Guide for Officials (Officials Center) for details regarding classification advancement requirements.

THE RIGHT CALL BASKETBALL OFFICIALS CAMP

Dates: May 7-9, 2010
Site: Madison Area Technical College
Contact: Ralph Sirmons 608-217-4735 or rsirmons2@charter.net

THREE ZEBRA'S 3-PERSON OFFICIALS CAMP

Dates: May 14-16, 2010
Site: Wisconsin Dells – Just a Game Fieldhouse
Contact: Brian Kenney 608-448-9034 or briankenney98@yahoo.com
Web Site: www.kenneyenterprises.org/dellscamp
Note: Must be Level 4 or higher to attend.

STATELINE BASKETBALL 3-PERSON & 2-PERSON OFFICIALS CAMP

Dates: June 12, 2010
Site: UW-Platteville
Contact: Mike Pfeil mspfeil@dcharter.net

NORTHERN WISCONSIN BASKETBALL OFFICIATING CAMP

Dates: June 18-20, 2010
Site: UW-River Falls
Contact: Tom Fiedler 715-577-1244 or fiedleth@uwec.edu

THREE ZEBRA'S 2 & 3 PERSON OFFICIALS CAMP

Dates: June 24-26, 2010
Site: UW-Madison (Kohl Center)
Contact: Brian Kenney 608-448-9034 or briankenney98@yahoo.com
Web Site: www.kenneyenterprises.org/uwmadison
Note: The 2-person camp is on June 26 and the 3-person camp is June 24-25-26.

STEP AHEAD BASKETBALL OFFICIALS CAMP

Dates: July 16-18, 2010
Site: UW-Stevens Point
Contact: Dave Kelliher 608-233-3532 or showtimesportscamps.com

WIS BASKETBALL YEARBOOK/KAUKAUNA BASKETBALL

OFFICIALS CAMP

Dates: July 16-18, 2010
Site: Kaukauna High School
Contact: Don Baumgart 920-788-5504 or 920-841-8813 or dbaumgart3@new.rr.com
Note: One day camp – training officials in 2 & 3 person mechanics; 3-person clinic all 3 days/4 sessions; 2-person clinic to be held on Saturday, aft/eve and Sunday. ➔

2009-10 Spring Sports Meetings

BASEBALL

Information will be provided via Web site Video Presentation. The link and verification form for coaches will be available on the School Center and the link for officials will be on the Officials Center on the WIAA Web site.

BOYS GOLF

Information will be provided via Web site Video Presentation. The link and verification form for coaches will be available on the School Center.

GIRLS SOCCER

Information will be provided via Web site Video Presentation. The link and verification form for coaches will be available on the School Center and the link for officials will be on the Officials Center on the WIAA Web site.

SOFTBALL

Information will be provided via Web site Video Presentation. The link and verification form for coaches will be available on the School Center and the link for officials will be on the Officials Center on the WIAA Web site.

BOYS TENNIS

Information will be provided via Web site Video Presentation. The link and verification form for coaches will be available on the School Center.

TRACK & FIELD

Information will be provided via Web site Video Presentation. The link and verification form for coaches will be available on the School Center and the link for officials will be on the Officials Center on the WIAA Web site. ➔

2010 Winter State Tournament Officials

BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

Division 2: Meet Referee – Thomas Miller, III, Menomonie; Diving Referee – Phillip Eberle, Racine; Starter – Phillip Eberle, Racine; Stroke Judge – Stephen Good, Manitowoc; Turn Judges – William Benson, Fond du Lac & John Kitslaar, III, Monona

Division 1: Meet Referee – Thomas Miller, III, Menomonie; Diving Referee – Phillip Eberle, Racine; Starter – Stephen Good, Manitowoc; Stroke Judge – Phillip Eberle, Racine; Turn Judges – William Benson, Fond du Lac & John Kitslaar, III, Monona

INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING

Cliff Ange, Athens; Tony Antczak, Dallas; Jeff Birschbach, Milwaukee; David Black, River Falls; Mike Blasczyk, Appleton; Bill Coker, Athens; Blaine Felsman, Oshkosh; Glenn Goessl, Medford; Larry Gorres, Menasha; Brett King, Grafton; Russ O'Leary, Milton; Chad Olson, Cumberland; Thomas Platner, Cedar Grove; Mark Schultz, Campbellsport; Chuck Walek, Independence

TEAM WRESTLING

Dan Engelke, Rewey; Todd Goldbeck, Madison; Kevin Guilette, Forestville; Scott Ness, Lodi; John Shefchik, Green Bay; Steve Williamson, Blue River; Arvo Britten, Wausau; Hank Stillman, Waukesha

HOCKEY

Mark Adriansen, Green Bay; Travis Ahlberg, Birchwood; Curtis Beecher, Madison; Jim T. Brown, Wausau; John Christopherson, Eau Claire; Mike De Long, Woodville; Dave Ferwerda, Madison; Daniel Fitzsimons, Middleton; Timothy Fraley, Madison; Scott Gavin, River Falls; Kevin

Griswold, Green Bay; Jeff Hanzlik, Chippewa Falls; Ryan Humpal, Amery; Brian Keith, Monore; David King, Appleton; Todd Kleiber, Wausau; Andy Krahenbuhl, Cameron; Jason Lassen, Onalaska; Eric Mather, West Bend; Amy May, Madison; Karl Olm, Madison; James Olson, Milwaukee; Ryan Reischel, Sun Prairie; Tim Richter, Madison; Brad Roethlisberger, Green Bay; Tim Rowan, Menomonie; Jill Schleis, Madison; Amy Smith, Cottage Grove; Tony Stemberger, Milwaukee; Scott Swid, Mosinee

GYMNASTICS

Division 1: Meet Referee – Jan Adkins, Sun Prairie; **Balance Beam** – Patricia Abraham, Onalaska, Superior Judge; Brenna Lutter, Madison; Kathy Rundle, Dodgeville; **Floor Exercise** – Shelley Fahey, La Crosse; Patty Subach, Oregon; Claudia Quam, Platteville, Superior Judge; **Vaulting** – Tania Gray, River Falls; Roseann Tank, Fort Atkinson, Superior Judge; Cyndie Zocher, Middleton; **Uneven Parallel Bars** – Helen Culliney, Grafton; Cindy Hoenisch, Eau Claire, Superior Judge; Faith Wagner, La Crosse

Division 2: Meet Referee – Jan Adkins, Sun Prairie; **Balance Beam** – Kim Chynoweth, Waukesha, Superior Judge; Kersti Lamers, Rhinelander; Carrie Pedersen, Eagle; **Floor Exercise** – Melissa Bremmer, Cross Plains; Mari Lucas, Prescott, Superior Judge; Joan Thompson, Darlington; **Vaulting** – Linda Skwierawski, Galesville; Kirsten Kronberger, Rhinelander, Superior Judge; Tom Chapman, Sharon; **Uneven Parallel Bars** – Barb Fotsch, Sussex, Superior Judge; Nicole Neubert, Nashotah; Lori Castleberg, Sun Prairie

Track & Field



Marcy Thurwachter

"Five Alive"/Continuing Flight Procedure for High Jump and Pole Vault Competition

Coaches and officials are reminded for both high jump and pole vault competition the "Five Alive"/Continuing Flight procedure should be used.

A. Usage

1. Recommended for all large meets during season competition.

2. It must be used during the WIAA tournament series (regional, sectional, and State).

B. Procedure

1. Five competitors are designated to start competition. Each jumper in the first group will be called in order. When one passes a turn, clears the bar, is excused to participate in another event, or is eliminated, the next competitor in order will move up so the number of contestants in the active flight remains constant.

2. If competitors A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M and N were entered, the first five (A, B, C, D and E) would be grouped to begin competition. F would be moved into the continuing flight whenever one of the competitors cleared the height, passed the remaining turns at that height or was eliminated. G would be the next competitor to move into the continuing flight under the same conditions and would be followed by H, I, J, K, L, M and N, in order.

3. This procedure would be repeated for each height, with five the maximum number to begin an active flight. The competitors are assigned in order as they appear on the event card.

4. This procedure maintains a high level of interest and should help in eliminating long delays. ✚

Track & Field Questions & Answers

*Inspect all poles carefully. Check for cracks, chips, etc., that may weaken the pole. Poles must have a legal, readable manufacturer's weight rating sticker.

*Inspect all pole vault helmets. Replace those with cracks or dents.

*Inspect equipment; hurdles, starting blocks, throwing implements, pits, standards, cross bars.

*Once the weather improves carefully check your discus cage, especially the material (netting or wire) used to prevent the discus from slipping through near the support poles.

*Weigh-in forms are located on the School Center and must be completed, with proper signatures, prior to the first scheduled competition. No athlete may compete without the weigh-in form.

QUESTION 1: I've noticed a variety of uniforms on the athletes from the same team. Rule 4-3-1 reads; "The competitor's uniform shall be issued by the school..." I'm sure that not all of the shorts are school issued. If an athlete buys their own shorts are they illegal?

ANSWER: Legal. In these difficult economic times, schools are relying heavily on booster clubs and the athletes themselves to purchase uniforms. Uniforms, which are purchased by individuals, should be "approved" by the school, thus complying with Rule 4-3-1.

QUESTION 2: Please explain how officials are to handle athletes that report for their event with their shorts rolled at the waistband.

ANSWER: The following interpretation was issued by the NFHS last fall; "Provided Rule 4-3-1c4 (waistband is worn at hips) is not violated, it is permissible for a competitor's waistband to be rolled."

QUESTION 3: Last year during a heavy rain my athlete wanted to wear socks over his shoes in the discus circle. He was told this was not allowed. Could

you please verify this ruling with the NFHS.

ANSWER: From Becky Oakes, NFHS: "Socks over shoes would be illegal. The rule requires shoes and if covered then the rule is being circumvented."

QUESTION 4: Our conference has a rule which requires implements to be pooled during competition. I thought we weren't supposed to pool implements?

ANSWER: The practice of pooling implements; shots and discuses is discouraged. A discus can be very expensive and its use by another athlete should only be allowed with the owner's permission.

QUESTION 5: I have an athlete that is required to wear a scarf over her head. Is this allowed?

ANSWER: Yes, but you must contact the WIAA office and request a waiver. Provide the athlete's name, school and reason for the waiver request. You will need to show the waiver to meet officials prior to each meet. If during the early season an athlete does not have a waiver, provided it does not create a dangerous situation, allow the athlete to compete, then contact the WIAA office immediately after the meet to report the situation so that a waiver can be issued.

EARLY SEASON REMINDERS:

*Clerking and field event judges sheets are available on the main WIAA web page (not the School Center). Click on the Track page, Rules & Regulations, Field Event Information, Field Event Reference Guide.

*If you have a wheelchair athlete, please complete the participation form located on the School Center each time the athlete competes so that we can collect data on participation numbers. ✚

2010 NFHS Track & Field And Cross Country Rules Interpretations

Corrections to Rules Book: Page 70, Rule 10-2-2, second sentence should be shaded.

Corrections to Case Book and Manual: None

SITUATION 1: In the girls varsity meet, the first section of the 800-meter run started using alleys with 10 runners on a nine-lane track. The second section has nine runners and will also be started with alleys.

RULING: Correct procedure.

COMMENT: All heats and sections shall use the same starting configuration for an event within the meet. (5-6-3)

SITUATION 2: A boys and a girls meet will be contested on the same date at the same location and time. Due to the number of entries in each meet, the girls competition is scheduled in certain races to use an alley starting configuration while the boys are scheduled to use lanes as their starting configuration in the same races.

RULING: Correct procedure.

COMMENT: The starting configuration need only be the same within the same meet for the same event(s). Although being held at the same site, the boys meet is a different meet from the girls meet. Therefore, a different starting configuration could be used from one meet to the other. (5-6-3)

SITUATION 3: At the coaches meeting prior to the start of the meet, the coaches are informed that the starting configuration for all heats and sections within a specific event shall be the same.

RULING: Correct procedure.

COMMENT: Regardless of whether a heat or section, the starting configuration for all competition for a specific event shall be the same in the meet. (5-5-6, 5-6-3)

SITUATION 4: The competitor in the pole vault, working with the event judges, has requested the standards at a specific setting. The vaulter completes his/her vault by (a) clearing the crossbar and (b) brushing the crossbar and knocking it off. When recording the result of the vault, it is discovered the event judges had set the standards incorrectly.

RULING: In (a), the vaulter is credited with a successful attempt.

In (b), the vaulter receives a replacement attempt and the vault with the incorrect standard placement is not counted as an attempt.

COMMENT: In this situation, an official's error in setting the standards that impacts performance should be corrected and the competitor given the opportunity for a replacement attempt. (7-5-29)

SITUATION 5: The crossbar in the pole vault has been incorrectly set by the officials for A1 and is 3 inches higher than it should have been set. A1 attempts this height unaware of the error and clears the crossbar. The officials discover the error following the vault and, following consultation with the referee, (a) record the vault as a successful attempt and credit at the height the crossbar should have been set, or (b) credit the attempt at the actual setting even though incorrect in the designated height.

RULING: Correct procedure in (a) and incorrect procedure in (b).

COMMENT: When unusual situations occur that may not specifically be covered within the rules, the ultimate responsibility for a reasonable solution within the rules rests with the referee under Rule 3-4-6. Depending upon the situation and circumstances, the referee must rule in a fair and equitable manner within the spirit of the rules and for all competitors involved. (7-5-29, 3-4-6)

SITUATION 6: Following B1's attempt and clearance of the crossbar in pole vault, it is discovered that the crossbar for only B1 was not placed at the new height. After discussion and consultation of event rules with the referee, B1 is told the attempt at the lower height shall not count as a successful trial and shall not be counted as an attempt. A replacement vault at the corrected height shall be provided to the vaulter.

RULING: Correct procedure.

COMMENT: The referee has the authority and responsibility under Rules 5-6-3 and 3-4-6 to resolve these types of situations. The solution from meet to meet may not always be the same due to the individual circumstances at that meet. (7-5-29, 5-6-3) ✚

Wisconsin Track & Field Association Indoor Championship

The W/TFA Indoor Track and Field Championship will once again be held on the Campus of UW Whitewater, on Saturday, April 10. All information, including contracts, starting times, entries, and entry fees may be accessed at www.wistfa.org. Coaches may contact Michael Johnson of UW-Whitewater Track and Field at 262-472-1367 or JohnsonMJ03@uww.edu. ✚

Games Wanted

Schools Should Notify WIAA When Games Are Filled. Listings will be removed after one month from the date they were first listed. The date at the end of each listing is the date that particular listing was first listed.

