



# WIAA Bulletin

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Charter Member  
National Federation of  
State HS Associations

## WIAA Board of Control And Advisory Council Elections

Administrators at WIAA member senior high schools are reminded that February 23, 2016 is the deadline to announce their candidacy for positions on the Board of Control and High School Advisory Council.

All positions are for a 3-year term beginning with the 2016-17 school year. Positions open for which candidates must file by February 23 are as follows:

### BOARD OF CONTROL

**District 1 (northwest)** for position now held by Eric Russell of Baldwin-Woodville (eligible for re-election).

**District 6 (south central)** for position now held by Dean Sanders of Lake Mills (not eligible for re-election).

**District 7 (southeast)** for position now held by Steven Knecht of Kenosha (eligible for re-election).

**Non-Public School (at-large)** for position now held by Ted Knutson of Aquinas (eligible for re-election).

### HIGH SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Large Schools** - for position now held by Mike Gosz of Hamilton (not eligible for re-election).

**Medium Schools** - for positions now held by Michael Andreas of Spencer (eligible for re-election) and Bernie Nikolay of Cambridge (eligible for re-election).

**Small Schools** - for positions now held by Jennifer Vogler of Wabeno (eligible for re-election) and Reed Welsh of Abbotsford (not eligible for re-election).

District administrators, high school principals and assistants at these levels who are interested in becoming candidates in their district (Board of Control) or large/medium/small classification (High School Advisory Council) should state their intention via a letter to Joan Gralla (jgralla@wiaawi.org) at the WIAA office. Note: Candidates must have (1) Department of Public Instruction licensure allowing placement in the eligible set, (2) must be employed full-time in a qualifying position and (3) cannot be members of the teachers' bargaining unit.

For complete information regarding powers and duties of the Board of Control and Advisory Council, please refer to Pages 17-23 of the WIAA Senior High Handbook.

See Elections, page 3 >

## Board Takes Action on Fall Sports Recommendations; Conference Realignment

The Board of Control voted to approve several fall sport coaches' recommendations in football, soccer, cross country, tennis and volleyball, and acted on three conference realignment plans at its January meeting.

The lone football recommendation to receive Board approval establishes an eight-team Tournament Series for eight-player football to replace the eight-team jamboree beginning in 2018. The eight-player tournament will be re-evaluated after two years.

In soccer, the Board approved a change in the Boys and Girls State Tournament schedule beginning in 2016-17. The days and times of the semifinals and finals for the four divisions will rotate on a four-year schedule. Details of the four-year rotation will be identified in each respective season's regulations and tournament procedures. The rotation schedule will be reviewed following two years experience with the format.

Other soccer changes include an allowance for a scrimmage after three days of practice beginning in 2016-17, and prescribing the higher-seeded team to wear white uniforms and be designated as the home team through the sectional semifinals. In addition, the soccer tournament series brackets in all divisions will be set in the large-grouping design with the exception of sectional #1. In sectional #1 for all divisions, coaches will be required to vote to retain the half-bracket because of geographical concerns.

The Board also approved a cross country recommendation that establishes a six-year divisional and gender rotation for the State Meet race schedule. Details of the six-year rotation will be identified in each respective season's regulations and tournament procedures.

Two tennis recommendations received Board support. For 2016 only, the girls subsectionals will be permitted to play on Friday, Sept. 30, and Saturday, Oct. 1. Also, a two-year trial was approved that changes the order of play in matches at the State Team Tennis Tournament beginning this spring. Matches will begin with the #4 singles flight followed by the #3 doubles

flight. The match will proceed through the flights and end with #1 singles as the last scheduled match.

The lone volleyball recommendation received approval, granting an increase of the bench limits from 20 to 22 while retaining the maximum of 15 players in uniform.

Two conference realignment plans received final support. The first involves the Rock Valley and Trailways Conferences. Palmyra-Eagle and Parkview move from the Rock Valley to Trailways for football only in 2016 and for all sports beginning in the fall of 2017. The change reduces the Rock Valley to 10 teams while increasing the Trailways to 24 teams. The second plan receiving final approval moves Riverdale from the Southwest Wisconsin Athletic League to the Ridge & Valley Conference for football only beginning this fall.

A conference realignment plan modified at the December Board meeting that involves 45 schools, five current conferences in the Milwaukee metro area and the Badger Conference received first approval for a 2017-18 implementation. Membership

See Board Takes Action, page 2 >

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# Bennett to Keynote Scholar Athlete Reception

Dick Bennett will be the featured speaker at the 33rd Annual Scholar Athlete Reception on Sunday, May 1, at the Jefferson Street Inn in Wausau, WI.

Bennett is one of the most highly respected coaches in collegiate basketball. Bennett began his collegiate coaching career at Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 1976, after 11 years coaching Wisconsin prep teams. He won 168 games as a high school coach before earning an additional 173 wins at UW-Stevens Point, where he was recognized as NAIA Coach of the Year in 1984.



Dick Bennett

In 1986, Bennett moved to UW-Green Bay, leading a team that was 4-24 before he arrived to a winning season in less than two years. In total, he made three NCAA tournament appearances before transitioning to UW-Madison in 1995. Bennett and staff rebuilt Badger Basketball, guiding the team to their first Final Four appearance in more than 50 years before retiring in 2000. The Badgers strong foundation continues to this day.

Bennett returned to college basketball from 2003-06 at Washington State. He built upon his track record of rebuilding programs when he led the team to seven PAC-10 victories in his first season, a marked improvement from winning just seven of their previous 50 conference games.

In addition to his success on the court, Bennett is known for his teaching ability and impeccable character. During the 1998-99 season, a Sports Illustrated poll of college coaches put him in the top four vote-getters when asked whose coaching clinic they would most like to attend.

In his retirement, Bennett donates time to local basketball players by providing free basketball clinics at a local basketball court.

Bennett and his wife, Anne, have three grown children – Kathi, Amy and Tony – and six grandchildren. ■

## WIAA Statewide Network to Air State Basketball and Hockey Championships

The 2016 State Boys and Girls Basketball, and the Boys and Girls Hockey Championship Finals will again be carried live on the WIAA State Television Network.

Since live television coverage of the WIAA State Basketball Tournament began in the 1960's, the telecast has remained an exciting tradition in Wisconsin. High school sports take center stage during the winter State Tournaments as fans throughout the state have their TVs and computers tuned to the action. Once again this year, these broadcasts are offered in high definition, and are streamed live on the network stations' websites.

Quincy Media Inc. with its stations WKOW TV-27 in Madison, WAOW TV-9 in Wausau, WXOW TV-19 in La Crosse, WQOW TV-18 in Eau Claire, WYOW TV-34 in Eagle River and WMOW TV-4 in Crandon, produce the coverage. Stations KBJR-MY9 in Superior/Duluth, WMLW TV-41 in Milwaukee and WCWF W-14 in Green Bay/Fox Valley complete the statewide network that brings the excitement of tournament action to viewers across Wisconsin. The games will also be streamed live on the statewide network stations' websites.

Wisconsin's live television coverage is unique. All 15 games of the Girls State Basketball Tournament will be carried live on all stations Thursday-Saturday, March 10-12, and all 15 games of the Boys State Basketball Tournament will be broadcast live Thursday-Saturday, March 17-19. The title games of the State Boys and Girls Hockey Tournaments will be carried live Saturday, March 5.

Statewide sponsors of the video transmissions are Rural Mutual Insurance, the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, Marshfield Clinic, Menards, Gerhards and Delta Dental of Wisconsin. ■



Megan Pollack

## Pollack Joins WIAA Staff as Social Media/Graphic Design Specialist

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association has named Megan Pollack to the position of Social Media/Graphic Design Specialist. She began her responsibilities on Nov. 16.

Pollack will lead and expand the WIAA's presence in the social media spectrum and enhance the creative and visual aspects of the association's image and brand across all facets of daily operations and events. The position will further the WIAA's advocacy for education-based athletics through social media platforms and design graphics for promotional projects.

Her previous work experience includes a position as the Graphics Design and Promotions Coordinator for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Campus Activities and Recreation office. Among her responsibilities were the creation of marketing plans, production calendars and timelines for promotions and events in-

cluding intramurals, Homecoming, OutdoorVentures and Campus Activities. She also held the position of social media coordinator for UWSP's BEHOLD Graphic Design Show, as well as a freelance designer for numerous clients.

Pollack is a 2015 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts and Graphic Design. Her work has been displayed at the UWSP Art Foundation Show, the Edna Carlson Art Gallery, the Kenosha Public Art Museum's *Back From the Front Show* and as a permanent collection for the Veteran Print Project.

A 2011 graduate of Hortonville High School, Pollack was a two-year letterwinner in basketball, softball and volleyball. In addition, she coached the Polar Bear Fastpitch Club in 2011, 2012 and 2014, and for the Greenville Youth Sports program in 2013, as well as the Hortonville Heat Volleyball Club during the 2010-11 season. ■

### Board Takes Action from page 1

rules require a 40-day window for schools involved in realignment plans to appeal the first consideration of the Board before it takes final action. Thus, schools have until March 7, 2016, to file an appeal of the Board's initial vote. The Board is scheduled to take final action on the plan at its April 19 meeting.

In other action items, the Board directed the Sportsmanship Committee to review the contents of the Sportsmanship Reference Guide and determine if specific guidelines are still representative of the membership's expectations. In addition, the Board voted to approve a proposed University of Wisconsin study entitled "Academic Effects of Concussion in High School Student Athletes," reflecting the membership's constant commitment to the safety and well-being of Wisconsin high school athletes. The Board's support

of the research study does not obligate a member school to participate in the study.

The Board received reports from the Advisory Council on the possible amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules of Eligibility to be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting in April. The Board also heard Executive Staff reports on the NFHS Spirit of Sport Award nomination, the Let's Connect Conference, a seasonal placements and competitive equity survey, efforts to recruit new officials and Area Meeting topics, as well as liaison updates from Mike Thompson of the Department of Public Instruction, John Ashley of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and Tim Collins of the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association. ■

## Officials Corner



# Congratulations! 2015 Fall Tournament Officials

**Cross Country** – Robert Steeno, Kaukauna (Meet Referee); Tom Emmerich, Hartland (Starter); Tim Lee, Viroqua (Starter); Greg Rignon, Hurley (Starter)

**Football Finals** –

Michael Arendt, REF, Franksville; Ronald Sturn, UMP, Kewaskum; Pat Bollen, L, West Bend; Brian Timm, LJ, Fond du Lac; Thomas Platner, BJ, Cedar Grove

Neil Brunner, REF, Milwaukee; Raymond Robakowski, UMP, Milwaukee; Patrick Miles, L, Franklin; Jeff Wiese, LJ, Oconomowoc; Paul Jakubowski, BJ, Port Washington

Bob Fletcher, REF, Appleton; Robert Krueger, UMP, New London; Robert Delzer, L, Kaukauna; Michael Knoespel, LJ, De Pere; Tony Radichel, BJ, Appleton

Christopher Renzelmann, REF, Merrill; Peter Nievinski, UMP, Mosinee; Eric Giordano, L, Wausau; Joel Schult, LJ, Wausau; Sayer Jackson, BJ, Marathon

David Steiger, REF, Hortonville; Jim Rasmussen, UMP, De Pere; Matthew Schaefer, L, Hatley; Bruce Schaefer, LJ, Chilton; Brian Schaefer, BJ, Kaukauna

