

WIAA CASH FLOW BULLETIN

As fundraising programs and non-school entities continue to develop, it is important for school officials to maintain oversight of their sport programs. Through discussions with school administrators, we are learning that non-school organizations (tournament organizers, booster clubs, special interest groups) are being allowed to organize and control events and programs, especially the funds, and therefore are not in compliance when it comes to receipt of funding and payment of expenses for their program(s).

Examples of non-compliance funding situations include the following:

1. Tournaments run by non-school programs without a member school responsible for the event.
2. Profits encumbered from a high school tournament maintained by a Non-school Association.
3. Monetary funds provided to the school by outside sources are not handled in accordance with school district gift acceptance policies.
4. Booster Clubs and/or Non-School Associations directly paying officials fees, a school team's travel expenses, uniforms, gym rental, ice time and/or coaches salaries.
5. Booster Clubs and/or Non-School Associations not allowing student-athletes to try out or participate on a school team because player fees or insurance fees have not been paid.
6. Booster Clubs and/or Non-School Associations providing financial assistance for high school player's student fees.

Additional non-compliance situations that violate WIAA Amateur Status regulations that have been brought to our attention during the past year include:

1. Non-School organizers taking photos of key student-athletes and placing them in advertisements in a program.
2. Training facilities identifying successful student-athletes on their website.
3. One school from a co-op program reducing the fees for students from their school to participate in ice hockey, while the other schools in the co-op program do not reduce their fees.
4. One school from a co-op program not providing monies raised in a fundraiser for their school to the lead school of the co-op for distribution amongst all schools/players' participation fees in the co-op program.
5. A student-athlete receiving a reduced student participation fee equal to the amount the student raised during a fundraising campaign.

If your school program is allowing any of the examples identified above or if you have questions regarding the cash flow of funding your school's athletic program(s), please contact Tom Shafranski, WIAA Assistant Director, via email at tshafranski@wiaawi.org or by calling (715) 344-8580.

We are sending this Bulletin to all WIAA Ice Hockey schools in an effort to have each school review their own situation with the examples above in mind. Your help with these funding issues is greatly appreciated.