FALL

Cross Country

DATE SPECIFIC

Sept. 16, 2010 - Teams for co-ed invitational. Badger - Jim Kluge 262-348-2060 or jim.kluge@badger.k12.wi.us. (2-17)

Sept. 18, 2010 - Teams for invitational. Belleville - Susette Alsteens 608-424-1902 ext. 491 or alsteens@belleville.k12.wi.us. (2-12)

Oct. 9, 2010 - Teams for varsity/JV invitational. Clintonville - Adam Englebreton 715-823-7215 ext. 2202 or aenglebreton@clintonville.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

Football

DATE SPECIFIC

Aug. 20, 2010 - Varsity/JV teams for scrimmage. Almond-Bancroft - Art Pagel 715-366-2941 ext. 313 or apagel@abschools.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

Sept. 10 or 11, 2010 - Game. Blair-Taylor - Gerald Blaha 608-989-2039 or blahag@triwest.net. (2-17)

Sept. 10 or 11, 2010 - Varsity game. Marshall - Josh Kraner 414-393-5752 or kranerjkk@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. (2-8)

Sept. 17, 2010 - Varsity game. Ashland - Brian Miller 715-682-7837 or bmiller@ashland.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

Sept. 17, 2010 - Varsity game. Ashland - Brian Miller 715-682-7837 or bmiller@ashland.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

Sept. 24, 2010 - Varsity game. Ashland - Brian Miller 715-682-7837 or bmiller@ashland.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

Sept. 27, 2010 - JV game. Kettle Moraine Lutheran - Len Collyard 262-677-4051 orlcollyar@kmlhs.org. (2-17)

Oct. 1 & 4, 2010 - Varsity/JV game. Bowler - Jeff DePerry 715-793-4320 or jdeperry@bowler.k12.wi.us. (2-15)

Oct. 14, 2010 - Frosh game. Kettle Moraine Lutheran - Len Collyard 262-677-4051 orlcollyar@kmlhs.org. (2-17)

Oct. 15, 2010 - Varsity game. Ashland - Brian Miller 715-682-7837 or bmiller@ashland.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

GENERAL

2010 - Game. Stockbridge - Tom Hanke 920-439-1159. (2-17)

2010 (Week 1) - Game. Whitnall - Jill Stobber 414-525-8505 or jstobber@whitnall.com. (2-17)

2010 (Week 2) - Varsity/JV game. Palmyra-Eagle - Kari Timm 262-495-7101 ext. 2217 or ktimm@palmyra.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

2010 (Week 2) - Varsity game. Spooner - Todd Johnson 715-635-0202 or johnsonto@spooner.k12.wi.us. (2-23)

2010 (Week 2) - Game. Kenosha Tremper - John Matera 262-359-2307 or jmagtera@kUSD.edu. (2-15)

2010 (Week 2) - Varsity and JV, if possible, game. Brookfield Central. Doug Lange 262-785-3910 ext. 373 or Dan Anderson 262-785-3910 ext. 370. (2-15)

2010 (Week 7) - Varsity game. Mosinee - Guy Otte 715-693-2550 or gotte@mosineeschools.org. (2-26)

Boys Soccer

DATE SPECIFIC

Aug. 26, 2010 - Team for varsity/JV quad. Delavan-Darien - Wayne Fell 262-728-2642 ext. 4451 or wfell@ddschoools.org. (3-3)

Sept. 18, 2010 - Team for JV quad. Sheboygan Falls - Luke Goral 920-467-7890 ext. 3119 or lgoral@sheboyganfalls.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

Oct. 2, 2010 - Team for varsity quad. Waupun - Keith Milkowski 920-324-5591 ext. 2816 or kmilkowski@waupun.k12.wi.us. (2-23)

Oct. 2, 2010 - Teams for varsity quad. Appleton West - Mark McQuade 920-832-4105 or mcquade-mark@aasd.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

GENERAL

2010 - Varsity/JV games. Fox Valley Lutheran (Appleton) - Gene Strusz 920-739-4441 or gstrusz@fvlhs.org. (2-19)

Girls Volleyball

DATE SPECIFIC

Sept. 18, 2010 - Berth in varsity tournament. Racine Park - Laura Egan 262-939-6696. (3-1)

Sept. 18, Oct. 2 or 9, 2010 - Berth in varsity tournament. Katie 920-698-2500 or kastks17@hotmail.com. (3-3)

Sept. 25, 2010 - Berth in varsity tournament. Racine Park - Laura Egan 262-939-6696. (3-1)

Sept. 25, 2010 - Teams for quad. Baldwin-Woodville - J.R. Dachel 715-684-3321 ext. 117 or jrdachel@bw-sd.k12.wi.us. (2-25)

GENERAL

2010 - Varsity/JV/freshmen tournament. Kettle Moraine - Bill Serb 262-366-0763 or coach2345@hotmail.com. (2-26)

2010 - Varsity/JV match. Wild Rose - Craig Hayes 920-622-4201 ext. 450 or hayecra@staff.wildrose.k12.wi.us. (2-25)

2010 - Varsity/JV/freshman dual, quads or invitationals. Delavan-Darien - Kathy Kort 262-728-2870 or kkort@charter.net. (2-25)

2010 - Varsity/JV/freshmen games. Fox Valley Lutheran (Appleton) - Gene Strusz 920-739-4441 or gstrusz@fvlhs.org. (2-19)

2010 - Varsity/JV games. Assumption (Wisconsin Rapids) - Joe Birkhauser 715-422-0915 or birkhauserjoe@hotmail.com. (2-15)

2010 - Varsity/JV game. Sevastopol - Tim Newton 920-743-6282 ext. 145 or tnewton@sevastopol.k12.wi.us. (2-12)

Boys Volleyball

GENERAL

2010 - Varsity/JV duals. Mukwonago - Andy Trudell 262-363-6200 ext. 25581 or trudean@mukwonago.k12.wi.us. (2-17)

WINTER

Boys Basketball

DATE SPECIFIC

Dec. 27-28, 2010 - Teams for varsity/JV tournament. Boyceville - Bud Gilbertson budg@boyceville.k12.wi.us. (3-2)

Dec. 27-28, 2010 - Teams for varsity tournament. Waupun - Keith Milkowski 920-324-5591 ext. 2816 or kmilkowski@waupun.k12.wi.us. (2-25)

Dec. 27-28, 2010 - Teams for varsity/JV tournament. Dodgeand - Greg Kuhn 920-386-4404 ext. 1223 or kuhn@dodgeand.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

Dec. 28-29, 2010 - Team for varsity/JV/frosh tournament. Sheboygan North - Tom Desotell 920-946-1178 or tjdesotell@charter.net. (2-17)

Dec. 29-30, 2010 - Team for tournament. Brookfield East - Corey Golla 262-781-1045 or gollac@elmbrookschoools.org. (2-26)

Dec. 29-30, 2010 - Team for varsity/JV tournament (two games guaranteed). Stratford - Cal Tackes 715-687-4311 ext. 311. (2-23)

GENERAL

2010-11 - Varsity/JV game. Boyceville - Bud Gilbertson budg@boyceville.k12.wi.us. (3-2)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV game. Mishicot - Terri Risch 920-755-3281. (3-3)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV/freshmen games. De Pere - Jeff Byczek 920-983-9174 ext. 4012 or jbyczek@depere.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV freshmen games. Bay Port - Otis Chambers 920-662-7268 or otishcham@hs-sd.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

2010-11 - Team for game (3 levels). Adams-Friendship - Shawn Groshek 608-339-3921 ext. 104 or groshek_s@af.k12.wi.us. (3-1)

2010-11 - Games. Central Wis. Christian - Mark Vander Werff 920-324-4233 or mvwerff@yahoo.com. (2-19)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV games. Milw. School of Languages - John Pitta 414-303-3090 or pittajv@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV/frosh games. Lancaster - John Hoch 608-723-6425 ext. 210 or hochj@lancastersd.k12.wi.us. (2-17)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV/frosh games. Palmyra-Eagle - Kari Timm 262-495-7101 ext. 2217 or ktimm@palmyra.k12.wi.us. (2-17)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV/freshmen game. Colfax - Wes Grambo 715-962-3155 or wgrambo@colfax.k12.wi.us. (2-15)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV/frosh game (2-year contract). Cambridge - Mike Klingbeil 608-423-3261 ext. 3130 or mklingbeil@cambridge.k12.wi.us. (1-27)

Girls Basketball

DATE SPECIFIC

Nov. 23, 2010 - Teams for varsity/JV/freshman (scrimmage). Pulaski - Jerad Marsha 920-822-6706 or jwmarsh@pulaski.k12.wi.us. (2-15)

Dec. 27-28, 2010 - Team for varsity/JV tournament. Janesville Craig - Monte Phillips 608-743-5270 or mphilips@janesville.k12.wi.us. (3-3)

Dec. 27-28, 2010 - Teams for varsity tournament. Waupun - Keith Milkowski 920-324-5591 ext. 2816 or kmilkowski@waupun.k12.wi.us. (2-25)

Dec. 27-28, 2010 - Team for tournament (varsity/JV). Black River Falls - Tom Leadholm 715-284-4324. (2-19)

Dec. 27-28, 2010 - Varsity/JV team for tournament. Fort Atkinson - Mark Pollex 920-563-7811 or pollexm@mail.fortschoools.org. (2-17)

Dec. 28-29, 2010 - Teams for tournament (2 games). North Fond du Lac - Dave Manley 920-929-3740 ext. 5105 or dmanley@nfdl.k12.wi.us. (2-23)

GENERAL

2010-11 - Varsity/JV/freshmen game. Sauk Prairie - Aaron Braund 608-643-5906 or braunaa@sauk-pr.k12.wi.us. (3-3)

2010-11 - Varsity/JV game. Boyceville - Bud Gilbertson budg@boyceville.k12.wi.us. (3-2)

2010-11 - Games. Central Wis. Christian - Mark Vander Werff 920-324-4233 or mvwerff@yahoo.com. (2-19)

2010-11 - Games (all levels). Divine Savior Holy Angels - Scott Witt 4214-630-1778 or switt@wi.rr.com. (2-17)

Boys Hockey

DATE SPECIFIC

Dec. 27-29, 2010 - Team for tournament. Baldwin-Woodville - J.R. Dachel 715-684-3321 ext. 117 or jrdachel@bw-sd.k12.wi.us. (2-25)

Boys Swimming & Diving

DATE SPECIFIC

Jan. 8, 2011 - Teams for invitational. Waunakee - Brian Smith - 608-849-2104 or bsmith@waunakee.k12.wi.us. (2-23)

Wrestling

DATE SPECIFIC

Dec. 1, 2010 - Teams for invitational - varsity dual format. Waunakee - Brian Smith 608-849-2104 or bsmith@waunakee.k12.wi.us. (2-23)

Dec. 4, 2010 - Teams for varsity multi-dual. Janesville Parker - Richard Lehman 608-743-5645. (3-2)

Dec. 4, 2010 - Teams for 16-team tournament. Black Hawk - Jerry Mortimer 608-439-5371 ext. 112. (2-19)

Dec. 4, 2010 - Team for 5-team dual format tournament. Pulaski - Jerad Marsh 920-822-6706 or jwmarsh@pulaski.k12.wi.us. (2-17)

Jan. 8, 2011 - Team for 6-team dual format tournament. Delavan-Darien - Wayne Fell 262-728-2642 ext. 4451 or wfell@ddschoools.org. (3-3)

Jan. 15, 2011 - Team for 6-team multi-dual tournament. Madison La Follette - Gary Skiles 608-839-4251 or gskiles@madison.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

Jan. 29, 2011 - Teams for JV invitational (5-mat format with guaranteed) See **Games Wanted**, page 6 ►

Softball

Marcy Thurwachter

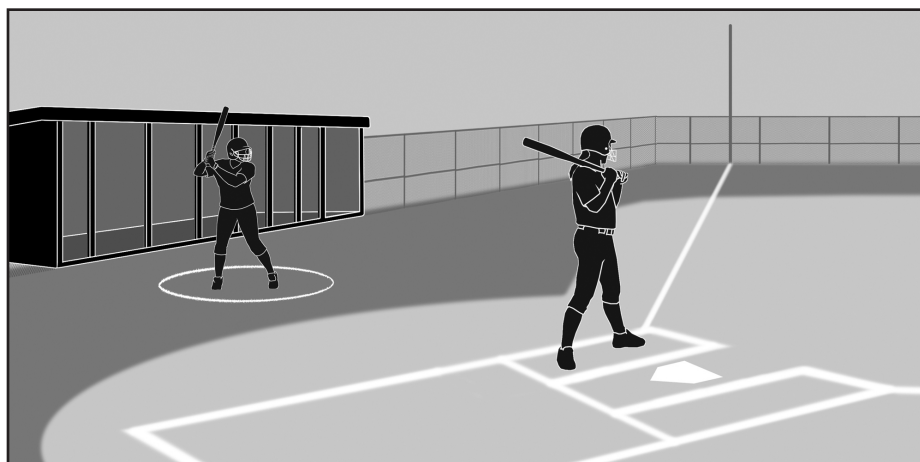


Wisconsin to Experiment With Softball On-Deck Players

Based upon growing concerns for the safety of players in the on-deck circle, the Coaches Advisory Committee recommended requesting a waiver from the NFHS to allow the on-deck batter to be positioned behind the player at the plate. "A team's players shall warm-up in the on-deck circle located behind the batter."

If the player at the plate is right handed, the on-deck batter will be positioned in the on-deck circle closest to the 3rd base dugout. If the player at the plate is left handed, the on-deck batter will be positioned in the on-deck circle closest to the 1st base dugout. This most likely will result in the majority of batter's using the on-deck circle closest to the 3rd base dugout since the majority of batter's are right handed.

In this diagram we see the on-deck batter properly positioned behind the player at the plate. In this instance the team at bat is in the first base dugout but is correctly using the 3rd base on-deck circle.



This rule is required for all levels of softball. If the batter at the plate switches to the other side of the plate, the umpire should call time and the on-deck batter should move accordingly.