Sam Van Riper, REF, Onalaska; Ronald Brenner, UMP, La Crosse; Edward Przytarski, L, La Crosse; Bruce Kaiser, LJ, Onalaska; Gene Wiltgen, BJ, La Crosse

Tollef Wienke, REF, Antigo; Joe Pachal, UMP, Madison; Chester Marcum III, L, Merrill; John Ourada, LJ, Merrill; Todd Mayr, BJ, Antigo

Standby Official – Ken Wagner, Prairie du Sac

**Boys Soccer** – Eric Bayer, Kewaskum; Christopher Bizjak, Wausau; Alex Dresdow, Waukesha; James Friel, Waukesha; Mark Herdeman, West Bend; Jeff Jende, De Pere; Justin Marien, Pewaukee; Brian McKay, Madison; Matt Murphy, Eau Claire; Jonathan Schrantz, Waukesha; Steve VanDeurzen, Kaukauna; Jeff Walker, McFarland

**Girls Swimming & Diving – Division 1** – Referee – Thomas Miller, III, Menomonie;

Diving Referee – Judy Linsley, Whitefish Bay; Starter – Stacy Gould, Wausau; Stroke Judge – Susan Wagner, Brookfield; Turn Judge – Judy Linsley, Whitefish Bay; Turn Judge – Oliver Perry, Madison. **Division 2** – Referee – Thomas Miller, III, Menomonie; Diving Referee – Judy Linsley, Whitefish Bay; Starter – Susan Wagner, Brookfield; Stroke Judge – Stacy Gould, Wausau; Turn Judge – Judy Linsley, Whitefish Bay; Turn Judge – Oliver Perry, Madison

**Girls Individual & Team Tennis – Meet**

**Referee** – Sharon Terry. **Umpires** – Deb Clausen, Sun Prairie; Elizabeth Danner, Oneida; Ryan Denu, Brookfield/Madison; Tom Derouin, Savage (MN); Matt Fehlhaber, West Bend; Patricia Fronberry, Brookfield; Dave Hammelman, Brookfield; John Knox, Madison; Jon Nicoud, Fond du Lac; Gary Schlei, Hartland; Alexis Sheldon Janesville; David Shorr, Stevens Point; Courtney Smith, Janesville; Sharon Terry, Janesville; Henry Thomas, Milwaukee; Bart Triefler, Glendale; Mark Vander Zanden, Appleton; Robert Wilkins, Brookfield; Nancy Wilson-Schlei, Hartland; Jim Yoshida, Madison

**Boys Volleyball** – Jed Block, Appleton; Linda L. Dahl, Pewaukee; John Delsman, Manitowoc; Rick Delsman, Whitelaw; Brian Marx, Milwaukee; Jason Rieck, Glendale; Jeff Sears, Appleton; Kevin Voge Union Grove

**Girls Volleyball** – James Arts, Oconomowoc; Brian Babash, West Salem; Nicolas Been, Hammond; Steven Billings, Sun Prairie; Becky Blank, Cedarburg; Jim Christophersen, Green Bay; Randy Dahmen, Waukegan; Patti Dawson, Hartford; James Hochevar, Hartland; Dave Huening, Rochester; Michael Kirschbaum, Holmen; Lois Mueller, Mequon; Teague Prichard, Middleton; Jon Rode, Menomonie; Larry Schoenick, Waukesha; Kane Shutter, Madison; Garry Sievert, Suamico; Jessica Stewart, Eau Claire; Adam Swanepoel, Glenwood City; Jody Witty, New Berlin ■

### Elections from page 1

The time line of the election process is as follows:

- January 25, 2016** Announcement that declarations of candidacy will be accepted.
- February 23, 2016** Deadline for filing declarations of intent to run.
- March 1, 2016** If more than twice as many candidates file, a primary election will be held and the primary ballot mailed to schools on this date. If a primary is not needed the general election ballot will be sent on this date.
- March 22, 2016** Deadline for returning primary election ballot. If a primary is not needed the general election ballot will be due back on this date.
- March 25, 2016** If primary is needed, general election ballots will be sent.
- April 8, 2016** If primary is needed, deadline for returning general election ballots.
- April 20, 2016** Results announced at the Annual Meeting. ■

## Officials Advisory Committee Openings

Openings for 2016-17 on the Officials Advisory Committee will exist in the following: Baseball, basketball and volleyball.

Interested officials need to submit a letter of interest along with officiating background information by April 1, 2016 to Joan Gralla at the WIAA to receive consideration for one of these openings.

The positions are 3-year commitments and require the official to attend one meeting annually at the WIAA office. This meeting is held the Wednesday after Thanksgiving.

If you have any questions regarding the Officials Advisory Committee, please contact Joan. ■



Wisconsin Conference Commissioners Association 2015 Official's of the Year award recipients were honored at the November conference commissioners's meeting in Wisconsin Dells. Congratulations and thank you to these outstanding officials for their dedication to Wisconsin high school sports and their many years of service as WIAA licensed sports officials. Individuals honored were: Dennis Bohman in District 1, Richard (Dick) Fredericks in District 2, Ken Welter in District 3 and Bill Gromacki in District 4. ■

## 2016 State Gymnastics Championships

**Friday & Saturday, March 4-5**  
**Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln Fieldhouse**

### Friday – Team Competition Schedule

- 11:45 a.m. – Building Opens
- 12:20 p.m. – Coaches Meeting
- 12:40 p.m. – Judges Meeting
- 12:30 - 1:10 p.m. – General warm-up & bar settings
- 1:35 p.m. – March-in
- 1:50 p.m. – First round warm-up begins
- 2 p.m. – Competition begins
- 7:30 p.m. – Approximate end of final round/awards

### Saturday – Individual Competition Schedule

- 9 a.m. – Building Opens
- 9:15 a.m. – Association Meeting & Meet Instruction
- 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. – General warm-up & bar settings
- 10:45 a.m. – March-in
- 11 a.m. – First round warm-up begins
- 11:15 a.m. – Approximate start for competition
- 3:30 p.m. – Approximate end of final round/awards ■

# WIAA Basketball Tournament – New Look for 2016

There are several changes that players, coaches and fans will notice as we begin the 2016 WIAA boys and girls basketball tournament series. First, the order of games at the State Tournament will change with the Division 3 semifinals kicking off the tournament on Thursday at 1:35 p.m. Division 4 semifinal games will follow at 6:35 p.m. on Thursday evening. Friday morning will start off at 9:05 a.m. with the Division 5 semifinals followed by the Division 2 and 1 semifinal matchups. Saturday will feature the same format that we've seen in past years with Division 5, 4 and 3 kicking off the morning/afternoon session followed by the Division 2 and 1 championship games Saturday evening. The 2nd Annual 3-Point Challenge will start at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. The ticket for the Divisions 5-4-3 championship games will also gain you admission to the 3-Point Challenge.

Because we have shifted to playing in halves, we will be shortening the pre-game warm-up from 20 minutes to 15 minutes for all State Tour-

namment games in Green Bay and Madison. For regional and sectional games, the traditional 20-minute warm-up period will remain in place. During the State Tournament games, there will be media time-outs at the 15, 11, 7 and 3 minute mark of each half and reducing the number of team time-outs to 4 (2 30-second time-outs and 2 60-second time-outs) respectively.



Right from the start, fans will notice that the home team (higher seed) will now wear white uniforms (home uniforms) for all WIAA regional games. Once we reach the sectional and state games, the traditional alpha determination will be used to determine team jersey colors. This

year, the second school alpha will wear dark uniforms for sectional/state games. In addition, the number of individuals provided with free admissions by team has increased from 20 to 22 --- still only 15 players in uniform per team will be allowed.

Coaches will meet to seed their groupings beginning on the weekends of February 13-14 for the girls and February 20-21 for the boys. New this year, the groupings contain more teams than many will remember. This is something that the coaches have been requesting for several years in order to seed their groupings more effectively to get the best schools through to the sectional level. It should also divide teams up so that regionals do not look like mini conference tournaments.

Tickets are available for sale on the WIAA website. Anyone wishing to purchase tickets may do so now – season ticket packages are available for Thursday through Saturday or Friday and Saturday. Single session tickets will be available for sale Monday, February 15. ■

## Summer Coaching Contact Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Ok, so I still cannot coach my school athletes during the club volleyball session (Nov-May), correct?**

**A:** November to May is during the school year and not allowed.

**Q: Our head wrestling coach is considering running a wrestling camp for both youth and high school age students. If we as a school sponsor a high school age camp, does this have to count against our contact days if another coach is doing the high school instruction and our head coach is not instructing any of our own high school athletes? Thanks.**

**A:** Yes. If schools sponsor the camp, it is limited to five unrestricted school coaching contact days. See page 26 of the WIAA Handbook. Schools may only sponsor sports during the season and five contact days.

**Q: When is this contact allowed? Can the coach work with the kids throughout the year?**

**A:** The rule reads:

b. Unlimited Nonschool Coaching Contact – Coaches in all sports except football have been afforded unlimited nonschool coaching contact beyond the five unrestricted days that is permitted to continue throughout the **summertime (when school is not in session from the last day of school to the start of school)** in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in Section 2 – A and C-1) of this section. The contact is summer contact which is allowed from the last day of school to the first day of school. Coaches may NOT have coaching contact during the school year out-of-season.

**Q: I am an assistant varsity hockey coach. Over the years, I have coached in various Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association programs. One of these WAHA programs is the Wisconsin Elite Hockey League which is a WAHA program designed to give high school aged hockey players a development opportunity before their high school hockey season begins and for some age groups, there is an "after" hockey season short program as well. The age groups are U14, U16, and U18. Programs are not restricted by school district and teams are selected on a tryout basis. Coaches are selected and work for WAHA (coaches receive a stipend to cover their expenses). Over the years I have avoided any age group that had my high school eligible players participating in accordance with WIAA contact restrictions. With the recent**

**changes adding non-school program coaching contact, would I be violating any WIAA guidelines by coaching a WEHL team that had players who could also be part of the Tomah high school hockey program? The WEHL program holds tryouts in late July, early August, and plays there "before" season in Sept. and Oct., ending just ahead of the official high school hockey season. Thanks for any input and response you can provide.**

**A:** If the WEHL team is run like an American Legion baseball team, coaches may work with their kids on that team during the summer from the last day of school to the first day of school. Coaching contact is not allowed out-of-season during the school year. You could work with them during tryouts through August. But not after the first day of school.

**Q: We do not charge non-profits to use the building - but your memo said that facilities may be rented - does this mean they must be rented for nonschool contact? I guess the issue is - what is the definition of school resources as one of our coaches is involved in the youth organization and wants to run a camp for HS kids through the youth organization (although there is no HS team) and wants to use our facility and not pay rent - is this allowable?**

**A:** Follow your policy. If rent is zero for non-profits and if your coach runs a nonschool contact via a non-profit, then rent the gym for zero. Yes. It is allowed. Best to run it via the nonschool organization for insurance purposes.

**Q: I was wondering if you could help me out with this question? With the new summer contact rules can our volleyball team use a school bus to go to a team camp during the summer and have the volleyball program pay for it?**

**A:** The summer contact rules are the same (especially the rules about camp expenses). Volleyball, basketball, and hockey coaches now have been added to the list of sports that are allowed unlimited NON-SCHOOL coaching contact where no school resources may be used.