With the potential for a batter to be located in close proximity to their opponent's dugout, sportsmanship will be a priority. Coaches should explain to their player's that this is a safety precaution and unsportsmanlike comments directed to the opposing player by other players, coaches and fans will not be tolerated. ✚

Softball Adopts International Tie-Breaker

The International Tie Breaker may be used, with prior agreement/announcement, for all regular season games (mutual agreement by both teams) and regular season tournaments (host decision). Conferences may determine use of the tie-breaker and should have this stated in their by-laws. The use of the International Tie-breaker is NOT allowed in the WIAA tournament series. If a game is tied after seven innings, the game will continue using the International Tie-breaker. Each team starts the inning with the player who completed the last official at bat as a base runner on second base. Each team has the opportunity to bat each inning. Conferences may ban or adopt the use of the tie-breaker for conference games. Since many conferences will not be able to have a coaches meeting to discuss this, coaches may choose not to adopt it by stating their intention during the pre-game conference with the umpires. ✚

2010 WIAA Softball Tournament Schedule

Please note that the WIAA Softball Tournament will feature a new schedule for this spring. The sectional tournament will now be split into two semifinal games played at two different sites on Tuesday, June 8. The championship game is scheduled for Friday, June 11.

The State Tournament will move to Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 17, 18 and 19.

Coaches and administrators should remind their players and parents of these changes to avoid potential conflicts with end of the school year events. ✚

Register Your Softball Field

All schools should register their softball field by going to the School Center; Softball; 2010 Softball Field Submittable Form. The form must be submitted by May 14, 2010. By completing this form, the assignment of home games for the WIAA Softball Tournament at the softball seed meetings will be facilitated. Only those fields with a fence between the distance of 185' and 230' which do not have a baseball pitcher's mound are considered legal. ✚

Games Wanted

► Continued from page 5

antee of at least 4 matches). Manitowoc Lincoln - John Johnson 920-683-4861 ext. 6105 or johnsonj@mpsd.k12.wi.us. (2-23)

GENERAL

2010-11 - Dual meets home and/or away. Madison La Follette - Gary Skiles 608-839-4251 or gskiles@madison.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

SPRING

Baseball

GENERAL

2010 (Apr. 5-17) - Varsity games. Brookfield Academy - Dave Von Reuden 262-783-3200 or tmlmouse@earthlink.net. (2-26)

2010 - Freshmen games. Stratford - Cal Tackes 715-687-4311 ext. 311. (2-23)

Girls Soccer

DATE SPECIFIC

Apr. 30-May 1, 2010 - Team for varsity invitational (3 games). Appleton West - Mark McQuade 920-832-4105 or mcquademark@aa-sd.k12.wi.us. (3-2)

May 14-15, 2010 - Team for varsity invitational (3 games). Cedarburg - Brian Leair 262-376-6261 or bleair@cedarburg.k12.wi.us. (2-15)

GENERAL

2010 - JV games. Sheboygan North - Daniel Stengel dstengel@sheboygan.k12.wi.us. (2-17)

2010 - JV games. Kettle Moraine Lutheran - Len Collyard 262-677-4051 or lcollyar@kmlhs.org. (2-17)

Softball

DATE SPECIFIC

Apr. 10, 2010 - Teams for freshman invitational (3 games). Sheboygan North - Dan Stengel 920-459-3605 or dstengel@sheboygan.k12.wi.us. (2-26)

May 1, 2010 - Team for invitational (3 games). Cedarburg - Brian Leair 262-376-6261 or bleair@cedarburg.k12.wi.us. (2-17)

May 15, 2010 - Freshmen team for quad (2 games). Neenah - Lisa Dohr 920-751-6900 ext. 105. (3-2)

May 15, 2010 - Teams for invitational. Assumption (Wisconsin Rapids) - Joe Birkhauser 715-422-0915 or birkhauserjoe@hotmail.com. (2-15)

GENERAL

2010 - Games. Owen-Withee - Brian Lewison 715-229-2151 ext. 246 or blewison@owen-withee.k12.wi.us. (3-3)

2010 - Games. Alma - Steve Sedlmayr 608-685-4416 ext. 224 or ssedlmay@mwt.net. (2-25)

2010 - JV/freshmen games. Markesan - Kevin Wopat 920-398-4113 or wopatkev@markesan.k12.wi.us. (2-25)

2010 - Freshmen games. Stratford - Cal Tackes 715-687-4311 ext. 311. (2-23)

2010 - Games with northeast Wisconsin schools. Houghton (MI) - Mark Ahlborn 906-482-9526 or albs@charter.net. (2-19)

Boys Tennis

DATE SPECIFIC

Apr. 17, 2010 - Teams for varsity quad. Waukesha West - Scott McConnell 262-538-2726 or rsmcconnell@ameritech.net. (2-17)

Apr. 24, 2010 - Team for varsity/JV quad. Beaver Dam - Bob Schwach 920-885-7520 ext. 2249 or schwachb@beaverdam.k12.wi.us. (2-19)

May 1, 2010 - Team for varsity quad. Green Bay Preble - Dan Retzki 920-391-2400 ext. 3017 or dretzki@greenbay.k12.wi.us. (2-26)

May 15, 2010 - Team for varsity quad. Green Bay Preble - Dan Retzki

920-391-2400 ext. 3017 or dretzki@greenbay.k12.wi.us. (2-26)

May 15, 2010 - Berth in tournament or dual any time of the season. Burlington - Kenny Savaglia 262-763-0200 or ksavaglia@basd.k12.wi.us. (2-25)

GENERAL

2010 - Berth in multi-school event. New Richmond - Casey Eckardt 715-243-7455 or cas-eye@newrichmond.k12.wi.us. (3-2)

2010 - Matches. Edgerton - Clark Bretthauer ad@edgerton.k12.wi.us. (3-2)

Track & Field

DATE SPECIFIC

Apr. 27, 2010 - Teams for meet. Adams-Friendship - Shawn Groshek 608-339-3921 ext. 104 or groshek_s@af.k12.wi.us. (2-15)

Apr. 30, 2010 - Varsity teams (boys & girls) for 8-team invitational. Reedsburg - Bryan Yager 608-524-4327 ext. 1104 or byager@rsd.k12.wi.us. (3-3)

May 14, 2010 - Teams for co-ed invitational. Delavan-Darien - Wayne Fell 262-728-2642 ext. 4451 or wfell@ddschoools.org. (3-3) ✚

Golf Interpretations



Tom Shafranski

REVISIONS TO USGA DECISIONS FOR 2010

DECISION 1-3/0.5 – If you and your opponent agree to waive a rule, you are both disqualified, even if you have yet to violate it. If the agreement occurs before the round, you're both disqualified as soon as the first player tees off.

DECISION 4-4a/15 – Carrying a shaft and clubhead that aren't assembled does not count against your 14-club limit. However, they can't be assembled during a round, even if you are carrying fewer than 14 clubs.

DECISION 13-4/0.7 – You can smooth the sand in a bunker if your ball lies in another bunker, provided it's for the purpose of tidying and you don't test the surface or improve the lie for the next stroke. But regardless of your intent, you can't smooth the sand in the bunker where your ball lies before making your first stroke.

DECISION 14-3/10.3 – Carrying an alignment rod in your bag is OK, provided it's not used during the round.

DECISION 20-2a/8 – You can't conduct test drops to determine whether you should drop when the option arises.

DECISION 33-8/34 – No committee can enact a local rule to provide relief without penalty from divot holes or repaired divot holes.

GROUP SCORING

QUESTION: What do you mean by Player "A" has to use Player "D's" scorecard when officially scoring his/her group?

INTERPRETATION: Player A is not allowed to score his/her own round; consequently, Player A has to use the scorecard of another player in order to score the round for each player and be the official scorer for that group.

QUESTION: Should every player now score all players in their group?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, each player needs to keep track of the scores for all the other players in their group. This group scoring method is proving to help prevent mistakes in scoring and scoring problems.

Coaching During Meets

QUESTION: While a player is at address on the tee box, can a coach tell the player to "aim left?"

INTERPRETATION: Yes, a coach is allowed to provide instruction while a player is at address. Strategic advice like "aim left" is allowed.

Coaches are not able to "align" players while they are at address. This includes moving them to the proper alignment.

QUESTION: Are coaches now allowed to go on the tee box at any time?

INTERPRETATION: WIAA coaching regulations have now been rewritten and coaches are allowed to be on the tee box at any time.

QUESTION: Can a coach stand behind a player and help them with their alignment or are coaches in violation of USGA Rule 14-2b?

INTERPRETATION: Coaches are allowed to help line them up. Obviously, coaches then have to move off the line before they initiate the swing. This is just like how a caddy helps the player line up. You see this quite a bit on the LPGA tour.

Rule 14-2b actually doesn't prohibit a coach from doing this. It does refer to "assistance", but "In making a stroke." So as long as the coach is off the intended line of play once the player begins the stroke, there is no problem.

QUESTION: Can coaches hold an umbrella over a player when it is either raining or very sunny?

INTERPRETATION: Umbrellas - again similar to a caddy. We can hold the umbrella while they are getting ready to play the shot - ex. putting the tee in the ground, lining up a putt, etc. But we then have to get out of there as they play the shot ("in making a stroke").

QUESTION: What are the regulations about coaches providing advice to players around the greens?

INTERPRETATION: The new regulation allowing one designated coach to coach during a competition prevents a coach from going onto a green during the competition. This new regulation also prevents coaches from aligning players while the player is at address nor delay pace of play in any way. Coaches are allowed to provide advice to players while remaining off the green. This allows players to go to their coach, off the green to seek advice (without delaying pace of play) or for a coach to provide verbal information to a player from off the green.

THE NEW GOLF COACHING ON THE COURSE REGULATION

QUESTION: With the new WIAA coaching regulation, can a coach now walk down the fairways with their golfers?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, it is now allowable for a coach to walk down a fairway with a player. This can be done as long as play is not delayed in any way and the coach remains out of any bunkers and does not go on the greens during the meet.

QUESTION: Can a coach have an electronic measuring device and walk down the fairway with one of their players?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, walking down the fairway with a player and the coach possessing an electronic measuring device is allowed. It is players who are not allowed to possess electronic measuring devices. Coaches are allowed to do so and are allowed to relay information to players.

Spectators are allowed to carry and use electronic measuring devices, but may only relay yardage information to coaches. Spectators are not allowed to provide any type of information to players during a competition.

QUESTION: Can electronic measuring devices have slope and other instruments on them?

INTERPRETATION: No, USGA Decisions on the Rules of Golf, Appendix I, 9., page 514, the following wording is used for WIAA competition, "a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used."

QUESTION: Can a coach provide yardage (distance) information to an opponent?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, USGA definitions of advice have been modified to allow the exchange of information on distance, as it is not considered to be "advice."

QUESTION: Can a coach holler to a player on the green the break of a putt?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, a coach can holler to a player the break of a putt; however, appropriate golf etiquette needs to be

maintained so as other players are not disturbed and appropriate pace of play is maintained.

QUESTION: If a JV team is playing in an invite including varsity teams, would they be subject to the varsity coaching rule or the JV coaching rule or should it be up to the discretion of the tournament director?

INTERPRETATION: In accordance with the WIAA Adaptation to USGA rules, letter j., coaching contact/instruction is only allowed during a JV competition, HAS NOW BEEN REMOVED, as coaching is allowed at all levels of play.

QUESTION: With the new rule allowing coaches to coach during the play of a hole I am concerned with pace of play issues. If the group has a coach who slows play by advising his player on most of his shots should the player be penalized 2 strokes or should the two strokes be added to the team total? In the past the four players in the group are penalized. If the slow play is the fault of the coach it does not seem right for the whole group to be penalized. From what I have seen in the past this could be a major problem.

INTERPRETATION: Keep in mind that pace of play requires both a time limitation and a continuous flow where a group of players get more than a hole behind the group in front of them.

WIAA Spring Season Regulations, Boys Golf, page 15, 15., g., indicates, "Host schools must determine an appropriate length of time to play the course. Each host manager must mark the starting time on a designated card for each group, with one card marked per group. The recommended amount of time is two hours and 15 minutes for nine holes and four hours and 30 minutes for 18 holes. First violation – warning; second violation – a one-stroke penalty will be assessed to groups that do not meet the pace of play limits." If a group is behind in time and more than a hole behind the group in front of them then the penalty for delay is a group penalty on the players in that group.

Also, please review additional information found on the School Center regarding Pace of Play regulations in the PACE OF PLAY SUMMARY. Here you will find the appeal process that can be used if a penalty is assessed and it is only one individual or a couple of individuals/coaches in a group who have caused the delays: "If a player or players feel an individual or individuals are responsible for the group's penalty/penalties under this structure and would like the meet management to consider waiving the penalty/penalties, the player or players must make an appeal to the meet director/tournament director or the senior rules official prior to leaving the scoring area."

Out-Of-Season Coaching Contact

QUESTION: I would like to take my girl golfers to a clinic that is being held during the school year, but outside of the WIAA girls golf season. Can I drive them to this clinic?

INTERPRETATION: No, WIAA Rules at a Glance are the best place to find language that addresses this matter. Under I. it indicates that "Coaches may not have coaching contact with any athletes they will be coaching the following school season during restricted times (except their own children)."

Interpretations regarding the transportation of students have always indicated this to be coaching contact that is not allowed unless it is a coach's child.

Spring Trips

QUESTION: Last night I was approached by a parent of one of our golf team members about supporting a team golf trip during our spring break.

His proposal is to help pay for transportation (gas) to get our boys golf team to a destination in southern Illinois or Indiana to golf during our non-school break.

It would be optional and if need be, offered to other students as well. We would use school vans and employees (boys coaches) to drive. Housing, food and the green fees would be the individual's responsibility.

Please let me or my athletic director know as soon as possible if this is doable. If so, what stipulations must be met, in order to do so legally or with WIAA consent.

INTERPRETATION: The WIAA does not have any language that prevents a trip of this sort from taking place. Local school regulations and policies will need to be reviewed to determine if trips of this sort are allowed by the school district.

Please keep in mind that WIAA school golf programs may not scrimmage any other school teams and are now only allowed one out-of-state competition unless the meet is in a bordering state (MN, IL, MI, and IA).

Since the the first day of practice for the WIAA boys golf season is March 29, 2010, a trip that leaves on this day allows coach and student-athletes to travel together and for the coach to begin working with student-athletes on this day. Coaching contact is not allowed any earlier than March 29, 2010. It can be offered to any student and since this is the first day of the golf season be offered to all golfers interested in going out for the golf team.