**Here's what's in the Rules at a Glance:**

**F. EXPENSES – TRAINING AND COMPETING**

1. The WIAA recognizes a distinction between training and competing. **Students must pay their own expenses, including transportation, to any nonschool (out-of-season) camps, clinics, or specialized training.** Schools may pay expenses and provide transportation to similar inseason ac-

tivities in that sport and during unrestricted contact days in the summer.

2. A student may be reimbursed actual and necessary costs associated with competing. This may include transportation, food, lodging and entry fees.

3. **A school may not become involved financially, through transportation or any other way in a student's nonschool participation outside the sport season and the five Board of Control approved unrestricted contact days in the summer. (BL – Art. II, RE – Art. IV and Art. VI) Note: Funds kept in school activity accounts are considered school funds.**

If a coach is using the five unrestricted contact days during the summer, the school may use school resources for a camp. If not, then the athletes must pay 100% of the costs associated with camps/clinics.

If the coach is using the five unrestricted SCHOOL coaching contact days via a nonschool organization, they may not use school resources (money in the general budget or an activity account and/or school transportation). Everything must be paid by the nonschool organization without any school resources.

**Q: Our coaches are going to have a shooting workout for 1 hour 15 minutes, which is the same hours we open our weight room daily. They will rent gym and basketballs through their outside booster club. Is this all within the rules? Example: Lady T-Wolves "Gun" Workouts – Tues/Thurs mornings 6:30 a.m.-7:45 a.m.**

• Facility usage form  
• Insurance?  
• Board approval for use of basketballs .. "Gun" was purchased by booster club.

**A:** Yes. Be sure that it is known as open.

**Q: Not using any school anything, can our JV coach give private lessons IF those lessons are an option for everyone? We have a rule here that you can't use equipment or facility for personal gains so we would not allow this coach anywhere near our field house or equipment.**

**A:** Yes. Coaches may be self-employed. Remember, contact may only be during the summertime.

**Q: Can the basketball coach provide unlimited nonschool coaching contact during an open gym?**

See Summer Coaching Contact , page 5 >

# Kollross, Miehe, Kuhlman Receive National Coaching Honor

Three high school coaches from Wisconsin and 22 high school coaches from across the country have been selected as 2015 National Coaches of the Year by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Coaches Association.

Receiving the honors from Wisconsin were Lucas Kollross of D.C. Everest in soccer, Arnie Miehe of Darlington in cross country and Karen Kuhlmann of Holmen in girls gymnastics.

The NFHS, which has been recognizing coaches through an awards program since 1982, honors coaches in the top 10 girls sports and top 10 boys sports (by participation numbers), and in one "other" sport that is not included in the top 10 listings. The NFHS also recognizes a spirit coach as a separate award category. Winners of NFHS awards must be active coaches during the year for which they receive their award. This year's awards recognize coaches for the 2014-15 school year.

Other recipients of this year's national awards for boys sports are: Cooper Henderson, football, Artesia (New Mexico) High School; Tom Millbrooke, track and field, Canby (Oregon) High School; Britt Cooper, basketball, Roswell (New Mexico) High School; Dom Cecere, baseball, Eastchester (New York) High School; Thomas Walston, soccer, Wendell (North Carolina) Corinth Holders High School; Tim Berrier, wrestling, Tucson (Arizona) Ironwood Ridge High



Lucas Kollross



Arnie Miehe



Karen Kuhlmann

School; Larry Faulkner, tennis, Glenview (Illinois) Glenbrook South High School; Brennan Torgerson, golf, Buhler (Kansas) High School; and Linda Wiginton, swimming and diving, Altus (Oklahoma) High School.

The recipients of the 2015 NFHS national awards for girls sports are: Linda Richter, track and field, Cameron (Texas) C.H. Yoe High School; Anthony Pappas, basketball, Waterloo (Iowa) West High School; Paula Toney, volleyball, Burns (Oregon) High School; Cheri Ritz, softball, Wayland (Michigan) Union School; Kristin McWilliams, cross country, Winter Park (Florida) High School; Judith Hehs, tennis, Bloomfield Hills (Michigan) Academy of the Sacred Heart; Marty Keating, swimming and diving, Pittsford (New York) Central Schools; Stacie Butler, golf, Youngstown (Ohio) Cardinal Mooney High School; and Jessica Battle, lacrosse, Coronado (California) High School.

The recipient of the National Coach of the Year Award for spirit is Natalie Horton of Valley Center (Kansas) High School.

The NFHS has a contact person in each state who is responsible for selecting de-

serving coach award recipients. This contact person often works with the state coaches' association in his or her respective state. He or she contacts the potential state award recipients to complete a coach profile form that requests information regarding the coach's record, membership in and affiliation with coaching and other professional organizations, involvement with other school and community activities and programs, and coaching philosophy. To be approved as an award recipient and considered for sectional and national coach of the year consideration, this profile form must be completed by the coach or designee and then approved by the executive director (or designee) of the state athletic/activities association.

The NFHS Coaches Association has an advisory committee composed of a chair and eight sectional representatives. The sectional committee representatives evaluate the state award recipients from the states in their respective sections and select the best candidates for the sectional award in each sport category. The NFHS Coaches Association Advisory Committee then considers the sectional candidates in each sport, ranks them according to a point system, and determines a national winner for each of the 20 sport categories, the spirit category and one "other" category. A total of 537 coaches will be recognized this year with state, sectional and national awards. ■

## Summer Coaching Contact from page 4

A: No. Open gyms are **SCHOOL** run recreational opportunities for any and all students in the school's population to recreate. The coach or anyone else may **NOT** provide instruction. Nothing has changed in open gyms.

**Q: What are common nonschool organizations?**

A: American Legion, local recreation department, booster club, golf club, local Lions Club. A key question would be does the organization have liability insurance. If the nonschool organization invited the coach, the coach could provide unlimited nonschool instruction.

**Q: Can coaches coach the summer league teams?**

A: If the summer league team is sponsored and organized by a nonschool organization (booster club, Lions Club, etc.), the coach could work (coach) for that nonschool organization.

**Q: Can they take their team to an AAU tournament?**

A: Provided the above stipulations are met, coaches may coach an AAU team.

**Q: Can coaches use money from the school or activity account to pay entry fees?**

A: No funds from the schools Fund 10 or Fund 60 accounts may be used. Programs run via the community education department or recreation department are allowed.

**Q: Can a parent rent the gym, open it to basketball players and provide instruction? Can the coach provide instruction?**

A: Yes, but not the best practice. The parent would be considered nonschool (no school funds) as long as the parent followed district (and/or school) policy to rent the gym.

**Q: Can coaches make either unrestricted or unlimited coaching contact mandatory?**

A: No. Coaches may not mandate athletes participate in nonschool competition, or determine who may or

may not participate in nonschool activity. It must be open to any and all interested students. It must be voluntary.

**Q: Can coaches determine nonschool rosters?**

A: The unlimited non-school coaching contact is open to any and all interested students. Rosters could be determined by try-outs and not previous team status.

**Q: Can coaches provide transportation to nonschool competition?**

A: Only if the coach and event is directly related to the nonschool program. This includes school vehicles.

**Q: Can the nonschool organization provide camps for athletes and have the coach work the camp?**

A: Yes. But the nonschool organization may not provide monies for camps run by other organizations (UW camps, etc.). Athletes must pay 100% of costs associated with camps/clinics.

**Q: If the local basketball association (our youth association) signs up for gym time at our schools for the purpose of providing instruction to any girls interested and the basketball coach is providing that instruction, could a high school athlete show up for that instruction. Is that considered non-school contact?**

A: Yes provided the camp is run during the summer.

**Q: If a group of local high school girls decides to play in a league or tournament at another area high school this summer could I coach them if the school provides nothing (transportation, league fees, etc.)?**

A: Yes. Provided the team is a nonschool team and try-outs are open to any and all students.

**Q: If our basketball team is in a summer league and the youth booster club paid their entry and no school transportation is used for these nights, may our coach work with these kids in the summer?**

A: Yes.

**Q: If we ran all our open gyms and summer leagues under the umbrella of the community youth organization (as I am sure many people will do), how can our coach be involved?**

A: Don't match open gyms (a school sponsored activity) with any other nonschool format or nonschool organization. Keep them separate to avoid confusion. Schools don't run summer leagues and may not be involved. A youth organization may rent the gym to provide an instructional opportunity. A nonschool group may organize a team for a league and ask your coach to coach.

Have the youth organization call it something else. They can call it a camp, a practice, instructional time, or a clinic. But avoid calling it an open gym. Using the same name will only add confusion. Coaches organizing and disguising the activity as nonschool is circumvention. It is best to have the nonschool organization initiate and actually develop the programs and teams.

**Q: Basketball and volleyball coaches can coach their athletes' summer league teams as long as they are open to everyone in the school, no school funds are used, and no transportation by the school is used.**

A: Correct. But I would add: Keep in mind that coaches do not organize nonschool teams. The students or nonschool group can organize the teams either the nonschool group or the athletes could ask the coach to work with them.

Other reminders:

- Coaches may not require involvement in out-of-season activities as part of the requirements for making a school team, earning a school letter award, etc.
- Coaches may not provide incentives such as T-shirts, etc., for participation in the off-season. ■

# Rules Changes Approved for High School Baseball

Rules changes for the 2016 baseball and softball seasons were made at rules committee meetings last month in Indianapolis. Those changes were subsequently approved by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Board of Directors.

## BASEBALL

Beginning with the 2016 season, umpires will be required to issue a warning to coaches before restriction to the bench/dugout or ejecting them as part of a new penalty progression to promote preventive officiating.

The revision to Rule 3-3-1 Penalty was one of two changes recommended by the NFHS Baseball Rules Committee at its June 7-9 meeting.

Previously, issuing a warning to an offending coach was optional for umpires, who will now restrict to the bench/dugout or eject coaches who commit a violation after previously being warned for a minor offense. However, coaches can still be ejected on a first offense if it is deemed to be major.

Also part of the modification to Rule 3-3-1 Penalty, coaches who receive a written warning

(Rule 10-2-3) will be restricted to the bench and/or dugout for the remainder of the game.

"The new rule change has initiated a penalty progression, starting with a written warning, restriction to the bench/dugout and subsequent ejection from the contest," said Elliot Hopkins, NFHS director of sports and student services and liaison to the Baseball Rules Committee.

The changes to Rule 3-3-1 Penalty will help to de-escalate contentious situations and allow coaches to dictate their status in the game by their behavior, Hopkins said.

"A successful game official practices preventive officiating, and this new penalty progression will allow the official to issue penalties that give the coach the opportunity to remain in the game and teach his players."

The other change approved by the Baseball Rules Committee is an addition to Rule 3-3-1. Article "q" will state that a coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not "have any physical contact, spitting, kicking of dirt or any other physical action directed toward an umpire." The addition of article "q"

serves to clarify other behaviors that would result in an ejection from the game, Hopkins said.

"Bad behavior that is being imitated from other levels has no place in education-based athletics and will not be tolerated," Hopkins said. "If we are to continue to use sport to teach life lessons, then we have to ensure that appropriate behavior and conduct are modeled from those adults in the role of coach/teacher."

In addition to the two rules changes, the Baseball Rules Committee approved three Points of Emphasis for the 2016 season. Points of emphasis are developed by NFHS rules committees and should receive special focus and attention by officials, coaches, players, fans and other leaders within the high school setting.