Regarding fundraising or a donation for the trip, this can be done. However, the funds need to be provided to the school administration and accepted through the school district's donation protocol. This will likely require the acceptance/approval of the board of education prior to the trip.

Since the school is providing transportation vehicles and employees, this is considered a school function/trip. All school district regulations will need to be applied and followed.

Practice at Regional Sites

QUESTION: Are school golf teams allowed to have a practice at the regional site this year without having it count towards one of their meet maximums?

INTERPRETATION: No, the request by the WIAA Golf Coaches Advisory Committee to allow a practice by each school team at a regional site has been denied. An additional meet has been added beginning in the fall of 2010 for the girls and in the spring of 2011 for the boys so long as one meet is scheduled on a Saturday during the regular season. The numerous opportunities that student-athletes have to go to this course on their own, with a parent, relative or friends, with their coach (so long as it is counted as one meet), the potential loss of school time and competitive opportunities in scheduled meets during the regular season have been cited as rational for not allowing this practice session.

Attire

QUESTION: Can mock turtleneck shirts be worn during the golf season?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, the WIAA does allow school golf teams to wear mock turtleneck shirts so long as the school ad- See **Golf Interpretations**, page 14 ►

Annual Meeting Amendments

The following amendments to the WIAA Constitution, Bylaws and Rules of Eligibility will be voted on by delegates to the WIAA Annual Meeting April 28 in Stevens Point.

CONSTITUTION

NUMBER 1 – SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION

This change clarifies which enrollment will be used when member schools consolidate.

Article III - Membership – p. 14

Section 3 – Classification

- A. Each senior high school shall be classified for purposes of membership, representation, and competition (including tournaments where necessary) on the basis of previous year 's enrollment on the third Friday in September.
- 1) Schools with only Grades 10-12 students shall add, for purposes of classification and competition:
- a. The total enrollment figure of the Grade 9 students, if there is only one school with Grades 10-12 students in the district.
 - b. One-third of the enrollment of Grades 10-12, if there is more than one school with Grades 10-12 students in the district.
- 2) The Board of Control shall have authority to adjust enrollment figures in unusual situations (such as consolidation, formation of new school, gain or loss of district, etc.), provided such information is made known before September 15 of each year.
- 3) The enrollment of schools consisting of students of only one sex shall be doubled to determine its classification.

Note: When two or more school districts consolidate, the third Friday enrollment count of the previous year will be used for all WIAA tournaments.

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	<u>13-0</u>	_____
Advisory Council	<u>14-3</u>	_____
Board of Control	<u>10-1</u>	_____

- X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

NUMBER 2 – SANCTIONS FOR WITHDRAWING FROM A CONFERENCE

This change provides sanctions to member schools that voluntarily withdraw from a conference for one sport only.

Article VI - Powers and Duties of the Board of Control

Section 10 – Conference Alignment – p. 20

- A. The Board of Control has the authority to take action to bring about a reasonable conference affiliation and relationship for member high schools.
- Note: It is not the intent to make wholesale changes in existing conference lines. It should be understood, however, that there could be shake-ups in areas where conference affiliation problems are particularly acute, and it may not be realistic to find a solution for every member school.
- B. For inclusion in a conference, any member high school, either through co-op application or by singular sponsorship, must offer one sport for boys and one sport for girls in the fall, winter, and spring. Schools that are not coeducational must adhere to a similar single-gender requirement.
- C. Member schools that voluntarily withdraw from their WIAA assigned conference in any sport without conference approval shall be removed from the same conference schedules in all sports for two years.

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	<u>13-0</u>	_____
Advisory Council	<u>16-0</u>	_____
Board of Control	<u>11-0</u>	_____

- X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

BYLAWS

NUMBER 3 – CLASSES INTERRUPTED

This change provides formal policy in the event scheduled classes are interrupted due to infectious/communicable disease.

Article II - School Competition and Practice Requirements – p. 28

Section 6 – Classes Interrupted

- A. In the event scheduled classes are interrupted or terminated due to infectious/communicable disease by the school district or by local/county/state health agencies, interscholastic athletic practice and competition will be postponed or cancelled. If school is closed through the weekend but scheduled to reopen on Monday, practice would be allowed on Sunday if approved by school administration.
- 1) During the regular season, contests may be postponed and played at a later date in accordance with respective season regulations.
- 2) During the WIAA tournament series, if a school is closed or will be closed on the day of a WIAA tournament contest, the WIAA contest will be rescheduled, when possible, to the earliest possible date provided the rescheduled contest will be completed prior to the next scheduled round of the WIAA tournament. (Football contests must meet season regulations, 6c.) If rescheduling is not possible, the team/individual most recently defeated in tournament competition will take that school/team's place in the WIAA tournament game/meet/event.
- Note: Schools participating in co-op programs which are not closed may continue to compete in the WIAA tournament series.
- B. In the event scheduled classes are interrupted or terminated for reasons other than health, interscholastic athletic practice and competition may continue as determined by the administration, only if a duly authorized and qualified coach is in attendance, directly supervising and conducting the activity.
- C. In the event scheduled classes are interrupted in A. or B. for an extended period of time:

- 1) If practices have been terminated for a period of at least seven days, but less than 14 days, a school may not resume competition until after three separate days of practice.
- 2) If practices have been terminated for a period of 14 days or more, a school may not resume competition until after five separate days of practice.
- 3) The requirement of minimum practice days as described in 1) and 2) above shall apply for any interruption or termination of classes, including Christmas-New Year and spring vacations.
- 4) Days as used in this Section shall be interpreted as calendar days.

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	<u>10-3</u>	_____
Advisory Council	<u>17-0</u>	_____
Board of Control	<u>11-0</u>	_____

- X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

NUMBER 4 – CONTRIBUTION TO VICTORY APPEALS DURING TOURNAMENT SERIES

This change limits contribution to victory appeals to the Board of Control to regular season only in order to continue the tournament series on schedule.

Article I - General – p. 31

Section 6 – School Appeal of Forfeiture Ruling

- A. With the exception of the WIAA Tournament Series, appeals of forfeiture based on an ineligible student's contribution to victory in a team sport may be heard by the Board of Control. There will be a presumption by the Board of Control that the ineligible student's participation did impact on the competition. It will be the responsibility of the school to satisfy to a clear and convincing standard that the student did not contribute in any way to the victory. There will be a presumption that the contest(s) would not have been won without the student's participation. The Board of Control will set the criteria to be considered in appeals hearings. The opposing school(s) will be given the opportunity to be heard.

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	<u>13-0</u>	_____
Advisory Council	<u>17-0</u>	_____
Board of Control	<u>11-0</u>	_____

- X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

NUMBER 5 – SUMMER CONTACT

This change provides increased summer coaching contact opportunities to all sport coaches, with the exception of football.

Article VI - Nonschool Participation – p. 37

Section 2 – Out-of-Season

- A. It is the philosophy of this Association that while athletes ...
- B. The one exception to A. above shall be in the summertime. Members of ...
- C. Other than during the actual school season and those days designated as unrestricted coach contact days in the summertime, the following provisions shall apply to nonschool participation in accordance with Section 2A above:
- 1) An acceptable nonschool program or activity ...
- 2) There are no restrictions relative to voluntary assembling ...
- 3) The person who will be coaching a student in the following school season shall not be permitted to coach that student other than during the designated school season and Board of Control approved coach contact days in the summertime. Board of Control approved summertime coach contact is as follows:
- a. Coaches in all WIAA recognized sports (baseball, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, volleyball, soccer, basketball, hockey and wrestling) have been afforded up to 5 days of unrestricted summertime coaching contact between the end of school and July 31, in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in item B of this section. The five days do not need to be consecutive.
 - b. Within an acceptable nonschool program, coaching contact beyond the five unrestricted days is permitted to continue throughout the summertime in the sports of baseball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field and wrestling, all WIAA recognized sports with the exception of football (baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, hockey, softball, soccer, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, volleyball and wrestling), in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in Section 2 – A and C-1) of this section.

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	<u>7-6</u>	_____
Advisory Council	<u>7-10</u>	_____
Board of Control	<u>11-0</u>	_____

- _____ Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
 X No position

NUMBER 6 – SUMMER CONTACT

This change provides a common summer start date.

Article VI - Nonschool Participation – p. 37

Section 2 – Out-of-Season

- A. It is the philosophy of this Association that while athletes ...
- B. The one exception to A. above shall be in the summertime. Members of ...

Annual Meeting Amendments

► Continued from page 8

- C. Other than during the actual school season and those days designated as unrestricted coach contact days in the summertime, the following provisions shall apply to nonschool participation in accordance with Section 2A above:
- 1) An acceptable nonschool program or activity ...
 - 2) There are no restrictions relative to voluntary assembling ...
 - 3) The person who will be coaching a student in the following school season shall not be permitted to coach that student other than during the designated school season and Board of Control approved coach contact days in the summertime. Board of Control approved summertime coach contact is as follows:
 - a. Coaches in all WIAA recognized sports (baseball, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, volleyball, soccer, basketball, hockey and wrestling) have been afforded up to 5 days of unrestricted summertime coaching contact between the end of school and July 31, in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in item B of this section. The five days do not need to be consecutive.
 - b. Within an acceptable nonschool program, coaching contact beyond the five unrestricted days is permitted to continue throughout the summertime in the sports of baseball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field and wrestling, in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in Section 2 – A and C-1) of this section.

Note: Summertime is defined as starting on Friday of Memorial Day weekend until the start of school in the fall.

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	_____*	_____
Advisory Council	_____*	_____
Board of Control	_____8-3	_____

_____X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

* Previously combined with Amendment #5

NUMBER 7 – TEAM ASSEMBLY DURING SCHOOL YEAR - OUT OF SEASON

This change adds clarification to acceptable conditioning and weight training activities within Open Gym provisions.

Article VI - Nonschool Participation

Section 2 – Out-of-Season – Page 37-38

- A. It is the philosophy of this Association that while athletes should not be unreasonably restricted, ...
- B. The one exception to A. above shall be In the summertime, ...
- C. Other than during the actual school season and ...
- 1) An acceptable nonschool program or activity ...
 - 2) There are no restrictions relative to voluntary assembling of students during the summer in excess of 5 days without school/coach involvement.
 - 3) The person who will be coaching a student the following school season shall not be permitted to coach that student other than during the designated school season and Board of Control approved coach contact days in the summertime. Board of Control approved summertime coach contact is as follows:
 - a. Coaches in all WIAA recognized sports ...
 - b. Coaching contact beyond the five unrestricted days ...
 - c. This provision shall not prevent a coach from
 - d. Coaches are allowed to recreate along with students
 - e. Coaches are allowed to use some or all of their athletes, ...
 - f. A member school is permitted to supervise conditioning programs under the open gym provisions, which may include weight lifting, speed, agility, fitness. The program must be limited to non-sport and non-sport-skill-specific instruction. Basic 'instruction' e.g., safe lifting, safe spotting, training regimen and rationale, are permitted. No sport implements and/or sport specific movement/drills should be part of the open gym or weight room. These conditioning programs must be made known and accessible to all interested students and must be voluntary.
 - 4) With approval of its governing body, ... etc.

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	_____13-0	_____
Advisory Council	_____17-0	_____
Board of Control	_____11-0	_____

_____X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

NUMBER 8 – EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

This change adds Athletic Emergency Form as a required document.

Editorial changes to the physical examination portion.

Article VII - Health and Behavior/Compliance – p. 39

Section 1 – Physical Examination

- ~~A. A student may not practice for or participate in interscholastic athletics until the school has written evidence on file in its office attesting to (a) parental permission each school year including an acknowledgment of receiving the school athletic code and WIAA Rules of Eligibility, and (b) current physical fitness to participate in sports as determined by a licensed physician or Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriber (APNP) no less than every other school year with April 1 the earliest date of examination. School policy determines when~~

~~an athlete may return to competition following an injury, except where rule book or WIAA tournament policies apply.~~

~~Physical examination taken April 1 and thereafter is valid for the following two school years; physical examination taken before April 1 is valid only for remainder of that school year and following school year.~~

Section 1 – Required Documentation

- A. A student may not practice for or participate in interscholastic athletics until the school has written evidence on file in its office attesting to:
- 1) parental permission each school year including an acknowledgment of receiving the school athletic code,
 - 2) acknowledgement of receiving the WIAA Rules of Eligibility,
 - 3) Athletic Emergency Form
 - 4) current physical fitness to participate in sports.

Section 2 – Physical Examination

- A. A current physical fitness to participate in sports as determined by a licensed physician or Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriber (APNP) no less than every other school year with April 1 the earliest date of examination. School policy determines when an athlete may return to competition following an injury, except where rule book or WIAA tournament policies apply.
- B. Physical examination taken April 1 and thereafter is valid for the following two school years; physical examination taken before April 1 is valid only for remainder of that school year and following school year.

Note: It is recommended that a student also have dental fitness attested by a licensed dentist.

(Subsequent sections would be renumbered accordingly)

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	_____13-0	_____
Advisory Council	_____17-0	_____
Board of Control	_____11-0	_____

_____X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

NUMBER 9 – TEAM ASSEMBLY DURING SCHOOL YEAR - OUT OF SEASON

This change would not allow ineligible athletes to appear in uniform at a WIAA Tournament or to participate in the awards ceremony.

Article VII - Health and Behavior/Compliance

Section 2 – Code of Conduct – Page 39

- A. A school shall have a code of conduct for its athletes, and it is strongly recommended ...
- B. The WIAA is against the use of anabolic-androgenic steroids and other performance enhancing ...
- C. A student is required to follow the school's code of conduct on a year-round (12 month) basis.
- 1) In-season violations of the school code will result in immediate suspension ...
 - 2) The member school will determine minimum penalties ...
 - 3) The member school will determine minimum penalties for any other ...
- D. The minimum penalty for acts outlined above in Section 2-C (1 through 3) which results in a student being suspended for one or more WIAA tournament competitions, is immediate disqualification of the student for the remainder of the total tournament series in that sport.
- E. Athletes who are ineligible during the WIAA Tournament (for any reason) may not appear in uniform, participate in warm-ups, and may not participate in the awards ceremony at the WIAA Tournament.
- F. A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons and/or as a result of another State Association regulation or sanction retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school

Advance to Annual Meeting	Yes	No
Sports Advisory Committee	_____	_____
Advisory Council	_____	_____
Board of Control	_____11-0	_____

_____X Support adoption
_____ Don't support adoption
_____ No position

EDITORIAL CHANGES

Editorial changes are attempts to clarify existing rules without making any change in the interpretation of the rule. In some instances, the change may be merely a word(s) or the addition or deletion of a sentence, while in other cases the change may reflect Board of Control interpretation of membership wishes.