Points of Emphasis developed by the Baseball Rules Committee for the 2016 season are as follows:

1. INTERMEDIATE PENALTIES/RESTRICTION TO THE BENCH/DUGOUT
2. PROPER CATCHER'S EQUIPMENT
3. SPORTSMANSHIP - CELEBRATIONS AROUND OR NEAR THE PLATE AND POST-GAME EJECTIONS ■

## 2016 State Team Wrestling Tournament Schedule

March 4-5 - UW-Field House, Madison

### Friday, March 4, 2016

(one session)

Division 1 Quarterfinals - 5:30 p.m.

Division 1 Semifinals - 7:30 p.m.

Weigh-ins - 4:30 p.m.

Admission \$13 for one session

### Saturday, March 5, 2016

(two sessions)

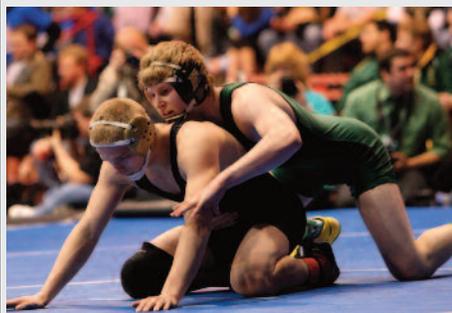
Division 2/3 Semifinals - 10 a.m.

Championships in all Divisions - 3 p.m.

Weigh-ins all divisions - 9 a.m.

Admission \$8 for each session

Pre-sale tickets are only available at participating schools. Tickets for this event are not sold online. Cash and checks are accepted at the door. Credit cards are not accepted at the door. ■



## 2016 State Individual Wrestling Championships

February 25-27 - Kohl Center, Madison

Doors open for spectators one hour prior to the start of competition each session.

### Session 1 - Thursday, February 25 - Six Mats

Division 1 Preliminaries - 3 p.m. Weigh in: 1:30 p.m.

Div. 1 Quarterfinals - Approximately 5:15 p.m.

Div. 2 & 3 Preliminaries - 7:15 p.m. Weigh in: 5:00 p.m. (Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 3 on mats 4, 5 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from 106 lbs.-285 lbs. on next available mat.

### Session 2 - Friday, February 26 - Six Mats

**Div. 1 Weigh Ins: 8:30 a.m. / Div. 2-3 Weigh Ins: 9:00 a.m.**

Div. 1 Consolations - 10 a.m. (all mats)

Div. 2 & 3 Quarterfinals - Approximately 11:15 a.m. (Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 3 on mats 4, 5 & 6)

Div. 1 Consolation Semifinals - Approximately 1:45 p.m. (all mats)

Div. 2 & 3 Consolation Semifinals - Approximately 2:45 p.m. (Div. 2 on mats 1, 2 & 3; Div. 3 on mats 4, 5 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from 106 lbs.-285 lbs. on next available mat.

### Session 3 - Friday, February 26 - Six Mats

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Semifinals - 7 p.m. (Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 4; Div. 3 on mats 5 & 6)

Note: All weight classes will be wrestled in consecutive order from 106 lbs.-285 lbs. on next available mat.

### Session 4 - Saturday, February 27 - Six Mats

**All Weigh Ins: 9:30 a.m.**

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Consolation Wrestlebacks - 11 a.m. (Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 4; Div. 3 on mats 5 & 6)

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Fifth Place\* (Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 4; Div. 3 on mats 5 & 6)

Div. 1, 2 & 3 Third Place\* (Div. 1 on mats 1 & 2; Div. 2 on mats 3 & 4; Div. 3 on mats 5 & 6)

\* Fifth-place and third-place matches will run concurrently by weight class following all consolation matches.

### Session 5 - Saturday - Three Mats March of Champions - 6 p.m.

Div 1, 2 & 3 Championships - (Div. 1 on mat 1; Div. 2 on mat 2; Div. 3 on mat 3) ■

# Fall Team Sportsmanship Award Winners Selected

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, in cooperation with Rural Mutual Insurance Company, has selected the team Sportsmanship Award winners for the 2015 fall State Championships.

The winners of the State Team Tournament Sportsmanship Awards are Darlington in football, Altoona in girls volleyball, Kenosha Indian Trail in boys volleyball, Rice Lake in boys soccer and Neenah in girls team tennis.

Darlington was selected for its sportsmanship following the program's second straight runner-up finish in the State football finals. It is the second time the school has been recognized for its sportsmanship, both coming in football. The Redbirds were chosen as co-winners of the award in 1997. They advanced to the State Division 6 final this season in Division 6 and fell 39-20 to champion St. Mary's Springs. Receiving honorable mention were Amherst, Bangor, Kimberly, Lodi, Notre Dame, Pepin/Alma and Spencer/Columbus Catholic.

Altoona earned its second sportsmanship recognition overall with its positive support for the Railroaders at the State Girls Volleyball Tournament. They advanced to State for the third time before dropping a 30-28, 25-13, 25-17 decision to East Troy in the semifinals. Their other Sportsmanship Award was awarded in girls tennis in 2001. Honorable mention for the award went to Clayton, Living Word Lutheran, Notre Dame and Regis.

Kenosha Indian Trail displayed positive school spirit in its first-ever appearance in the State Boys Volleyball Tournament to earn its first Sportsmanship Award in any sport. The Hawks lost 25-17, 25-11, 25-20 in the quarterfinals to Kettle Moraine, which advanced to the final and finished as State runner-up. Honorable mention for the award was given to Marquette and Middleton.

Rice Lake is the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award in boys soccer. It marks the second time the school has been bestowed the honor and the first time for boys soccer. The program's support was positive and significant in both its semi-

nal and final match-ups. The Warriors advanced to the Division 3 final with a 1-0 overtime victory over Notre Dame in the semifinals, and they finished runner-up following a 1-0 loss to champion Mount Horeb in the title game. Their first honor came in boys hockey in 2009. Arrowhead, Barron, Grafton, Kimberly, Madison West, Marquette, Racine St. Catherine's, River Falls, Sturgeon Bay and University School received honorable mention for the award.

Neenah is the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award in girls team tennis, which marks the eighth time the Rockets have received the award, and it's the second time in girls tennis. They also were recognized in girls tennis in 2000; boys tennis in 2002 and 2006; boys basketball in 1969, 1975 and 1988; and girls soccer in 2001. They won their first State Girls Team Tennis Championship in school history by defeating Brookfield East 4-3 in the Division 1 title match. Altoona, Edgewood and Waunakee each received honorable mention recognition.

The WIAA/Rural Insurance Sportsmanship Award is presented to one school program and community—or communities in the case of cooperative programs—in each of the State team tournaments that exemplifies outstanding sportsmanship. Award winners are determined by the conduct and sportsmanship displayed by athletes, coaches, cheer and support groups, mascots, bands and spectators. Additional consideration is given for the effort of school administrators and chaperones to insure support for their teams are positive and that the highest ideals of sportsmanship are upheld.

Award winners receive a trophy and banner in recognition of the honor. Schools receiving honorable mention are acknowledged with a certificate of recognition. The selection process includes contributions and evaluations from contest officials, tournament management, police and security personnel, crowd control and ushers, WIAA staff members, and area hotels and restaurants on occasion. ■



## Sobrilsky Receives National Award for Distinguished Service



Todd Sobrilsky

Todd Sobrilsky, athletic director and associate principal at Brookfield Central High School and member of the WIAA Advisory Council, is one of nine individuals named as recipients of the 2015 Distinguished Service Awards given by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA).

Sobrilsky was honored Dec. 15 in Orlando, Fla., during the banquet at the 46th annual National Athletic Directors Conference conducted jointly by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and the NIAAA.

The Distinguished Service Award is presented annually to individuals from within the NIAAA membership in recognition of their length of service, special accomplishments and contributions to interscholastic athletics at the local, state and national levels. Nominations are submitted by state athletic directors associations, screened by the NIAAA Awards Committee and selected by the NIAAA Board of Directors.

Sobrilsky oversees 26 sports programs and more than 100 coaches at Brookfield Central, as well as more than 60 student ac-

tivity groups and clubs. In 2011, he initiated and developed the Brookfield Central High School Hall of Fame, coordinated a fundraising campaign to retire long-term booster club debt and oversaw the building of a new turf baseball facility.

Sobrilsky also has been a site coordinator for more than 25 Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) State Sectional Finals. In addition, Brookfield High School has served as host to the largest girls basketball event in the state, in which 38 teams participate in 50 games on Thanksgiving weekend.

At the state level, he served on the WIAA Sports Advisory Committee from 2006 to 2010, including a term as chair from 2007 to 2009, and currently serves on the WIAA Advisory Council.

For the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association (WADA), Sobrilsky has been the state's LTI Coordinator since 2005 and a member of the state's leadership training teaching faculty since 2002. In 2012, he initiated WADA's "On the Road" LTI series, traveling across the state to teach LTI courses to athletic directors. Since 2012, he has been the WADA state certification chair, and has

coordinated and taught the WIAA's New Athletic Director's Workshop since 2005.

At the national level, Sobrilsky, an NIAAA lifetime member, has completed 27 NIAAA Leadership Training Institute (LTI) courses. He has been a member of the National Conference Faculty since 2007 and is a presenter for Leadership Training Course 502. Sobrilsky has been LTI state coordinator since 2005 and LTI state certification coordinator since 2012. He also is state coordinator of the NIAAA Professional Development Academy.

Sobrilsky's career in athletic administration in Wisconsin began in 2000 as assistant principal/activities director of Mount Horeb Area School District. In 2002, he moved to Beaver Dam Unified School District, and after five years there, became associate principal at Green Bay Area Public Schools. In 2010, he moved to his current position as associate principal of the Elmbrook School District and Brookfield Central High School.

Among his honors, Sobrilsky was named WADA Athletic Director of the Year in 2012-13, and in 2013 was honored with the WADA Andy Anderson Award for Exemplary Service. ■

# Open Gyms

The purpose of open gyms is to provide an opportunity for the students from a school to get together to play and recreate with one another. 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:

1. The open gym is made known and available to any student in the designated population of that school that is 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.

2. There is **no instruction** during the open gym by a coach or anyone else.

3. 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, i.e., there is no instruction by the coach or anyone, sport skill demonstration, organized drills or resemblance of a practice being conducted.

4. There is no organized competition, such as established teams participating in round-robin competition, etc.

5. 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. **Open weight room attendance must not be required or mandated by a coach, and attendance may not be recorded.**

Schools and coaches must clearly understand that the philosophy of the open gym is that youngsters from that school may attend, for wholesome **recreation**, or for purposes of improving their skills if they choose, 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 your school's athletes. (BL - Art. II and RE - Art. VI, Sect. 2)

## Q: What is the school population?

A: The students from that school in grades 9-12.

## Q: Can students from the middle school in the district participate?

A: No. MS and HS students can attend separate open gyms. The HS students attend a HS open gym and the MS students attend a MS open gym.

## Q: What would the definition of "people from your community" mean?

A: People from the community (adults and alumni) may attend. Graduates/alumni - home on break/summer vacation are typically afforded status as "members of the community." Most traditionally, members of the community will be parents and/or former students, as well as non-students, who come and recreate with the kids.

## Q: Can students from another school participate in our open gyms?

A: Open gyms are only for students and community members of that school. Your player cannot attend an open gym at another member school. The other school may not open the gym to students from other schools. With the co-op, students involved in the co-op may be allowed since they participate in your co-op program.

## Q: Can coaches recommend workouts for open gyms by posting programs?

A: No. Keep in mind this is designed for play and recreation, not workouts.

## Q: What is the designation of weight rooms?

A: Weight rooms are considered open gyms and should be operated as such. Here's the rule: 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 weight room. These conditioning programs must be made known and accessible to all interested students and must be voluntary.

## Q: I was wondering if you could assist me in a quick question. I have a student that is interested in lifting weights after school; however, the bus that would take him home doesn't drop him off at his house (our late bus doesn't go door to door, just to drop off points). The nearest drop off point is close to 6 miles from his house. My question is, could our school district provide him with a ride home in a school vehicle right to his house or is that a violation of the rules?

A: The only way this would be possible is if you have a late bus (or something similar) which takes any and all interested students home after school. If it is something for only one athlete or other athletes, then it would not be allowed. Schools may pay expenses and provide transportation to similar in-season activities in that sport and during unrestricted contact days in the summer. Students must pay their own expenses, including transportation, to any nonschool (out-of-season) camps, clinics, or specialized training. Schools may pay expenses and provide transportation to similar

in-season activities in that sport and during unrestricted contact days in the summer.

## Q: Our football coach has proposed the following: 1) Require football players to sign in when reporting to the weight room in the off-season, and 2) Send a letter to football players who do not regularly attend open weight room regarding possible removal from the roster if their attendance does not improve. Is this allowed? Can the coach collect workout information at the end of a lifting session?

A: What your football coach has proposed would be a violation of the membership open gym regulations and out-of-season coaching contact rules. Collecting workout information is akin to taking attendance. Simply stated, attendance may not be collected and/or used to determine team status, playing time, earning a letter, etc. (See #5 above)

## Q: Can a coach run with their voluntary team of runners in the winter at places like the XYZ Center?

A: First, you cannot have a voluntary team out-of-season. The rule states "...students may voluntarily assemble at any time without school and/or school coach involvement" on page 37 of the Senior High Handbook. Open runs may be conducted the same as open gyms provided they are school organized, open to any and all interested students, limited to the school population, voluntary, and follow all open gym rules. In open runs, the coach could recreate in school sponsored open gym settings. However, if the running program is located at the XYZ Center; is not school run/organized; and is not limited to the school population, then a coach could not run with the athletes because it is not a school sponsored open gym. If a school open run was designated at the XYZ Center, then the limitations of your own students would enter into the equation. If you run at the XYZ Center with your friend and have zero interaction with your team, you could run there. ■



Dr. Conrad Andringa

## Andringa Receives NFHS State Award for Outstanding Service

Dr. Conrad Andringa has been awarded the NFHS Award for Outstanding service in Wisconsin, presented to individuals to recognize a record of longstanding service and significant contributions that have had an impact on high school activity programs.

Andringa was a charter member of the WIAA Sports Medical Advisory Committee and has remained a key part of that group for 37 years, with 26 years in the leadership role of Committee Chair. Largely due to his work on this Committee, the WIAA has developed practices and policies regarding the prevention, the identification and the treatment of concussions in athletics for schools, officials, athletes and parents.

As the chair of the WIAA Sports Medical Advisory Committee, he was also a pioneer in the development of the wrestling minimum weight program and skinfold testing in Wisconsin. Both of these initiatives contributed to the adoption of nation-wide policies in those areas. He has been part of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee that rewrote the School Health Manual, and has been a presenter for the Academy at the national level.

Andringa's dedication to athletics has spanned his lifetime. He has served as the team physician for Madison Memorial High School since 1972, where his four children were very active interscholastic athletes. In recognition for his years of service, Madison Memorial honored him by naming its sports facility the "Conrad Andringa Fieldhouse."

In addition to his long term on the WIAA Medical

Advisory Committee, his dedication to high school student-athletes continued with his role as the WIAA State Tournament Physician in the sports of football, baseball, wrestling, soccer, swimming and diving, hockey and track & field.

Another significant contribution to the world of athletics is his role as the team physician for the United States Men's Hockey Team in the 1976 Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria.

Andringa has received numerous honors for the significant impact he has had on athletics in Wisconsin. He was inducted into the Madison Sports Hall of Fame and the Madison Skating Hall of Fame; he received the Dave McClain Distinguished Service Award by the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association; he was named Olympian of the Year by the Madison Service Club; and he received the Blue Line Club Service Award.

Upon graduation in 1956, he attended undergraduate and medical school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduated in 1963. Following an enlistment in the United States Air Force, Andringa returned to Madison to begin practicing pediatric medicine. This continued until his recent retirement from the Dean Clinic West in July, 2015.

His love for high school sports began with his own athletic career at Waukesha High School, where he competed in football, swimming and track & field. He was a State swim finalist in two events, and was part of an All-American Freestyle Relay team.

Andringa and wife, Phyllis, have four children, sons Jeff and Rob, and daughters Sandra and Lisa. ■

# Sports Report "PLUS" Exemplary sportsmanship as submitted by licensed officials.



The following reports of good sportsmanship have been submitted to the WIAA. Appreciation goes out to those officials taking the time to give recognition to those schools and individuals deserving of acknowledgement.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

### Abbotsford at Chequamegon – Jan. 15, 2016

We had the opportunity to be part of a special game. In a time where bad sportsmanship seems to be much more prevalent, we had the "Perfect Night." The pep band from Chequamegon was outstanding. The players came out all night playing the game hard, but sportsmanship was very much in focus. There was never any negative actions or comments toward the other team. The coaches coached hard, but always supporting good sportsmanship. The fans spent the entire night cheering for their team. The game went back and forth, not being decided until the final two seconds. It was an awesome game and atmosphere to be part of. Chequamegon and Abbotsford High Schools should be proud of the representatives!

Reporting Official: Rob Frenchick

### Rio at Central Wisconsin Christian – Jan. 12, 2016

The hospitality from the moment we walked through the front door was outstanding. Everyone was willing to point out the direction that we needed to go since we had never been to this facility before. Gregg took us to the locker room which was like going into a college locker room, with a shower, towels, bathroom, a pay check and a fridge full of water. As we were departing after an outstanding game we saw a few of the CWC players helping clean the seating area and said thank you for officiating tonight. Then as we got closer to the door one of the assistant boys varsity coaches said thank you and have safe travels. I wish every venue we go to was as nice, polite and hospitable like CWC was Tuesday night. Also, some of the students came back into the gym towards the end of half time and offered us Culvers. I think they were just messing with us though. Unless they knew Larry's favorite place to eat is Culvers!

Reporting Official: James Byrd

### Iowa-Grant at Cuba City – Dec. 17, 2015

Our crew had a wonderful experience while officiating a varsity boys' basketball contest between host Cuba City and Iowa-Grant. We want to thank Jeff Pustina (Cuba City AD) and his staff for their generous hospitality and assistance. A special thanks to Rod for providing us escorts to and from the court and to Mike & Bob for doing such an outstanding job with the book and clock. We also want to commend and thank Head Coach Jerry Pettigoue (Cuba City), Head Coach Toby Tripalin (Iowa-Grant), their coaching staffs, and especially all of their players. It was a thrill to be a part of a game in which both teams competed so incredibly hard but with honor, integrity, and respect for their opponents. We were extremely impressed and again, we thank both programs for their many acts of good sportsmanship and the opportunity to officiate such a terrific contest. Great Job!!

Reporting Official: Doug Stampfli

### Iola-Scandinavia at Bonduel – Dec. 11, 2015

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge being part of an exceptional high school sports experience as an official. It was a highly competitive and emotional game that ended with a last second shot which resulted in exhilaration for one team and obvious disappointment for the other. Nevertheless, both coaches Duke Copp (Bonduel) and Sam Berth (I-S) reflected true leadership throughout by focusing on coaching and encouraging their players consistently and effectively. Communication between coaches and officials was respectful and appropriate given the intensity of the environment. And the conduct and sportsmanship reflected by the players was obviously reflective of the values being taught by both staffs. In the end, both coaches could be proud of the effort and playmaking of their respective teams to put themselves in position to be successful. I am confident both coaches, being the positive role models they are, will be able to focus on the teaching moments of the experience and not just dwell on the result. This experience reinforced many of the positive aspects as why being involved with high school sports is such a privilege.

Reporting Official: Steve Sanders

### Dodgeville at River Valley – Dec. 10, 2015

River Valley AD Eric Briehe, his event staff, and his table crew (Jane & Denny) were outstanding to work with and helped us feel comfortable right away. Head Coaches Luke Thatcher (River Valley) and Matt McGraw (Dodgeville) were both extremely positive and professional throughout the entire contest while modeling good sportsmanship for their players. The captains and players from both teams did an awesome job of playing extremely hard while still showing respect for their opponents at all times. Congratulations to both schools on a great game of HS basketball and most of all, thank you for the opportunity to be a part of it!

Reporting Official: Doug Stampfli

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

### Reedsville at Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah – Jan. 21, 2016

Prior to the start of the contest when the general statement is normally read about sportsmanship by the PA announcer, a player from the Elkhart Lake team read a personal statement on sportsmanship for all in attendance and how positive cheering helps the athletes better than anything else that sometimes comes out in sporting events. There were some very meaningful words and the everyone there took them to heart. It became the most comfortable environment I have worked as a result and the positive energy never left the building. It was a great game (3 point difference) and I believe all in attendance had a great

time. All because one young lady took a little extra time to remind us all that basketball is a game and it is meant to be fun.

Reporting Official: Eric Vant Hul

### Boscobel at Riverdale – Dec. 18, 2015

We would like to recognize and commend the Boscobel varsity girls' basketball team (and their head coach, Jason Hill) for displaying one of the best acts of positive sportsmanship we have witnessed all season. Partway through the second half of the game, a Riverdale player unfortunately got injured causing a several minute delay while receiving medical attention on the court. Although trailing by a large margin in a big "rivalry" game between two bordering communities, all five of the Boscobel players waited, then went out of their way to the Riverdale bench to wish the injured player well before we put the ball back in play. The genuine concern and respect they showed toward their opponent reminded us what's most important about interscholastic competition and left a lasting impression on our crew. Thank you, ladies, for your positive example that regardless what the scoreboard says, we can always choose to be a champion of character!

Reporting Official: Doug Stampfli

### Riverdale at Southwestern – Dec. 15, 2015

Athletic Director Tom Koeller greeted our crew upon arrival and offered exceptional hospitality on behalf of the Southwestern School District throughout the entire game. During the contest, Southwestern's table crew of Tom and Cindy had excellent communication with our crew and helped make our job of officiating easier. Head Coaches Rachel Evanoff (Southwestern) and Scott Mau (Riverdale) both demonstrated exemplary sportsmanship qualities that were reflected in the players of their respective teams. Throughout the game there were numerous examples of players exhibiting positive sportsmanship to the other team and towards us as officials. As a crew we discussed after the game that this was one of the most positive high school games we have had the opportunity to be a part of and wanted to acknowledge all who helped make that a great environment.