CONSTITUTION

Article II - Purpose – p. 14

Section 1 – The purpose of this Association is threefold:

- A. To organize, develop, direct, and control an interscholastic athletic program which will promote the ideals of its membership and opportunities for member schools' participation.
- B. To emphasize interscholastic athletics as a partner with other school activities in the total educational process, and formulate and maintain policies which will cultivate high ideals of good citizenship and sportsmanship.
- C. To promote uniformity of standards in interscholastic athletic competition, and prevent exploitation by special interest groups of the school program and the individual's ability.

Note: The WIAA membership-sponsored tournaments are the collective property of the Association and not of any individual member. The Association reserves the right to promote and advance the membership's interests with publication information; exclusive arrangements to create recognition and exposure for school-sponsored activities; restrictive policies prohibiting exploitation and commercialization of membership-sponsored tournaments; appropriate proprietary interests; and the use of images or transmissions identifying students, administrative personnel and member school marks.

Tennis Interpretations



Tom Shafranski

USTA RULE CHANGES FOR 2010
USTA COMMENT 26.3 – To clarify when a ringing or vibrating cell phone is deemed a deliberate hindrance versus an unintentional hindrance.
Unless the referee specifically authorized the player to wear a cell phone in vibrate mode, the player caused a disturbance by bringing the phone to the court and not turning it off. This amounts to a deliberate hindrance. The opponent may stop play and claim the point on the grounds of a deliberate hindrance. If the referee specifically authorized the player to wear the cell phone in vibrate mode, the opponent may claim a let on the grounds of unintentional hindrance
USTA COMMENT 27.10 – Added to explain what to do when players mistakenly use regular scoring when they should be playing no-ad scoring.
When players mistakenly use regular scoring when they should be playing no-ad scoring, all games played count. All points count. If the score is deuce when the mistake is discovered, immediately convert to no-ad scoring. Otherwise, continue using conventional scoring until a player wins the game or the score reaches deuce. If the score reaches deuce, the winner of the next point wins the game. (The receiver has the choice of sides.)
USTA COMMENT 27.11 – Added to explain what to do when players mistakenly play a conventional tiebreak set when they should be playing a short set.
(First note that a mistake has not occurred unless one player has won five games or unless the score is four-all and the players have started to play the second point of the ninth game.) What should happen depends on the score.
● If the error is discovered when one player leads by two games or more, stop play and the player in the lead wins the set.
● If the error is discovered when one player leads by one game, play one more game or complete the game in progress. If the player now leads by two games, then that player wins the

set. If, on the other hand, the set is now tied, play a 7-Point Set Tiebreak to determine the winner of the set.
● If the error is discovered when the game score is tied and at least one point has been played in the next game, complete the game in progress and one additional game. If one player wins both games, then that player wins the set. If, on the other hand, the score is now tied, play a 7-Point Set Tiebreak to determine the winner of the set.
● If the error is discovered when the score is tied, play a 7-Point Set Tiebreak to determine the winner of the set.
Corporate Logos
QUESTION: Can the new Prince shirts with the extra "P" on the sleeve of the tennis shirt be allowed during competition?
INTERPRETATION: Yes, the new WIAA regulation approved at the January 2010 WIAA Board of Control meeting now allows for two manufacturer's logos/trademarks on each piece of attire. Just as we have allowed the Under Armour tennis shirts and uniforms to be worn, the new Prince shirt will also be allowed along with other clothing that has two logos.
Out-of-Season Coaching Contact
QUESTION: Can a school tennis team allow "Challenge Matches" to be held outside of the school season?
INTERPRETATION: No, WIAA Rules at a Glance, I., 1. And 2., indicates: Further, Coaches may not:
1. Mandate athletes participate in non-school competition, or determine who may not participate in non-school activity.
2. Require involvement in out-of-season activities as part of the requirements for making a school team, earning a school letter award, etc.
Student-athletes are allowed to play tennis in the off-season against one another. However, play of this sort must be done for recreational purposes only. Using scores from out-of-season play by the coaching staff and then having the coaching staff adjust the "Challenge Ladder" can only be viewed as Coaching Contact. In addition, use of the "Challenge Ladder" to identify student-athlete's positions during out-of-season periods violates the regulations found above.

QUESTION: I am a varsity coach and have just gotten a job at a local racket club. When can I have contact with my players outside of the season?
INTERPRETATION: WIAA Rules of Eligibility, Article VI – Nonschool Participation, Section 2 – Out-of-Season, A., 3) The person who will be coaching a student in the following school season shall not be permitted to coach that student other than during the designated school season and Board of Control approved coach contact days in the summertime. Board of Control approved summertime coach contact is as follows:
c. Coaching contact beyond the five unrestricted days is permitted to continue throughout the summertime (when school is not in session) in the sports of baseball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field and wrestling, in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in Section 2 – A and C-1) of this section.
The fundamental issue of this rule is that if a coach works with varsity (varsity, varsity reserve, JVa, JVb, JVC, sophomore) athletes during the school year, out-of-season, they are NOT able to coach varsity level programs during the WIAA regular or tournament series seasons. If freshmen have been instructed by a coach during the school year, out-of-season, that coach is not able to work with the freshmen team.
QUESTION: A coach from my area and I were having a discussion about out of season contact rules. He was asking if it was OK for a coach to play with (on the same tennis court) but not coach his players. I told him that it was not allowed in any way during the school year (non-summer). However, I could not find a specific statement of that in the WIAA Bylaws or Sport Regulation book. I'm pretty sure I am right about there being no contact of any form during the school year and outside of the season. Am I right? Where can I look to find the written statement of this rule?
INTERPRETATION: First, you are correct, coaches are not allowed to have contact outside of the season of play, during the school year in tennis. The best language for this can be found in WIAA Rules at a Glance.

Below I have provided an additional interpretation from eligibility interpretations found on the WIAA Web site:
Though WIAA rules and interpretations prohibit a coach from competing on the same team with their student athletes the interpretation does not prevent a student or students from being on a team in a bona fide league and/or coaches from being on another/different team and those two teams competing against each other in a structured nonschool league. Coaches may not compete "with" their students/on the same team, but rules do not prevent a coach - as a member of an organized league/team from competing "against" another league team - even though the other team may have a student athlete/athletes on its roster. This interpretation does not apply to pick-up games and "open gyms."
In tennis, this means that if a coach plays in a bona fide tennis league and players from his/her team are also in this league and they have to play each other in singles or doubles, the coach can compete against student-athletes he/she will be coaching in the upcoming season. Unless a player is a child of the coach, this is the only situation where a student-athlete can have contact with a coach. In this situation, a coach could be on the other side of the court competing against a student-athlete he/she will be coaching in the upcoming season.
QUESTION: I just heard that there is a rule change allowing coaches to participate with their athletes in out-of-season "open gyms". I understand no "coaching" contact is still the rule but specifically as it relates to tennis, can I play with one of my players out-of-season? This has never come up before, but I would like a clarification before it does.
INTERPRETATION: In order to be thorough and clear, there are several possible responses to the question as posed:
In the summer, yes! Tennis coaches are still permitted to have coach contact in the summertime in non-school settings above and beyond the five unrestricted contact days.
See **Tennis Interp**, page 11 ►

Annual Meeting Amendments

► Continued from page 9

BYLAWS

Article I - Sports Program – p. 25

Section 5 – WIAA Tournament Entry

- A. A member school must have an officially-adopted program in a sport in order to enter a team and/or individuals in the WIAA tournament series of that sport.
- B. Requests to add a team into WIAA tournament competition must be received in the WIAA office by the following deadline dates to be included in the subsequent year's tournament program:
Fall Sports – February 1 Winter Sports – April 1 Spring Sports – June 1 and Summer Baseball

Note: The WIAA membership-sponsored tournaments are the collective property of the Association and not of any individual member. The Association reserves the right to promote and advance the membership's interests with publication information; exclusive arrangements to create recognition and exposure for school-sponsored activities; restrictive policies prohibiting exploitation and commercialization of membership-sponsored tournaments; appropriate proprietary interests; and the use of images or transmissions identifying students, administrative personnel and member school marks.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

Article II - Health and Behavior/Compliance – p. 39

Section 3 – Flagrant or Unsportsmanlike Conduct and/or Assault on an Official

- A. A student, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is suspended from interscholastic competition for no less than the next competitive event (but not less than one complete game or meet).
Note: The penalty shall be served in the sport in which the offense occurred. If that sport season is completed, then it shall be served in the next sport or sport season.

SPECTATOR/CROWD CONDUCT POLICIES WIAA Tournament Policies

Note: The WIAA membership-sponsored tournaments are the collective property of the Association and not of any individual member. The Association reserves the right to promote and advance the membership's interests with publication information; exclusive arrangements to create recognition and exposure for school-sponsored activities; restrictive policies prohibiting exploitation and commercialization of membership-sponsored tournaments; appropriate proprietary interests; and the use of images or transmissions identifying students, administrative personnel and member school marks.

Locker Room:

State Law (175.22) prohibits ...
etc.

Prohibited Activities/Materials:

- Rushing the playing surface during or immediately following a contest
 - Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or illegal substances may not be available or present at high school events
 - Lotteries, drawings, raffles or contests at WIAA Tournament events
 - Confetti
 - Body paint, other than on the face, is not allowed at WIAA State Tournaments
 - Laser pens at all WIAA regular season and tournament contests. Violators shall be removed from the contest and laser pen(s) confiscated.
 - No fundraisers may be based on individual and/or team performance in competition and/or on the outcome of competition.
- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Advance to Annual Meeting | Yes | No |
| Board of Control | <u>11-0</u> | _____ |
| <u>X</u> | Support adoption | |
| _____ | Don't support adoption | |
| _____ | No position | |

Tennis Interp

► Continued from page 10

During the school year – outside the school season – in a local tournament, or other non-school event, e.g., outside of a school sponsored open gym environment – **NO!**

In school sponsored/open gyms, coaches are now able to recreate along with students. Given that determination as made by the Board of Control and only from that perspective, the response to the question could be - 'yes'.

The new interpretation does not alter or affect any other interpretation relating to coaching contact – it only addresses open gyms.

QUESTION: Can a coach or parent feed balls into a ball machine during a tennis open gym?

INTERPRETATION: No, WIAA open gym regulations as found in WIAA Rules At A Glance, D., indicate there is no instruction during the open gym by a coach or anyone else. Machines can be put out and set up by a coach or supervisor; however, students are the only ones allowed to feed balls.

QUESTION: Can a coach teach stretching exercises to tennis players during a Tennis open gym? Isn't this the same thing as teaching stretching in a weightroom setting?

INTERPRETATION: No, there is no other way to view teaching of stretching exercises during an open gym than as providing instruction during an open gym and having coaching contact.

A weight room workout is allowed, but not during an "open gym" session. In this case, instruction of stretching exercises must be considered to be coaching contact/instruction during an "open gym." If a coach wants to teach stretching or use of weights, that needs to be scheduled through the school administration with a weightroom coordinator/stretching specialist or by the coach once the season begins. Some coaches do get hired/approved as weightroom coordinators – these coaches are allowed to have contact for weight training purposes. Prior to providing any instruction, always best to check if it is OK to provide – especially when open gyms are off of school premises.

QUESTION: Our tennis booster club wants to hold a mixer for members of both teams and their parents on Mar. 23. The plan is to meet at an indoor club, organize 20-minute rotations of mixed doubles on 4 courts, provide a potluck meal, and draw tickets for some small door prizes (on the order of a can of balls, wristband, etc.) A small registration fee will be charged to defray cost of court time, soft drinks, etc. Coaches are invited, but will not play with team members, provide coaching/instruction, or be on-court at any time. (This is envisioned purely as a team-building, social event.) As described, does this event meet WIAA regs. for out-of-season contact and non-compensation of student athletes? It sounded okay to me, but I wanted to check with you to be sure. Please advise.

INTERPRETATION: An event as described above is best scheduled after the regular season has begun. There is no other way to view coaches associating with parents and students at a tennis club than as out-of-season coaching contact.

The best way to remedy this event is to not have the coaches attend this year and in future years schedule the event after the season has begun.

Student-athletes can accept prizes so long as they are distributed through a random drawing. They may not accept like those listed for performance.

QUESTION: Can a student-athlete compete against their coach in a tennis match?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, so long as the coach does not provide instruction, a student-athlete is able to compete against their coach. Though WIAA rules and interpretations prohibit a coach from competing on the same team with their student athletes the interpretation does not prevent a student or students from being on a team in a bona fide league and/or coaches from being on another/different team and those two teams competing against each other in a structured non-school league. Coaches may not compete "with" their students/on the same team, but rules do not prevent a coach – as a member of an organized league/team from competing "against" another league team – even though the other team may have a student athlete/athletes on its roster.

QUESTION: Can a student-athlete compete with their coach in a doubles match during the school year outside of the tennis season?

INTERPRETATION: No, playing with a coach in a doubles match can only be viewed as instructional and jeopardizes the eligibility of the student-athlete (see above).

QUESTION: Can a student-athlete compete with a coach who will be coaching another school's tennis team?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, so long as the coach he/she is partnering with will not be coaching this student-athlete or that players school team during the next school season, they can be allowed to partner with this student-athlete.

Guest Speakers/Instructors

QUESTION: Can a community member come in and coach/instruct for more than one day?

INTERPRETATION: School tennis teams can have a "special guest" provide instruction/advice/clinic for one day and one day only. Any instructor, clinician, volunteer, etc., who provides instruction/advice/clinics for more than one day is a coach. Once instruction takes place for more than one day, that individual is no longer allowed to have contact with high school tennis players outside of the regular season and allowed summer period.

Coaching Contact During a Meet

QUESTION: During a dual meet that involves both a varsity and a JV competition, can two coaches instruct the varsity team and two coaches instruct the JV team?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, following discussions of the WIAA Tennis Coaches Advisory Committee meeting in November of 2005, the Committee unanimously approved of allowing two coaches per level to be used. This allows two coaches to instruct a varsity team and two coaches to instruct JV teams when varsity and JV competitions are taking place at the same time.