Reporting Official: Chad Hodgson

## BOYS HOCKEY

### Eau Claire Memorial at Notre Dame

I am a parent of four who lives in the Green Bay area. This past weekend I volunteered to work the penalty box for three games during the "Showdown In Tiletown" event that was sponsored by Notre Dame Academy. My oldest son is a sophomore at NDA and plays on their JV hockey team. My youngest son is a Pee Wee hockey player in the Green Bay program as well. As such I have been around a lot of youth sports and especially hockey. I worked the penalty box this past weekend during two Eau Claire Memorial's games. During those games as my exposure to the ECM team increased I was struck by their positive behaviors and started to pay close attention. The penalty box vantage is literally like having a behind the scenes view of a team. And from that vantage I was quite impressed. The first thing I noticed was the lack of swearing from ECM players or coaches. I am not a prude nor would I have cast judgment had I heard colorful language during the game (which I unfortunately have come to expect). But the lack of swearing was classy and quite impressive. Additionally, every player who ended up being called for a penalty and spent time with me in the box was respectful and polite (that is often NOT the case). I heard "yes sir" and "thank you" from all players. From my limited observations and interactions it seemed that the team captains and assistant captains lead by example as did their coaches. They played with intensity and as a team and it showed on the ice where they won both games I worked including a one point victory over NDA. I do not know anyone associated with ECM besides those on the hockey team for whom I

had brief interactions. However, based on my experience I felt compelled to track down your contact information and send this note. You need to know the ECM hockey team represented your school with class. If my observations are an accurate indication of the overall hockey program it reflects a coach who is as focused on developing character as he is on winning games. Besides playing games against NDA the ECM team has a new fan who will continue to cheer their success on and off the ice!

Reporting Official: David C. Kapic

### Cedarburg at Onalaska – Jan. 16, 2016

It was a very good game with great intensity and sportsmanship. The sportsmanship displayed by both schools coaching staffs and players certainly met the standard the WIAA has set. The respect between the players towards each other and the officials was outstanding. Both coaching staffs were very professional. This truly was a model game for the WIAA standard.

Reporting Official: Jeff Hanzlik

### Lakeland at Mosinee – Jan. 14, 2016

The Lakeland hockey players and coaches were very well disciplined and showed self control during the hockey game. They were down by three goals and still played hard and clean. After the game the players and coaches from Lakeland made sure to acknowledge and thank all three officials. The players were very respectful and courteous.

Reporting Official: Brock Kuklinski

### Mosinee at Tomahawk – Dec. 3, 2015

The players were respectful of each other and helped one another on a couple of occasions. One situation in particular, two players went down and lost their sticks. They got up together, and the Mosinee player picked up both sticks and handed the Tomahawk player his stick. Something you don't normally see. The event that prompted this report was a questionable goal that admitted to kicking in. As soon as I stopped play and thought about what happened, I looked at the player, and he immediately said, "I kind of kicked that one in." I was impressed that even though both teams have new coaches, that these coaches had control of the players throughout the game. I was impressed with both teams control and sportsmanship.

Reporting Official: Bryan Schroder

## WRESTLING

### Shiocton High School

This report is not for one specific event, but for a number of events throughout the past years. If there is ever a wrestling team and coaching staff that should be recognized for practicing and displaying good sportsmanship, it is the team from Shiocton High School. I have had the opportunity to work at tournament events and duals with this team over the past years. The constant thing that I have experienced every time is the way the wrestlers and coaches handle themselves. There is nothing but good manners and respect shown by this team and coaches. The wrestlers report to the mat to wrestle hard but clean. They have a never quit attitude and are a pleasure to see as they work the skills that they have learned. Win or lose they treat their opponents with great respect as well. All of the coaches are a pleasure to work for as well. I have never heard a disrespectful comment made to or about an official from them. If there would be a question about a match, which is very seldom, the coaches will approach in a very respectful manner and discuss the situation with the official and then return to their chair. As I stated earlier this team of wrestlers and coaching staff have displayed for years. The exemplary good sportsmanship that the Shiocton wrestling team has followed should be recognized and they should be commended for what they do every time they are on the mat.

Reporting Official: Guy Vander Wyst

## Clinics and School Facilities

Schools may not be involved in conducting clinics outside the season, with the following exceptions. So long as participation is voluntary and available to all interested students:

1. There shall be no restrictions upon schools, school teams and school coaches (grades 9-12) relative to assembling in the summertime, for up to 5 days, which do not need to be consecutive. Unrestricted contact days must conclude no later than July 31.
2. A school may conduct a clinic for students in grades 8 and below, where high school varsity and junior varsity coaches may use some or all of their high school athletes as clinicians. This may be done for a maximum of six days during the summer (when school is not in session) and must conclude no later than July 31 (except football with the dead period). Clinics not utilizing athletes as clinicians may be conducted throughout the summer up to the start of school.
3. School facilities may be used for nonschool programs, according to board of education policy, which can result in clinics being conducted, outside the season, by nonschool groups. The nonschool group must request the facilities from the board of education or governing board, through normal procedures and are encouraged to provide their own insurance protection. (BL – Art. II and RE – Art. VI, Sect. 2) ■

# Annual Meeting Amendments

Listed below are the amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules of Eligibility under consideration for the Board of Control to advance to a membership vote at the Annual Meeting in April. The actual amendments that will be advanced and placed on the ballot for a membership vote will be determined by the Board at its March meeting.

## CONSTITUTION

### NUMBER 1 – MEMBERSHIP

This change would require a member school to always maintain administrative control and oversight of at least one independently sponsored interscholastic athletic program or co-op athletic program throughout the duration of membership.

#### Article III – Membership – p. 14-15

##### Section 2 – Admission

- A. Application for membership shall be considered by the Board of Control of this Association upon receipt of the form provided for such purpose of evidence that the school:
- 1) Minutes of school's governing board action authorizing application to the WIAA.
  - 2) The school's Board-approved extracurricular code of conduct.
  - 3) Department of Public Instruction school identification number.
  - 4) Indication of at least one independently sponsored interscholastic athletic program.
  - 5) For continued membership, schools must have administrative oversight of at least one independently sponsored interscholastic athletic program or co-op athletic program that is maintained throughout duration of membership.
  - 6) Completed WIAA membership application form . . .

### NUMBER 2 – CLASSIFICATION

This change would add a success factor to member schools' classification for placement in WIAA tournament competition in addition to the third Friday of September enrollment figure. This recommendation was advanced by the WIAA Ad Hoc Committee which studied competitive equity in 2014.

#### Article III – Membership

##### Section 3 – Classification – p. 15

- 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 with exceptions as noted below.
- 1) Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, for competition (including tournaments where necessary), a success factor will be calculated to determine division placements for the sports of soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball and baseball. Placement in divisions will first utilize the success factor. The success factor will be defined in the Season Regulations for Tournament Assignment and will be utilized where appropriate in advance of enrollment placement considerations.
  - 2) 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.
  - 3) 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.

- 4) 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.

- 5) In a multiple high school district, charter school enrollment will be identified by the district according to student residence. The students will be assigned and counted by the school of residence for participation, enrollment and divisional classification.

See example below

Success Factor

(Example Placement in Baseball Tournament Procedures)

### BASEBALL (BOYS) TOURNAMENT PROCEDURE

#### 1. ASSIGNMENT OF SCHOOLS WILL BE ON A GEOGRAPHICAL BASIS IN FOUR DIVISIONS IN THE SPRING PROGRAM (1-2-3-4) AND IN ONE DIVISION IN THE SUMMER PROGRAM.

##### Spring

- a. Schools will be evaluated by the success factor after each season:
- 1) The success factor will be a three-year cumulative total of no less than six points in all divisions of the previous three years.
  - 2) Teams promoted using the success factor will be promoted to the next division from the previous year. No team will be moved more than one division per year.
  - 3) Promotion will only be in the sport where the school has achieved the six points.
  - 4) All teams promoted using the success factor will be locked into the promoted division and the remaining schools will be placed based on enrollment.
  - 5) After being promoted, points from a lower division will not be considered in future promotion.
  - 6) If success factor points over the previous three years are less than six points in all divisions, promoted teams will leave the division
  - 7) Co-ops
    - a) When a co-op forms, the co-op will be a point total equal with the combined total of both schools.
    - b) When a co-op dissolves, the schools will retain the points of the co-op.
  - 8) Calculating the success factor:
    - a) Points will be cumulative for a three-year period.
    - b) Points will be awarded based upon the finish of the team in the tournament series. Points do not accumulate during the tournament series.
      - (1) 4 points for winning a state title
      - (2) 3 points for advancing to the championship game
      - (3) 2 points for advancing to the state semifinal (final 4)
      - (4) 1 point for advancing to the state quarter-final (final 8).
- b. After application of the success factor, the largest 96

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schools sponsoring spring baseball are in Division 1, with the remaining schools divided equally between Divisions 2, 3 and 4.

- 1) No team can be moved down a division due to another team's promotion if they have earned success factor points in that division during the previous three years.
- 2) The next smallest school without success factor points during the previous three years will be moved down.
- 3) Any tie will be addressed consistent with current season regulations.

- c. Schools may be allowed to play up one division in any sport (except football) from where its enrollment would otherwise place it if an application is submitted prior to June 1. This will not cause other schools to be displaced.

### NUMBER 3 – BOARD OF CONTROL ORGANIZATION

*This change would provide that a Board of Control member could be employed in a full-time or in a part-time position in one of the eligible positions at a member school. Currently, a member of the Board of Control must be a full-time employee.*

#### Article V – Board of Control Organization

##### Section 1 – Membership – p. 15

- A. Executive and administrative powers of this Association shall be vested in a committee of eleven members, to be known as the Board of Control.

- 1) Ten of the members shall be administrators, assistant administrators, high school principals, or assistant high school principals. Six of the ten members shall each represent one of the districts comprised of the high schools listed hereafter. One of the ten members shall be an at-large representative of whichever gender has fewer memberships at the election announcement date for this position. One of the ten members shall be an at-large representative of ethnic minority origin as defined in the following note.

Note: A person having origins in black racial groups of Africa; Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race; Asian; Pacific Islander; American Indian; or Alaskan Native.

One of ten members shall be an at-large eligible administrator of a member nonpublic school.

Note: Candidates must have (1) Department of Public Instruction licensure allowing placement in the eligible set, (2) must be employed full-time or part-time in a qualifying position and (3) cannot be members of the teachers' bargaining unit.

- 2) One member shall represent the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, and that organization shall determine the procedure for selecting its representative.

### NUMBER 4 – ADVISORY COUNCIL ORGANIZATION

*This change would provide that an Advisory Council member could be employed in a full-time or in a part-time position in one of the eligible positions at a member school. Currently, a member of the Advisory Council must be a full-time employee.*

#### Article VII – Advisory Council Organization

##### Section 1 – Membership – p. 21

- A. A committee of 18 members to be known as the Advisory Council shall be established to represent member schools as follows:

- 1) Five members to represent the large size schools.
- 2) Five members to represent the middle size schools.

- 3) Five members to represent the small size schools.
- 4) One member shall be an at-large representative of whichever gender has fewer memberships at the election announcement date for this position.
- 5) One member shall be an at-large representative of an ethnic minority as defined in the following note:

Note: A person having origins in black racial groups of Africa; Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race; Asian; Pacific Islander; American Indian; or Alaskan Native.

- 6) One member shall be an eligible administrator of a member nonpublic school.

Note: Candidates must have (1) Department of Public Instruction licensure allowing placement in the eligible set, (2) must be employed full-time or part-time in a qualifying position and (3) cannot be members of the teachers' bargaining unit.

- B. Membership on the Advisory Council is open to administrators, assistant administrators, high school principals, or assistant high school principals of member senior high schools of this Association.

## RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

### NUMBER 5 – TRANSFER RULE

*This change would provide opportunity for non-varsity eligibility to students transferring before or during their 5th or 6th semester following entry into 9th grade.*

#### Article II – Residence and Transfer

##### Section 3 – Transfers – p. 33

- A. A full time student may be afforded up to eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility upon entry into Grade 9. Transferring schools at any time may result in restrictions being imposed on eligibility, or in some cases a denial of eligibility. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' These additional provisions relate to transfer cases:

- 1) A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the ~~fourth~~ sixth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year, but may practice, 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.
- 2) Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 9th and/or 10th grade at the beginning of the school year and who are within the first four consecutive semesters of high school will be afforded unrestricted eligibility provided all other rules governing student eligibility are met.
- 3) Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 11th grade are restricted to non-varsity for one calendar year.
- 4) Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 11th and/or 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- 5) 9th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved shall be restricted to non-varsity opportunities for the remainder of the school year. Restrictions are removed upon entering 10th grade.

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- 6) 10th or 11th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved shall be restricted to non-varsity opportunities for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school).
- 7) In the event of divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility for students entering 9th and/or 10th grade. In situations involving transfer after the fourth sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- 8) District policies with respect to intra-district transfer do not supersede WIAA transfer rules in situations involving post-4th sixth semester transfers. Intra-district transfers occurring after the fourth sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 result in the student being ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school), but may practice.
- 9) Unless transfer, including an accompanying change of parents residence, is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the fifth calendar day of such transfer.
- 10) If within the first four consecutive semesters following entry into grade 9, a student who transfers more than once in any given school year shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that current school year and will be eligible for non-varsity opportunities only for the balance of one calendar year. In situations involving transfer after the fourth sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- 11) A student may not have eligibility in more than one member school at the same time. A parent or parents who move from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, to a secondary residence within another school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total move.
- 12) A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons and/or as a result of another State Association's regulation or sanction, retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.
- 13) 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.

**NUMBER 6 – NONSCHOOL PARTICIPATION DURING THE SEASON**

*This change would allow any individual athlete to participate in up to two nonschool contests during the regular school sport season in the same sport with school approval. It will NOT count against the athlete's individual participation limit. This change neither affects nor alters the exceptional athlete provision.*

**Article VI – Nonschool Participation**

**Section 1 – In-Season – p. 37**

- A. It is the philosophy of this Association that a student

owes loyalty and allegiance to the school and team of which he/she is a member during the season of a given sport. Athletes may compete in not more than two non-school competitions with school approval during each regular sport season. The contest(s) will not count against the individual maximum for the athlete in that sport. Nonschool competition will not be allowed during the respective WIAA tournament series in a sport. A student becomes ineligible in a sport for the remainder of the season for competing in more than two nonschool games, meets, or contests in the same sport during the season of practice and competition established by the school. The penalty may be reduced upon request of a school on the basis of documented extenuating circumstances.

Note: With the approval of school administration, a student may be allowed to participate as an individual (not part of a team) in contests which isolate separate sport skills outside the traditional competition setting, e.g., shooting, passing, kicking contests. Such skill contests/events may not include physical contact with another participant or contain similar risks for serious injury or extreme fatigue as the actual sport competition. There can be no school coach involvement. The approval of the school may be granted on the basis that such participation will not impair or alter the student's eligibility (ie: amateur status) or other membership rules.

- 1) Nonschool games, meets, or contests shall be interpreted ...
- 2) A student who was a member of a school team ...
- 3) A student who is cut from the squad, ...
- 4) This rule (prohibiting students from competing in nonschool programs during the school season in the same sport) may be waived on behalf of an exceptional athlete provided:
  - a. The competition has international ramifications, ...
  - b. The school requests an exemption ....
  - c. The athlete:
    - (1) Achieved one of the first five places (in an individual sport) ...
    - (2) Was prevented by illness, injury, or unusual circumstances ...
    - (3) Defeated in subsequent competition ...
    - (4) Qualified for Special Olympics, or for international competition ....

**NUMBER 7 – NONSCHOOL PARTICIPATION DURING THE SEASON**

*This change would update the exceptional athlete provision to reflect the National Governing Bodies (NGB) and Olympic Development Programs (OPD). It also would allow the exceptional athlete to participate in NGB or ODP competitions during the WIAA tournaments.*

**Article VI – Nonschool Participation**

**Section 1 – In-Season – p. 37**

- A. It is the philosophy of this Association that a student owes loyalty and allegiance to the school and team of which he/she is a member during the season of a given sport. A student becomes ineligible in a sport for the remainder of the season for competing in a nonschool game, meet, or contest in the same sport during the season of practice and competition established by the school. The penalty may be reduced upon request of a

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school on the basis of documented extenuating circumstances.

Note: With the approval of school administration, ...

- 1) Nonschool games, meets, or contests shall be interpreted to include ...
- 2) A student who was a member of a school team in a given sport ...
- 3) A student who is cut from the squad, during the regular season ...
- 4) ~~This rule (prohibiting students from competing in nonschool programs during the school season in the same sport) may be waived on behalf of an exceptional athlete provided:~~
  - a. ~~The competition has international ramifications, i.e., there are countries outside the United States (50 states) involved, and~~
  - b. ~~The school requests an exemption on the basis that such participation will not impair the student's loyalty and allegiance to school and team, and~~
  - c. ~~The athlete:~~
    - (1) ~~Achieved one of the first five places (in an individual sport) in the previous WIAA state meet, or~~
    - (2) ~~Was prevented by illness, injury, or unusual circumstances from achieving one of the first five places in the previous WIAA state meet and it is documented that he/she might have made such an achievement, or~~
    - (3) ~~Defeated in subsequent competition (or surpassed the accomplishment of) a person who achieved one of the first five places in the previous WIAA state meet,\* or~~
    - (4) ~~Qualified for Special Olympics, or for international competition in a National Federation recognized and/or sanctioned event such as the Olympics, Pan-American Games, Davis Cup, Walker Cup, e.g., including dual and invitational meets with countries outside the United States (50 states).~~

Note 1:\* Subsequent performance times, scores, e.g., must be at or near State Tournament performance.

Note 2: No waiver shall be provided for non-school competition which occurs during the respective WIAA tournament series in a sport.

### B. National Teams and Olympic Development Programs for Team and Individual Sport Athletes

- 1) During the school year, students who participate for their school in a sport may participate through training, tryout or competition on a National Team or in a United States Olympic Development Program provided the student receives an individual invitation from either the United States National Governing Body (NGB) on the national level for that sport or from the United States Olympic Committee:
  - a. **National Team Definition:** A national team is a team selected by the National Governing Body (NGB) of the sport on a national qualification basis either through a defined selective process or actual tryouts for the purpose of international competition which requires the entries to officially represent the respective nations, although

it is not necessary there be team scoring by nation. Participation by high school students on bona fide national teams that represent the United States may be permitted.

- b. **Olympic Development Program Definition:** An Olympic Development Program (ODP) is defined as a training program or competition that is conducted or sponsored by the United States Olympic Committee, or directly funded and conducted by the United States Olympic committee member National Governing Body (NGB) on the national level, or specifically authorized by a national governing body involving only athletes previously identified by the NGB as having potential for future participation at the regional national, or international competition in that sport.

Official National Governing Bodies

Baseball	USA Baseball	Soccer	U.S. Soccer Federation
Basketball	USA Basketball	Softball	Amateur Softball Association
Diving	USA Diving	Swimming	USA Swimming
Football	USA Football	Tennis	U.S. Tennis Association
Golf	U.S. Golf Association	Track and Field	USA Track & Field
Gymnastics	USA Gymnastics	Volleyball	USA Volleyball
Ice Hockey	USA Hockey	Wrestling	USA Wrestling

- c. **Special Olympic Definition:** Special Olympics provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.
- d. Waivers may be provided:
  - (1) The national team or development program meets the above definition.
  - (2) The student makes application to the high school principal or designee.
  - (3) The member school requests a waiver.

## 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.*

## RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

*This change would allow students who meet eligibility by state law (home-based private education) to participate.*

### Article I – General

#### Section 3 – Who may Participate – p. 31

- A. A school may use on its interscholastic teams only its full-time students enrolled in grades affiliated with WIAA membership.

Note 1: 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.

Note 2: When state law allows eligibility, those students meeting the stated requirements of the law are eligible at the stated member schools on the same basis and to the same extent of WIAA rules. ■

# Coaching Contact

Many questions have been asked about the coaching contact rule change that the member schools passed at the 2015 Annual Meeting. While it is not a new rule, the coaches in the sports of hockey, basketball, and volleyball were provided additional coaching contact during the summer time with nonschool groups. There are several keys to remember:

**During the school year**, coaches are restricted to coaching contact to the sport season only.

Nothing has changed in regard to the time period of contact. During the school year, coaches may not have out-of-season coaching contact with the athletes they will coach the next season. Coaches may only have coaching contact with their athletes during the sport season while school is in session. The additional non-school coaching contact is only for the summertime that is defined as the last day of school to the first day of school.

**During the summertime** (last day of school to the first day of school), coaching contact is defined as Unrestricted SCHOOL and Unlimited NON-SCHOOL.

**Unrestricted SCHOOL Coaching Contact** - All sport coaches have five days of unrestricted coaching contact opportunity during the summer, between the end of school and July 31; the days do not need to be consecutive. Unrestricted opportunities allow you to use school support and facilities as you would during the season. Unrestricted means teams can assemble with coaches, school monies and resources can be applied, schools can sponsor the events/activities. The five contact days must be the same for all levels within a sport program. Unrestricted contact days are open to any interested student in your school. They are not allowed during the school year.

**Unlimited NONSCHOOL Coaching Contact** - In all sports except football, unlimited "non-school" contact may be used by coaches during the summer-

time. The summer being defined as when school is not in normal session, provided such non-school programs are not limited to students on the basis of school or team affiliation. An 'acceptable non-school program' is one which is not limited based on school and/or team status. Unlimited contact is open to any and all interested students in your community and other communities. No school monies and resources can be applied, schools cannot sponsor the events/activities. Use of school support and facilities must be done in the same manner as any other non-school group such as 4-H, boy scouts, or local rotary.

## School and Coach Involvement

Students may assemble out-of-season in any manner they choose during the school year and during the summer time. However, their high school coaches and high schools may not be involved. The assembly must be open to any and all along with being voluntary. The fundamental rule with coaching contact has not changed. Coaches may not have coaching contact with any athletes they will be coaching the following school season during restricted times (except their own children). Coaches include head coaches, assistant coaches, volunteer coaches, and coaches who may be coaching the next year. Coach involvement does include organizing, determining nonschool rosters, providing instruction, coaching at the contest, etc.

Coaches are not allowed to organize nonschool activity during the school year. Organize includes (but is not limited to):

- Holding player meetings outside the established season to discuss nonschool teams.
- Making contact with nonschool leagues to enter a team into the league during the school year.
- Paying entry fees for nonschool leagues and/or tournaments during the school year.
- Transporting to nonschool leagues or tournaments during the school year. Coaching at non-

school leagues or tournaments during the school year.

- Helping determine rosters for nonschool teams in nonschool leagues or tournaments.
- Directing others (ie: parents, players, community members, non-school coaches) to determine rosters, assignments, or make up of teams.
- No school monies and resources can be applied, schools cannot sponsor the events/activities.
- Use of school support and facilities must be done in the same manner as any other non-school group such as 4-H, boy scouts, or local rotary.

In short, coaches should be hands off during the summer and school year unless contact is during the school sport season, within the five unrestricted contact days during the summer before July 31 (July 23, 2016 for football), or is classified as unlimited nonschool contact during the summertime (from the last day of school to the first day of school). ■

## High School Out-of-Season Concerns

WIAA Bylaw, Article II, Section 2, A., 2), indicates "A school may not assemble athletes or prospective athletes in physical education classes, or some other manner, for purposes of teaching fundamentals, techniques, plays, etc., except during the designated school season of a sport." This includes the summer period, meaning that schools cannot conduct a **summer school class**, or community education program, on basketball fundamentals, for their basketball players. It doesn't matter if the class is open to all students. The one exception is in the summertime during the Board of Control approved unrestricted contact period between the end of school and July 31\* (5 days in all WIAA sports). \*Unrestricted coach contact ends July 25, 2015 for football.

This same Bylaw has another provision, indicating "A school may not organize conditioning programs limited to students with athletic team status, or to prospective athletes, except during the designated school season of a sport." Off-season weight-training programs are fine, as long as they are **not sport specific**. If a weight-training program is conducted, and is available to anyone interested, and the activities that go on are not sport specific, then it is acceptable under WIAA guidelines. There **cannot, however, be incentives** put in place to encourage athletes to be involved in these off-season programs. For example, it is not appropriate to indicate that any football player attending a given number of weight-training programs, will receive a T-shirt. It is also unacceptable for schools to provide a T-shirt to a basketball player, who attempts so many shots during the off-season. Another example, of **unacceptable incentives**, would be to include off-season activities into the determination of who gets to start during the season, or who gets to play, or for participation in these activities to be included in eligibility for a letter in that particular sport.

Captains Practices: WIAA Rules of Eligibility allow students to voluntarily assemble during the school year and in the summertime without school and/or coach involvement. These assemblies may sometimes be referred to as "captains practices." ■

## Summer Coaching Contact

There are two types of coaching contact: School (unrestricted) and Nonschool (unlimited) allowed during the summertime. **NOTE:** During the school year, coaches are restricted to coaching contact during the sport season only.

### Unrestricted SCHOOL Coaching Contact

- Sports: All sports
- Time period: Last day of school to July 31 (except Football: July 23, 2016) in summertime
- Duration: Five days (does not have to be consecutive)
- School Equipment: May be used
- Funding: School funds may be used (Fund 10, 60, 80 and activity accounts)
- School Transportation: May be used
- School Facilities: May be used (as can non-school facilities)
- Participation: Open to any and all interested. May not be mandated.

### Unlimited NONSCHOOL Coaching Contact

An acceptable nonschool program or activity is one which is not limited to students on the basis of a school affiliation, athletic experience, team status, etc. and no school monies or resources can be applied.

- Sports: All sports except football.
- Time period: Last day of school to First day of school in summertime
- Duration: Unlimited during the time period.

- Equipment: with Board of Education permission and following school policy.
- Funding: School funds may NOT be used (Fund 10, 60 and activity funds).
  - Community Ed and School District Recreation funds may be used (Fund 80).
- School transportation: May NOT be used, but may be rented.
- School Facilities: May be rented by non-school organization following school policy (as can nonschool facilities).
- Participation: Open to any and all interested. May not be mandated.

Examples of Nonschool organizations:

- Booster clubs (monies not in school funds)
- Lion's Club
- Rotary
- American Legion
- AAU basketball
- Youth athletic clubs
- Hockey associations
- School district recreation (fund 80)
- Joe's Pizza
- USAV (club volleyball)

NOTES:

- NONSCHOOL team is not a code word for SCHOOL team.
- Amateur Status rules apply. Athletes must return or purchase nonschool uniforms, warmups and shoes. ■

## Student Participation & Transfer Rules Revisited

The anticipation builds as the winter Tournament Series approaches with individuals and teams embarking on their path with the hopes and dreams of competing on the State's largest stages.

After champions have been crowned and the tournament thrills subside, the focus of the membership quickly shifts to the business of the association with the Annual Meeting in April. The Board will have final determination if three proposed amendments that address nonschool participation and student transfer eligibility provisions in the Rules of Eligibility advance to a membership vote.

It's fair to state that we have wrestled with these two areas on a seemingly perpetual basis in recent years to identify an ideal solution.

Last year at the Annual Meeting, the membership rejected a proposed amendment that would provide an opportunity for any student-athlete to participate in up to two nonschool contests in a sport during that same sport's regular season. The stipulations of the proposal included the requirement of school approval and the nonschool contests would count against the student-athlete's personal maximum participation limits. That amendment failed overwhelmingly by a 383-44 vote.

Subsequent feedback following the vote suggested the counting two games against an individual's maximum was a factor in the demise of the amendment. This year, a similar proposal may come forward with the two permitted nonschool contests not counting against the individual's game maximums.

The attempt to identify and create an ideal nonschool participation threshold is in response to the continued rise of the members' requests for relief of the rule as it currently exists. It is also an area that has recently resulted in legislative intervention in other states across the nation. In addition, each of our neighboring states place the decision to grant permission for nonschool competition with the member schools.

The root of the requests typically identify applying the exceptional athlete provisions; however, with current interpretations, many of the requests identify events that do not meet the criteria or standard for student-athletes to be granted an exceptional athlete waiver. Thus, a waiver to competitions that fail to meet those standards diminishes the exceptional athlete threshold and ultimately the rationale and reasoning for nonschool restrictions, which is loyalty to the school team.

Proponents of the amendment believe it will reduce the pressure placed on school administrators by students and parents who request to participate in nonschool events and competitions during the school season. Ultimately, the request is often deferred to the WIAA executive office for an interpretation and ruling.

Keeping on the topic of the exceptional athlete provisions, an amendment that defines and clarifies what events qualify student-

athletes for an exceptional athlete waiver may come forward to the membership if advanced by the Board. The amendment would strike existing criteria and replace it with language identifying only invitations to competitions sanctioned by the prescribed national governing bodies and Olympic Development Programs.

In addition, unlike other nonschool competition allowances, the amendment would also allow these elite student-athletes to compete in these programs during the WIAA Tournament Series. These governing bodies and Olympic Development Programs are clearly defined further on page 13.

The transfer language in the Rules of Eligibility will most likely need to be addressed again by the membership. The rules and restrictions pertaining to the eligibility of student-athletes transferring from one school to another have been altered on a number of occasions since 2002.

For a brief overview, prior to 2003, a transfer not made necessary by the parents' complete change in address at any grade level were ineligible for any competition for one year. In 2003 and 2004, adjustments were made to lessen restrictions on freshmen transfers and foreign exchange students. In 2005, transfers would be permitted with eligibility restricted to nonvarsity competition for one year following the transfer. In 2007, the membership implemented a stricter rule with a one-year period of ineligibility for practice and competition with transfers not necessitated by a total change in residence after the fourth semester following entry into the ninth grade. In 2011, the members removed the practice restriction following a transfer.

In April, member delegates may see an amendment that would give nonvarsity eligibility to students transferring before or during their fifth or sixth semesters following entry into the ninth grade. Extending the window of opportunity from four to six semesters will open participation in nonvarsity competitions to juniors.

The difficulty in creation and acceptance of the transfer rules is identifying the ideal balance between providing opportunities for student-athletes to participate and receive the well-documented benefits of high school sports while reconciling the oftentimes divisive influence transfer students have, both locally and within the membership.

As stated in the Bulletin editorial following the fall's Area Meeting, the nonschool participation and transfer rules were destined to be revisited based on what's trending nationally. Other states have experienced legislative attempts to limit or eliminate restrictions on eligibility. It's pertinent to revisit to gain a clear direction and to identify alternative transfer and non-school participation rules that keep students more engaged with participation.

Let's take the opportunity to enjoy the spotlight high school sports have during the next several weeks before we again roll up the sleeves and address the policy side of our work. ■

## Keep These Dates in Mind

February 12 . . . . . Boys Diving Sectionals  
February 13 . . . . . Wrestling Individual Regionals  
Boys Swimming Sectionals  
February 16 . . . . . Wrestling Team Sectionals  
February 16, 18 & 19 . . . . . Boys & Girls Hockey Regionals  
February 19-20 . . . . . Boys State Swimming & Diving Meet (Madison)  
February 20 . . . . . Wrestling Individual Sectionals  
February 23 . . . . . Deadline to Announce Board/Council Candidacy  
February 23, 26 & 27 . . . . . Boys & Girls Hockey Sectionals  
Girls Basketball Regionals  
February 25-26-27 . . . . . State Wrestling Individual Tournament (Madison)  
Gymnastics Sectionals  
March 1 . . . . . Board/Council Primary Ballot Mailed  
March 1, 4 & 5 . . . . . Boys Basketball Regionals  
March 3-4-5 . . . . . Boys State Hockey  
March 4 . . . . . Board of Control Meeting  
March 4-5 . . . . . Girls State Hockey  
State Team Wrestling  
March 7 . . . . . Earliest Day for Track & Field Practice  
March 8 . . . . . Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Gymnastics  
March 10-11-12 . . . . . Girls State Basketball (Green Bay)

March 10 & 12 . . . . . Boys Basketball Sectionals  
March 11 . . . . . Scholar Athlete Nomination Due Date  
March 14 . . . . . Earliest Day for Softball Practice  
March 16 . . . . . Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Wrestling (Stevens Point)  
March 17-18-19 . . . . . Boys State Basketball (Madison)  
March 21 . . . . . Earliest Day for Girls Soccer Practice  
Earliest Day for Baseball (Spring) Practice  
March 22 . . . . . Primary Ballot Return Deadline  
March 25 . . . . . Board/Council Election Ballot Mailed  
Good Friday  
March 27 . . . . . Easter  
March 28 . . . . . Earliest Day for Boys Golf Practice  
Earliest Day for Boys Tennis Practice  
April 5 . . . . . Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Hockey (Stevens Point)  
April 6 . . . . . Coaches Advisory Committee Meeting – Basketball (Stevens Point)  
April 8 . . . . . Board/Council Election Ballot Return Deadline  
April 19 . . . . . Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)  
April 20 . . . . . WIAA Annual Meeting (Stevens Point)  
May 1 . . . . . Scholar/Athlete Awards Program (Wausau)  
May 6 . . . . . Medical Advisory Meeting (Stevens Point)  
May 13 . . . . . Earliest Day for Summer Baseball Practice  
Board of Control Meeting (Stevens Point)



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**Test Dates**

Students participating in interscholastic sports often find conflicts between these events and college test dates. Listed below are the 2015-2016 and 2016-17 dates for ACT.

**ACT – 2015-2016**

**Registration**

Test Date	Deadline	Late Fee Required
April 9, 2016	March 4, 2016	March 5-18, 2016
June 11, 2016**	May 6, 2016	May 7-20, 2016

**ACT – 2016-2017**

September 10, 2016	February 11, 2017*
October 22, 2016	April 8, 2017
December 10, 2016	June 10, 2017

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

\*\* See Non-Saturday

(<http://www.actstudent.org/faq/nonsat.html>) testing for information related to this test date. ■

**Wisconsin Fastpitch  
Softball Coaches  
Association Clinic**

**February 20-21, 2016**  
**Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells**  
**Register at: [www.wfsc.org](http://www.wfsc.org)**