Coaches should indicate to opposing schools who the designated coaches will be for each team. It is possible for the coaches designated for the varsity competition to be the same coaches designated to provide instruction to the JV players.

The designated coaches must be under contract with the school as tennis coaches. Improper use of the coaching privilege could result in dismissal of those coaching privileges and/or disqualification of the player. Parents are not allowed to coach while players are on the court.

QUESTION: Can JV players now accept verbal and hand signal advice from their school's designated coach?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, WIAA Tennis Season Regulations, 15, c., (4), page 37, indicates, "JV players while playing in a JV competition may accept verbal and hand signal advice from their school's designated coach only. The designated coach is allowed on the court as identified by current rules."

Maximum Allowed Number of Meets

QUESTION: Does a conference tournament count as one of the 14 maxi-

mum allowed meets during the WIAA tennis regular season?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, WIAA Tennis Season Regulations, 6., b., page 36, "Conference tournament must be included in count of regular season maximums."

In addition, WIAA Tennis Season Regulations, 6., f., page 36, further indicates, "Conference meets count as one multiple-school meet toward a school's maximum allowed meets."

Tennis coaches are encouraged to send a copy of their 2010 tennis schedule to Tom Shafranski, WIAA Assistant Director and Tennis Liaison for review.

QUESTION: We have a tennis quad in May and one school has Prom on that date. If they come up Friday and they play their first tournament round against us...and then two the next morning and then book out for Prom...can we still count Friday's contest as part of the tournament?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, WIAA Spring Season Regulations, 6., d., indicates: "No meet may continue more than two days. A two-day conference, invitational or multi-dual meet counts as one meet."

This regulation allows tennis teams to participate in two-day meets. If a school team has to leave a meet prior to completion, this meet continues to count as one of six allowed multi-meets for each of the school teams involved in the meet.

QUESTION: Can one school tennis team identify a multi-dual meet as a "dual" meet if they only play one school team while the other teams play multi-duals on the same day?

INTERPRETATION: No, in scheduling meets, dual meets must be counted as dual meets by both school teams and multi-dual meets must be counted as one of the six multi-dual meets for all school teams involved.

Since WIAA tennis teams cannot play in more than one meet per day, the way to schedule this is to schedule the multi-dual one day and then schedule the dual meet the next day when possible.

QUESTION: School A is starting a boys' tennis team. They would like to play School B's JV team in a match. If School A counts this as a varsity match, does School B have to also even if we are playing our JV players?

INTERPRETATION: This is allowable and needs to be placed on the School B's JV schedule as one of their 14 allowed JV meets. Just as a friendly reminder, the key for these situations is student-athletes that play both varsity and JV. Keep in mind they are only allowed to compete in a total of 14 meets with six being multi-school meets.

QUESTION: We had a team cancel out of a large invitational at the last minute. Can we place our JV's in the tournament along with our varsity; however, we will not count any of the JV scores towards a team score or towards their individual record?

INTERPRETATION: WIAA Season Regulations, Maximum Allowed Meets, b., "A school may enter only one varsity meet per day."

The approval of this regulation prevents this type of "quick-fix" to tournament cancellations from being allowed. No, WIAA tennis teams may not play both their varsity and JV or any other varsity level program in the same meet.

Eligibility

QUESTION: Can a female foreign exchange student who is a junior at our high school hit with the boy's tennis team this spring?

INTERPRETATION: No, female tennis players are not allowed to practice and/or compete with boy's tennis teams in the spring of the year. Similarly, boys are not able to practice or compete with girl's teams during the fall season. This is due to the def-

inition of these seasons as found in the WIAA Season Regulations and the school can not make opportunities available outside the season. Swimming, soccer and golf are other sports with split seasons where these rules apply.

QUESTION: Can a female who is a senior act as our manager for the tennis team and practice with our boy's tennis team?

INTERPRETATION: One exception to the rule identified above is that WIAA rules do not prevent a senior girl who has completed her girl's tennis eligibility from hitting with the boy's team.

A senior girl can be a team manager for the boy's tennis team in the spring. In most cases, girls who are team managers are only allowed to provide water and towels for practice. In this case, since this young lady is a senior and her high school eligibility has ended, she does have more latitude.

QUESTION: Can a tennis player provide lessons on their own to a young child in our community?

INTERPRETATION: No, WIAA Sr. High School Handbook, Rules of Eligibility, Article IV – Amateur Status, Section 1, 2), a., "A student may be employed (but not self-employed) on a part-time basis as an instructor on the playgrounds, game official, lifeguard, etc. A country club can also employ a student to be an instructor. The fundamental issue here is that the student-athlete is not allowed to be self-employed."

QUESTION: I run my own summer tennis camps as a tennis coach and would like to employ one of my players as my assistant. Is this legal?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, using the language found above, employing a player to assist a coach during the summer period is allowable. This is allowed as long as the player is an employee of the coach's business and coaching contact does not take place outside of the season during the school year.

QUESTION: I have a student who attends School A, she was wondering if she could play tennis in School B because we don't have tennis and they do. I told her no, can only play in sports in the school you attend unless it's a co-op with another school. Am I correct?

INTERPRETATION: You are correct, she is only allowed to practice and compete with school teams that are provided at the school where she is a full-time student.

QUESTION: Can wheelchair athletes compete in tennis vs. "able-bodied" athletes?

INTERPRETATION: Yes, USTA does have regulations that we are able to use allowing wheelchair athletes to compete with and against able-bodied athletes. Normally, a wheel chair athlete will have been involved in a tennis program that teaches the techniques and skills of the game for them. In addition, there is normally an instructor in the area that can be utilized to assist wheelchair tennis athletes.

Scrimmages

QUESTION: I have been asked to play the Barrington, IL team. I told her it would be a scrimmage for us and she said it would have to be in their schedule as a meet. Does the same rule apply here? Does Barrington, IL, have to agree to a scrimmage? Does not sound like they have those?

INTERPRETATION: This scrimmage issue has come up in the past and the simple answer is – "Yes," both school teams involved, especially when the other school team is from another state, does have to be able to count it as a "scrimmage" and not one of their 14 allowed contests. There are state associations that do not allow scrimmages due to the numerous concerns and issues scrimmages can cause.

If you decide to compete against them, you will have to count it as one of your 14 allowed meets. +

Eligibility Questions & Answers



Wade Labecki

Residence & Transfer

Q.: My son will be living with his aunt for his senior year in HS. It is in a different school district than his parents live in. Will he still be able to do sports at the new school since he will be living in the new school district with his aunt and not his parents?

A.: The member schools of the WIAA have the following residence rule: A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parents reside, within a given school district. In addition, if a student is not living with their parents the following rule does apply: Except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester, a full-time student whose residence in a given district and attendance at a member school does not conform with any of the provisions outlined in Section 1-A above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in Section 5 of this Article. If a transfer does take place after his junior year, then the transfer rule will be applied: A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for practice and competition for one calendar year, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student's first day of attendance at the new school.

Q.: I am wondering if the WIAA has any rules governing recruitment of athletes?

A.: The member schools of the WIAA have determined that recruiting is not allowed and have a rule in our Rules of Eligibility: Article I, Section 3 – Who may Participate, A. "A school may use on its interscholastic teams only its full-time students enrolled in grades affiliated with WIAA membership. Note: No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school."

Q.: Received this question from numerous people this week due to a referendum a neighboring district has next week (sports being cut if it fails): "If a student would open-enroll/transfer to another district because sports is no longer offered at their school (due to budget cuts because of referendum failure), would the WIAA open-enrollment/transfer

rules still apply at the new school or is there some sort of waiver for a situation such as this?" I am unsure as to what (if any) kind of waiver there is in this situation.

A.: Transfer rules are in effect. To this point, there is not relief available if/when a school and community decide to discontinue a program or programs. If a member school does not offer a sport, it has not been seen as extenuating circumstances and waivers have not been granted. If a member school does not offer a sport, students may not participate at another member school (unless a co-op is involved).

Q.: I am writing you because there is a little bit of confusion about certain rules of eligibility. I am an assistant coach for a school that may or may not have enough players for a football team. So, my question to you is, would players that are going to be juniors or seniors be able to transfer to a different school and be able to play? Or would they be stripped of a year of eligibility due to no fault of their own? From the information that I am getting, the only way a player may go to a different school and not be levied the 365 day waiting period, is if the current school that they are attending closes its doors.

A.: A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parents reside, within a given school district. If a student transfers to another school outside their boundary school, then they may be ineligible for 365 calendar days. Schools have changed offerings to their students at various times and we get similar questions when they do so. It has been the practice within our membership to request that individuals use their schools and the administrations to continue to offer programs or to enhance their programs. We have not approved transfer requests due to programs offered at a member school.

Q.: My son moved out of state from Wisconsin last summer due to family reasons. He has returned to the state of Wisconsin and has enrolled again in high school, same school as before he left. He wants to rejoin his teammates again, but is being told he has to wait a year to do so. He is now in the second semester of his junior year, and that would put him being unable to play in his senior year of school. Being that he did not change schools in "open enrollment" and actually was in another state, will this still apply? If there is anything we can do to allow him to play for his senior year we would be most appreciative.

A.: At this time, I do not have enough details on your situation to give a complete or accurate response. After their fourth con-

secutive semester, students shall be ineligible for practice and competition for one calendar year unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). I would encourage you to speak to your athletic director to see if a waiver may apply. Extenuating circumstance is defined as unforeseeable, unavoidable and uncorrectable act, condition or event which result in severe burden and/or involuntary change, that mitigates the rule. In considering a request based upon extenuating circumstances, the element of events outside a student or family's control vs. choices/decisions/actions which contain knowable/predictable outcomes or consequences, is always an integral part of the review. Denial is made when it appears a student's situation has come about largely as a result of choices, decisions and/or actions made by the student or his family.

Amateur Status

Q.: I am the association manager of our local bowling association, and I have a young gentleman that will be going out for the high school golf team and wants to bowl in a USBC sanctioned league. There will be prize money at the end of the bowling season which will be the second week of April. What is his eligibility or penalty if he participates up to the beginning of the season, or during the season? He is under 18 and his parents have signed a USBC waiver?

A.: ROE Article IV provides is that (paraphrase): A student must be an amateur in ALL WIAA recognized sports in order to be eligible - in ANY WIAA sponsored sports. Thus, since the Association does not presently sponsor interscholastic bowling amateur status restrictions do not apply.

Competition & Practice

Q.: My question deals with baseball scheduling. Is it permissible to schedule a game after the WIAA tournament series has begun? Assuming we get a first round bye and don't play in the regional semifinal on June 1, I'd like to schedule a game on Wednesday, June 2.

A.: Yes. You can schedule until your team begins tournament competition and providing the other team has not begun either. See Page 4 of spring regulations.

Q.: I have a question regarding an issue we have with baseball. Our team is planning on traveling to the Metrodome as we have done for the past several years. We have the Metrodome reserved starting at 10 p.m. on Monday, March 29. My question to you is can we start playing a game at 10 p.m. on the 29th and finish the game up after midnight on Tuesday, March 30 or do we need to wait until midnight to start playing? The earliest date for a first game is March 30. If this is a possibility is there a waiver we need to fill out to start on the 29th?

A.: The only waiver that has been granted in the past is the waiver of the number of practices needed before the first game due to cancellation of school because of weather. The start date has not been waived. I know it's only two hours, but they are free to go at 12:01 a.m. on the 30th.

Participation Issues

Q.: What is the status of a student who graduates at the end of the first semester their senior year? Would a student be able to continue playing a sport?

A.: Upon graduation, the student is no longer eligible the afternoon of the last day of the semester. The student is not allowed to continue. The only exception is the spring semester. (page 36, Art V, Section 1, Paragraph A, #8, and #9) They may maintain eligibility by remaining a full-time student through June, however. Keep in mind, that they must be a full-time student.

Q.: My son attends a charter high school that does not offer track and field. May he participate at another area school, one that is a member of the WIAA?

A.: The member schools of the WIAA have determined eligibility of participants in their programs as follows: A school may use on its interscholastic teams only its full-time students enrolled in grades affiliated with WIAA membership. Therefore, students are only eligible at the schools they attend. If a school does not provide that sport, the students may not participate at another school unless a co-op has been formed and approved.

Q.: I have a quick question about the eligibility of a home-schooled freshman that lives in the district and would like to play sports at their local high school. What are the actual rules on this subject. Does she need to be enrolled and how many credits would she need to carry?

A.: Our member schools have the following rule: Section 3 – Who may Participate "A school may use on its interscholastic teams only its full-time students enrolled in grades affiliated with WIAA membership." Article V – Attendance and Scholarship, Section 1 – Senior High, A. "A student is eligible for interscholastic competition at a member school if he/she is: 1. Carried on the attendance rolls as a duly enrolled full-time student of a public member school for purposes of state equalization aids as a Grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 student in that member school. Note: A full-time student is a student where the member school is responsible for programming 100 percent of the student's school day. The student is eligible for like or similar awards, privileges and services as all other students and meets all obligations and responsibilities as other students, without

See Eligibility Q & A, page 13 ►

Eligibility Q & A

► Continued from page 12

exception." Therefore, they must be enrolled in a member school full-time.

Q.: Can 8th grade students play in high school sports? (c-team, JV, varsity) If so, could a student in 8th grade play five years of high school sports or is there a number of years he/she could play?

A.: A school may use on its interscholastic teams only its full-time students enrolled in grades affiliated with WIAA membership. Therefore, an 8th grader is not eligible at a school which has a 9-12 enrollment. Rules further state: A school may not allow its students in Grades 9, 10, 11 and/or 12 to compete against another member school's students in Grade 8 and/or below. In addition, a student is ineligible after attending eight semesters or 12 trimesters while enrolled in Grades 9-12. A student must complete eligibility in the four consecutive years starting with Grade 9 and the three consecutive years starting with Grade 10, unless there are documented extenuating circumstances.

Coach Contact

Q.: I would like to know if someone can work with their set track athletes before the season starts. Example: Working with the hurdlers on tech. over hurdles and so on. Also taking/meeting the hurdlers at a indoor track complex and practicing. This coach will be coaching the hurdlers during the season. What about the weight room and instruction in lifting techniques and lifting program.

A.: Coaches may only have contact with their athletes during the sport season during the school year. Track begins March 8. Before that date, coaches of the track team could not teach technique or provide any instruction to track athletes. Weight rooms are considered open gyms. Therefore, a weight room has limitations. A member school is permitted to supervise conditioning programs under the open gym provisions, which may include weight lifting, speed, agility, fitness. Basic "instruction" e.g., safe lifting, safe spotting, training regimen and rationale, are permitted. No sports implements and/or sport specific movement/drills should be part of the open gym or weight room. These conditioning programs must be made known and accessible to all interested students and must be voluntary. Please also review the relevant areas of the Rules at a Glance handout.

Q.: We are in the process of hiring for a JV baseball position. Our Legion coach has applied for the job. My assumption is he cannot hold both nor can we consider him a candidate because of his off-season involvement with our athletes. Am I correct? Also, if we have a community member who works with our softball team in the off-season, can he be a volunteer coach for us this spring? Again, as I read the rules the answer is no.

A.: Might want to check when the contact occurred. Normally, a coach who has contact during restricted times cannot be a candidate to coach athletes they will coach the next season. However, baseball is allowed unlimited non-school contact during the summer. If the contact was during the school year, then he would not be a candidate. The key in both situations is that baseball and softball have unlimited non-school contact during the summer. If the contact was during the school year, then no (paid or unpaid).

Out-of-Season Concerns/Equipment

Q.: I am a first year head boys basketball coach. Our booster program wants to sponsor a team tournament as a fundraiser the last weekend in March. I am hearing that there are restrictions on how many players from a school's varsity team can be on a team. For this tournament, anyone would be able to put together a team and play. There would not be restrictions based on school or team status. We do not want to violate any rules so please advise us on the regulations.

A.: Your best resource is your athletic director. There are restrictions, and they can be found on page 37 of the membership's WIAA Handbook in article VI, Section 2, Paragraph A: It is the philosophy of this Association that while athletes should not be unreasonably restricted, except during the actual school season of a sport, no activity in which they are engaged during the school year should resemble in any way a school team practicing or competing out-of-season. No pre-season or post-season team should be made up exclusively of students from the same school. Merely grade level diversification is not acceptable. The rule applies outside the sport season during the school year and not during the summer. Best friendly advice, best practice - we can offer to make sure the school's team is not placed in peril - is to be certain the club/non-school team is diverse and is not able to be identified as just the school's team assembling and competing outside the season.

Open Gyms and Camp Issues

Q.: I believe I know the answer to this already, but I want to check and make sure that I am correct. Our football coaches want to put together an incentive program for out-of-season weight lifting. The incentive would be based on attendance in the weight room rather than performance. Their incentive for prospective players would be a t-shirt for each participant. I don't believe they can do anything that is listed here other than offer the weight room be open. If I am wrong in any part of this please let me know. I personally think the incentive programs are good, but I am

pretty sure they are against regulations.

A.: You are correct in each instance. Please review the WIAA Rules at a Glance. Weight rooms fall under the open gym rules. Coaches may not: 1) Mandate athletes participate in non-school competition, or determine who may or may not participate in non-school activity. 2) Require involvement in out-of-season activities as part of the requirements for making a school team, earning a school letter award, etc. 3) Provide incentives such as t-shirts, etc., for participation in the off-season. OPEN GYMS - Coaches and schools cannot be involved in out-of-season practice for athletes. However, open gyms do not violate WIAA rules if they are conducted according to the following guidelines: The open gym is made known and available to all students in the designated population of that school that are interested in attending. Open gyms may be gender specific. It is also acceptable to include people from the community. Schools may conduct "open gyms" in any activity. It is not acceptable to include athletes from another school, public or nonpublic. There is no instruction during the open gym by a coach or anyone else. Coaches may supervise open gyms, but they may not instruct, organize drills, etc. Coaches can also recreate with students in school sponsored, open gym settings that are purely recreational in nature, ie., there is no instruction, sport skill demonstration, organized drills or resemblance of a practice being conducted. There is no organized competition, such as established teams participating in round-robin competition, etc. "Open Gym" is not a code word for out-of-season practice. The philosophy of the open gym is students from that school may attend, for wholesome recreation, or for purposes of improving their skills, but it's something they do on their own. It would be a violation of WIAA rules to mandate attendance at open gyms, or to provide incentives for athletes to attend open gyms, or to limit participation based on athletic status, or to allow athletes from other schools to come and work out or compete against the host school's athletes. (BL - Art. II and RE - Art. VI, Sect. 2)

Q.: Can a coach feed a ball machine for those who want to have batting practice in pre-season baseball and softball open gyms for all students who are interested in those sports? Can the coach pitch? Can the coach hit ground balls?

A.: Open gym, fine. But coach or anyone may not instruct or drop balls in the machine. Coaches cannot be pitching batting practice, hitting ground balls, etc. Implements such as bats and balls or machines may

be used. By definition, open gyms are for recreation, not instruction (by the coach or anyone). Keep in mind that protective equipment can only be issued during the sport season and summer with Board of Education approval. Just to clarify: during the school year out-of-season, no protective gear such as batting helmets or catcher's gear. So if you are going to use helmets you'll need to get them from the youth league or American Legion, etc. Common sense would indicate they should be wearing batting helmets.

Health & Behavior

Q.: A student breaks our athletics code and self refers. Code says he misses five basketball games. The season is ending and we are into WIAA tournament playoffs prior to five games being played. If he is suspended early in the tournament games, can he rejoin the team after his suspension is served and we are still alive in the tournament?

A.: If a student is ineligible at the beginning of the WIAA tournament for code of conduct violations, that student is ineligible for the rest of the tournament (p. 39, Art. VII, Sect. 2, para D). If a student is ineligible for academic reasons, that student may return after becoming academically eligible.

Q.: Does the WIAA condone a basketball team (after a victory) from joining their parents and some admin. people at a local bar from celebrating a victory even if only the adults drink?

A.: Our member schools do not have a rule against this type of activity; however, your initial reaction is understandable. Appearances can pose problems in the community and our office would urge caution. I suggest talking it over with your principal/administration and see where your school wishes to line up. Students and parents can be vulnerable if they even act silly and just "pretend" to be consuming alcohol, etc. They will be in the public eye. They may also feel pressured by friends to provide or participate.

Q.: I believe that I read in a recent WIAA newsletter that the WIAA is considering making athletes with tattoo's cover them in some way. Is my memory correct? Is anything being considered regarding this?

A.: The playing rules of sports are determined by the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS). While the WIAA office and our member schools are involved in the process of the review and determination of rules in the sports recognized by our member schools, the WIAA does not determine by itself the rules of sports. I am unaware of tattoos being illegal in all sports, but some sports may require tattoos to be covered. In order to answer your questions, I would need the sport in question since some sports may have rules against tattoos. +

Golf Interpretations

► Continued from page 7

ministration has approved of them as a school uniform. The collar rule is a local rule at each golf course. Almost all courses are approving of the wearing of mock turtlenecks. High school coaches are advised to check with their home courses to ensure the wearing of mock turtlenecks is allowed during practice and competition.

Jr. High Students on High School Teams

QUESTION: Hypothetically speaking, is it possible for a middle schooler (6-8th grade student) to compete with our frosh team?

INTERPRETATION: No, at the 2007 WIAA Annual Meeting a regulation was adopted allowing 9th graders to compete on 8th grade teams. A waiver no longer exists allowing middle school/junior high school students to compete at any level of the high school sport team.

Home Golf Courses

QUESTION: Please explain the process we go through to list two golf courses as our home course.

INTERPRETATION: Each WIAA golf school program is now allowed to designate up to three course(s) as their "home course(s)" for each golf season. These course(s) should be approved by the school administration, within approximately 25 miles of the school and be courses that will be used for practice and competition.

This regulation began three years ago as the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association asked to have more than one course due to requests they were receiving from courses within their communities.

Practice Facilities

QUESTION: Our country club did some remodeling of the course and they will not have a putting green. The golf rules state that you can't play on any part of the course before meets. I was wondering if we can use a hole (#10 for 9 hole competitions) or 2 (#4 and #16 for the JV invite) as practice greens on the day of competitions this season only?

INTERPRETATION: You are correct, USGA Rule 7-1 b., indicates before a round or play-off on any day of a stroke-play competition, a competitor must not practice on the competition course or test the surface of any putting green on the course by rolling a ball or roughening or scraping the surface.

However, USGA Rule 33-2 c., also reads – Where there is no practice ground available outside the area of the competition course, the committee should establish the area on which players may practice on any day of a competition, it is practicable to do so. On any day of a stroke play competition, the committee should not normally permit practice on or to a putting green or from a hazard of the competition course.

Your head coach will want to address this matter with coaches and/or a selected committee for each home meet. If there are some practice greens, a driving range or other golf facilities near by, they are the best options if no other practice areas are available at this course.

Starting a Girl's Golf Team

QUESTION: We have one girl's golf player whose parent would like her to be able to participate in the State golf tournament series. I told him that yes an individual could participate, was I correct in saying that? Also, I remember an email that said if you are new to a fall sport, you must let the WIAA know that you will be participating in that sport by Feb. 1, so I'm assuming whether we have one individual player or a team for girls golf 2010, we need to let your office know? Do I need any

special form, or signature from some one on my end for that to happen?

INTERPRETATION: First of all, the deadline for new girl's golf programs to apply for tournament participation is February 1 (The boy's application period ends April 1). The forms can be found on the WIAA Web site <wiaa.org> in the FORMS FOR DOWNLOAD file. These forms do require the signature of an authorized administrator.

There have been some school golf teams that have been able to operate a team with just one player. Although it can be difficult to schedule meets, some coaches and athletic directors will allow individuals to compete in their tournaments. WIAA Season Regulations do require a school team to compete in at least four (4) meets during the regular season in order to be eligible for the WIAA tournament series. So long as the application is sent to the WIAA office on time and this regulation is met, school golf teams with less than five players are allowed to compete in the WIAA tournament series.

Amateur Status

QUESTION: I have a question for you regarding boy's high school golf. My question is, our coach is interested in enrolling the team in the Taylor Made purchase program, to purchase clothing, bags... etc... etc... at reduced rates. My question is this, I know, being a former varsity golf coach myself that there used to be issues with these purchasing programs in regard to amateur status... etc... etc... so I guess my question is this, are we okay to proceed with this purchase program, or will this affect our athletes eligibility and amateur status?

INTERPRETATION: The fundamental issue regarding the use of any purchase program is that student-athletes, golfers in this case, cannot receive discounts when they purchase apparel and/or equipment because they are members of a team. Article IV – Amateur Status, Section 1 – Loss of Eligibility, A., in the WIAA Senior High School Handbook indicates . . . he/she shall become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program if he/she: 1) Accepts reimbursement, in any form (a) salary, (b) cash, (c) merchandise of any kind or amount or (d) share of game or season proceeds, for achievement in athletics.

If schools feel it is in their best interest to purchase attire or equipment through a purchase program, they may do so. Coaches and/or athletic directors are allowed to purchase these items as school representatives utilizing school funds and then provide them to their golf teams.

Typically we similarly address shoe discounts issues and inform that they must be available to any/every student interested in having the benefit of a reduced price on shoes. "A benefit may not be based on performance/achievement/potential - as an athlete." Any student who wishes to "go out" for a program should have access to a discount. These purchase programs are similar to shoe purchases where as long as the offer to purchase is made to the entire student body and/or all students have the opportunity to go out for the golf team, it is OK for golfers to purchase merchandise from them.

If the purchase program allows only school golf teams or only the "varsity golfers" to purchase equipment, attire, supplies, etc., at a discounted rate then there is a problem.

If the A.D./coach wishes to use the school golf budget, donated funds, funds from a booster club, etc., to purchase mer-

chandise through a purchasing program (and the program will allow you to do so) that is OK to do as well.

QUESTION: Two local golf teaching instructors are offering a clinic for coaches and athletes. They have indicated that the athletes and the coaches can get a special price. I assume special price isn't allowable for athletes unless they provide/open this price to all interested attendees.

INTERPRETATION: So long as 'every kid in school can go out for your golf team...and so long as every kid who goes out for golf can get this discount - in a manner of speaking/interpreting - the 'benefit' IS available to any/every kid in school. They just need to go out for golf to get it. (same interp as for 'shoe discounts' and the like)

If the discount were only available to 'varsity players' e.g., - a problem. Now it's a 'performance based benefit', only available if I make varsity...and as such, an amateur status problem.

Be mindful of coaching contact restrictions. If this affair takes place once the school season is underway, no problem at all. If held prior to the start of the season, would recommend different time slots for students and adults.

QUESTION: I just had 3 golfers form our school ask me about going to Australia to golf for an organization called Down Under Sports. They would have to raise money for travel, hotel and food.

Is this a WIAA sponsored activity and is it legal for these students to attend?

INTERPRETATION: This is likely a promotion being offered by a travel agency somewhere in the U.S. This is similar to a football player going to Europe or Australia for an All-Star game.

This is not a WIAA activity. I will need to review the materials you have been provided.

First questions for you includes: Does your school district have any policies pertaining to fundraising for events like this? Do you wish to allow student-athletes to miss school? Keep in mind that if allowed in this situation, you will probably have to allow for all other requests.

Also keep in mind, if the tour is during the golf season, golfers may not participate in non-school events during the season.

Golf Carts for Spectators

QUESTION: I have a parent with a disability and would like to be able to ride a cart while watching his son participate this spring. Does he need special permission to do so from our con-

ference, tournament directors (invitations etc.)?

I realize the form must be submitted for State competition, does that include regional/sectional competition?

Please advise on the proper procedures for us to follow.

INTERPRETATION: During the regular season, WIAA member school golf programs are allowed to determine whether or not they allow carts on the course and who is allowed to use carts.

It is during the WIAA tournament season (regional, sectionals & State Meets) where the WIAA spectator cart use policy takes effect. If a spectator provides a WI Disabilities Drivers License, they are allowed to rent a cart. I would encourage a similar policy be used by WIAA member schools and conferences during the regular season.

Girl's on Boy's Golf Teams

QUESTION: Any special WIAA regulations concerning girls playing on the boys team?

INTERPRETATION: When a girl's team is not available in any sport, girls are allowed to participate on the boy's team.

In golf, we also have a WIAA regulation that provides girls with a 15% benefit in distance. WIAA Season Regulation 15., i., indicates during the regular season and the WIAA tournament series, host schools must relocate as many forward and men's tees as necessary to create a women's length course that is approximately 15% shorter than the men's length course.

Maximum Number of Meets

QUESTION: In the golf section of the spring Handbook, it says 14 meets allowed, but does not specify for what levels. Does that mean 14 varsity meets, or 14 combined (JV & varsity)?

So, can I schedule 14 varsity meets and 14 JV meets, as long as each individual golfer does not play in more than 14 events?

INTERPRETATION: To answer all your questions — Yes, you are correct. Varsity golf can schedule and play 14 meets during the regular season. JV golf can do the same. Golfers that are moved from varsity to JV, the coaches must keep track so that they do not exceed their Individual Participation Limit of 14 meets.

QUESTION: When will golf be able to schedule 15 meets?

INTERPRETATION: For WIAA Girl's Golf programs, the first season 15 meets will be allowed will be the fall season of 2010. For WIAA Boy's Golf programs, the first season where 15 meets will be allowed will be the spring season of 2011. In addition, at least one meet must be scheduled for a Saturday in order to be allowed 15 regular season meets. +



Pictured are the eight judges who were assigned to the Eastern Valley Conference end of season conference meet. They are (left to right): Sheila O'Conner-Langlois, Elly Brzezinski, Debbie Pickett, Irv Keough, Rose Grych, Mary Olszewski, Kristi Kubs, Chris Kalupa.

Photo by Jim Doden

Coaches Education

Joan Gralla



COACHES EDUCATION INFORMATION

If you have coaches that are not licensed to teach (CNLT) in the state of Wisconsin, it is a WIAA requirement that they complete the required coaches education training before they can begin to coach their second year.

The following do not have to take this required training:

- A student teacher while student teaching.
- An individual with an administrator's or counselor's license.
- Guest lecturers (one time appearance).
- Anyone that has coached in an educational institution for five or more years (prior to the 1994-95 school) with or without a current teaching license.

The following must take an approved course before they can coach a second year:

Anyone that does not fit one of the above listed categories.

Anyone that does not have a current license to teach in Wisconsin.

The following conditions do not exempt a person from the requirement:

- Holding a license that has expired.
- Being a volunteer
- Being unpaid
- Being an occasional, but regularly scheduled lecturer or demonstrator.
- Having been a student teacher, but is not longer officially in that capacity.
- Being a nonvarsity coach
- Being an assistant coach.

CNLT's can meet the WIAA coaches education requirement by taking either the American Sports Education Program (ASEP) Sport First Aid and Coaching Principles courses or the National

Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Fundamentals of Coaching and First Aid for Coaches courses.

Both the ASEP and NFHS courses are offered online and can be accessed from the WIAA homepage.

Periodically there are instructor-led ASEP courses offered which are listed in the Bulletin and on the WIAA Web site. There are no NFHS instructor-led courses offered in Wisconsin.

The cost of the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching is \$35 and the First Aid for Coaches is \$45. The cost of the ASEP Coaching Principles is \$60 and Sport First is \$50.

If you have any questions about the coaching course offerings or about the WIAA coaches education requirements, please contact Joan Gralla at the WIAA office 715-344-8580 or jgralla@wiaawi.org. ➦

WADA INSIGHTS

FROM THE WISCONSIN ATHLETIC DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION



WADA Members Benefit from Dual Membership

By Mike Bates

Information Director, WADA

As the first year of dual membership unfolds for members of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association (WADA), many individuals are finding out that benefits are available beyond the state convention or national conference.

WADA members who are *also* members of the National Interscholastic Athletic Association (NIAAA) can take advantage of plenty of benefits available for athletic directors or athletic administrators.

Most AD's are aware that NIAAA holds its annual conference in December for athletic directors and athletic administrators from all around the country. Many know of the Certification Program or the Leadership Training Program offered through the NIAAA. There's more – a lot more, reported Vickie Dahl, CAA of Mineral Point High School and the NIAAA Liaison to the WADA Board.

"The NIAAA is a national professional organization administered by and for athletic administrators. The NIAAA promotes the growth and image of interscholastic athletic administrators," said Dahl. "Also the NIAAA strives to preserve the edu-

cational nature of interscholastic athletics and the place of these programs in the curricula of schools.

"If you are involved in administering interscholastic athletics at a high school, middle school or junior high level, consider joining the NIAAA. Any current NIAAA member can now activate a 'members only' online account which gives online access to all of the Member Services," Dahl also offered.

Member Services provides many features. "You can look at the NIAAA database to view your personal account, find members, order materials or initiate/renew membership. You can post a resume; look for open dates, job openings and equipment for sale. Or, use the "message board" to post questions and gather information, and respond to questions posted by other members," Dahl added.

"Many are aware that NIAAA offers Life Insurance to its members," continued Dahl. "The NIAAA also offers a \$2,000,000.00 liability insurance coverage while performing your duties as an athletic administrator. For additional information visit the NIAAA Web site or go to the Bollinger Insurance Web site at www.BollingerNIAAA.com.

"The Sports Turf Field Renovation Program is also offered by the NIAAA. The Sports Turf Advisory Committee has been serving NIAAA members since 1992. The committee serves as an advisory committee to the NIAAA Board of Directors relating to sports turf issues. There are funds available for field renovation," added Dahl. "The NIAAA Sports Turf Committee conducts an annual field renovation project for a high school. To be eligible for consideration the school's AD must be a member of the NIAAA. Field renovation parameters and a field renovations application along with other information relating to sports turf are available at www.niaaa.org.

In addition, there are numerous other benefits, such as a Professional Outreach Program, a National Emergency Network which provides helpful assistance in case of accident or medical emergency, a student Scholarship/Essay Program, long term healthcare insurance with reduced rates, and, numerous materials and publications geared specifically toward ADs.

The Web site for the WADA is www.wadawi.org, and Mike Bates may be reached at mbates1@new.rr.com. ➦

Directory Changes

Senior High Directory

- ALMOND-BANCROFT HIGH SCHOOL** – Baseball Coach Matthew Mehne
- ANTIGO HIGH SCHOOL** – Wrestling Coach Dallas Moe
- BARRON HIGH SCHOOL** – Wrestling Coach Darryl Stephens
- BERLIN HIGH SCHOOL** – Wrestling Coach Dave Parker
- BLOOMER HIGH SCHOOL** – Wrestling Coach Kevin Yohnk
- CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL** – Wrestling Coach Kevin Gong
- DESTINY HIGH SCHOOL** – Athletic Director (Interim) David Beaver, ext. 1102,

email dbeaver@destinyhigh.com; Boys Basketball Coach (Interim) Eric Fowlkes

EDGAR HIGH SCHOOL – Wrestling Coaches Al Nowak & Kevin Koch

HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL – Athletic Director (Interim) John Krueger, email jkrueger@mtsd.k12.wi.us

HUDSON HIGH SCHOOL – Boys Tennis Coach Dave Dahl

MONONA GROVE HIGH SCHOOL – Athletic Director email address jeff.schreiner@mgschools.net

MONTELLO HIGH SCHOOL – Wrestling Coach Chris Campion

OSHKOSH LOURDES HIGH SCHOOL – Boys Baseball Coach Reed Tyrivier, (920) 410-5844, email tyrivr55@gmail.com

RICE LAKE HIGH SCHOOL – Wrestling Coach Tom Richie

RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL – Athletic Director John Troxel (608) 739-3116 Ext. 3110, email jtroxel@riverdale.k12.wi.us

SAINT LAWRENCE SEMINARY HIGH SCHOOL – Wrestling Coach Nicholas Holm
SHIOCTON HIGH SCHOOL – Athletic Director Riley Knapp, email rknapp@shiocton.k12.wi.us

VALLEY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL – Boys Baseball Coach Reed Tyrivier

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL – Wrestling Coach Thom Burke

YOUNG COGGS PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL – School Phone # (414) 551-8856, Fax # (414) 466-9294, School Colors - Burgundy & Gold, Cheerleading Advisor Bentrice Stewart, Admin. Jeremiah Holiday (414) 551-8856, Prin. Jeremiah Holiday (414) 551-8856, Ath. Dir. Jeremiah Holiday (414) 551-8856, Ath. Dir. email jesusforusall@yahoo.com, Boys Basketball Coach Darrell Farmer, Boys Track Coach Joe Davis, Girls Basketball Coach Freddie Davis, Girls Track Coach Joe Davis ➦

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EDITORIAL

Activities; Athletics Part of a Total Educational Experience

The story remains the same.

The National Federation of State High School Associations recently published updated information asserting the value of participating in interscholastic activities. The data continues to support, with overwhelming evidence, that being part of school programs enriches the lives of millions of students each year on a national scale, including nearly 90,000 in Wisconsin.

The "Case for High School Activities" presents volumes of research and survey data that dispels myths or misconceptions that involvement in school activities may be a diversion to a quality education.

Participation the Key

Students that participate and are engaged in school programs, whether it's athletics or any other extracurricular activity, have less truancy, lower drop-out rates, fewer disciplinary issues and better grade point averages on average than their peers that have no involvement. In 2007, the *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise* reported that students who took part in more vigorous sports like soccer or football performed nearly 10 percent better in math, science, English and social studies classes. Similar findings were produced by a survey in Minnesota in 2007.

It may also be undeniable that involvement in high school activities bodes well for participants after high school as well. According to researchers in a 2005 study, participation in extracurricular activities gives all students--including those from disadvantaged backgrounds and those without stellar academic accomplishments in high school--measurable improvements on college admission exam scores. Furthermore, students who compete in sports in high school were more likely than those not participating to be active in volunteering, voting, speaking publicly and being aware of current events.

Similar results were confirmed in a 2003 *Journal of Adolescent Research* report. It indicates high school extracurricular participation leads to fewer school drop outs, greater community involvement, greater academic achievement and a plethora of other positive outcomes.

Perhaps the most important impact of participation in high school activities is the short- and long-term personal and emotional benefits that lead to making appropriate choices. According to a United States Department of Education article published in 2002, those who have no involvement in interscholastic activities are 49 percent more likely

to use drugs and 37 percent more likely to become teen parents.

Their Impact and Value

The volume of materials and information supporting the values and life-long lessons learned through interscholastic activities is vast. However, we must be careful not to take extracurricular opportunities for granted or underestimate the impact they have on schools and a school's community.

Interscholastic events are one of the largest windows into what is being taught and learned in our schools. There is no doubt that great things are being learned in traditional classrooms to prepare students for life beyond school; however, access to these learning environments are far less common for those outside the school. This fact makes school activity programs--proclaimed as extensions of the traditional classroom--even more valuable.

Therefore, it is increasingly important to demonstrate to those that live, work and pay taxes in the community the value of extracurricular activities. In the current climate of tightening school budgets and referendums that threaten to reduce funding for extracurricular programs, it is imperative for schools to embrace school activities that nurture its students.

Those school districts electing to consider reducing or eliminating school activities must also consider the consequence of such a decision.

Here's where schools face a dilemma.

With school choice a viable option through open enrollment or private school enrollment, many families may choose neighboring schools or districts that offer those same programs considered to be vulnerable at a student's current school. It's not difficult to envision the ramifications of schools eliminating opportunities. Student allocation dollars will follow those students to their school of choice, leaving even less resources available for the district they abandon. If there is a mass exodus, which is quite conceivable in some districts, the fallout would be devastating to schools and their communities.

Conclusion

Typically, the average cost of extracurricular programs is less than one percent of most school budgets, making them a fantastic bargain and value. This fact, combined with the unintended consequences of a districts considering either reducing or cutting its programs, makes extracurricular activities a resource schools must embrace and protect. ➦

Calendar

Keep These Dates in Mind

March 16 Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting - Gymnastics

March 17 . Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Wrestling (Stevens Point)

March 18-19-20 Boys State Basketball (Madison)

Girls Basketball Sectionals

March 22 Earliest Day for Girls Soccer Practice

Earliest Day for Softball Practice

Earliest Day for Baseball (Spring) Practice

March 23 Primary Ballot Return Deadline

March 25-26-27 Girls State Basketball (Madison)

March 26 Board/Council Election Ballot Mailed

March 29 Earliest Day for Boys Golf Practice

Earliest Day for Boys Tennis Practice

March 30 . . Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Hockey (Stevens Point)

March 31 . Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Basketball (Stevens Point)

April 2 Good Friday

April 4 Easter

April 16 Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)

April 20 Board/Council Election Ballot Return Deadline

April 28 WIAA Annual Meeting (Stevens Point)

May 2 Scholar/Athlete Awards Program (Wausau)

May 4 Middle Level Council Meeting

May 5 Medical Advisory Meeting (Stevens Point)

May 7 Sportsmanship Committee Meeting

May 14 Earliest Day for Summer Baseball Practice

Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)

May 24 Track & Field Regionals

May 24-25 Boys Tennis Subsectionals

May 25-26 Boys Golf Regionals

May 26-27 Boys Tennis Sectionals

May 27 Track & Field Sectionals

May 27, June 1 & 3 Softball Regionals

May 28 & June 1, 2 & 4 Spring Baseball Regionals

May 31 Memorial Day

June 1-2 Boys Golf Sectionals

June 3-4-5 State Boys Individual Tennis Tournament (Madison)

June 3 & 5 Girls Soccer Regionals

June 4-5 State Track & Field Meet (La Crosse)

June 7-8 State Boys Golf

June 8 & 11 Softball Sectionals

June 10 & 12 Girls Soccer Sectionals

June 11-12 State Boys Team Tennis

June 15-16-17 State Spring Baseball

June 17-18-19 State Girls Soccer

State Softball

June 23-24 Advisory Council Meeting

June 24 Board of Control Meeting

Test Dates

Students participating in interscholastic sports often find conflicts between these events and college test dates.

Listed below are the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 dates for ACT.

ACT - 2009-2010

Test Date

Registration Deadlines

Regular Deadline

Late Fee Required

April 10, 2010

March 5, 2010

March 6-19, 2010

June 12, 2010

May 7, 2010

May 8-21, 2010

ACT - 2010-2011

September 11, 2010*

October 23, 2010

December 11, 2010

February 12, 2011**

April 9, 2011

June 11, 2011

Registration deadlines for 2010-2011 will be posted on the Web in March 2010.

* The September test date is now available nationwide. It is offered only within the 50 United States and D.C.

** No test centers are scheduled in New York for the February test date. ➦