

Officials Code of Ethics

National Federation Officials Association

Officials at an interscholastic athletic event are participants in the educational development of high school students. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility. The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all interscholastic officials.

Officials shall master both the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.

Officials shall work with each other and their state associations in a constructive and cooperative manner;

Officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interaction with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues and the public.

Officials shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.

Officials shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.

Officials shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that student-athletes, coaches and the public hold for the profession.

Officials shall, while enforcing the rules of play, remain aware of the inherent risk of injury that competition poses to student-athletes. Where appropriate, they shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear unreasonably hazardous.

Officials shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.

2005-06 Important Dates

Schedule of Material Mailings

Fall sports registration materials – Presidents’ meeting, June 10
Winter sports registration materials – First mailing, September 6
Spring sports registration materials – First mailing, December 6 (flag football, softball, track & field, water polo); second mailing, January 3 (baseball)

Registration Deadlines

Applications for registration as an official must be received in the FHSAA Office by the following dates:

Fall Sports (fall soccer, football, and girls and boys volleyball) – July 15
Winter Sports (basketball, winter soccer and wrestling) – September 2
Spring Sports (baseball, flag football, softball, track & field, boys volleyball* and water polo) – December 2

* Registration for girls volleyball includes the boys volleyball season.

A \$10 late fee will be assessed an applicant whose application for registration is received after the applicable deadline. The FHSAA shall not assume responsibility for any delays caused by the U.S. Mail, or for applications that are returned to the applicant due to incomplete or incorrect information.

Deadlines for Local Officials Associations

The deadline for local officials associations to submit training sessions proposals is two weeks prior to the first airing of their sport’s rules meeting. Local officials associations are required to submit via iFHSAA to the FHSAA their reports on the number of REGULAR SEASON VARSITY/JUNIOR VARSITY CONTESTS officiated by each member official by the following dates:

Fall Sports (football, girls volleyball) – November 18
Winter Sports (basketball, soccer, wrestling) – February 24
Spring Sports (baseball, flag football, softball, track & field, water polo) – April 28

Schedule of Rules Examinations

FHSAA closed-book rules examinations will be given on the following dates:

Fall Sports — Monday, Aug. 22, 2005 (volleyball, 6:30 p.m.; football, 8 p.m.);
Make-Up Exam, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2005

Winter Sports — Monday, Nov. 7, 2005 (soccer and wrestling, 6:30 p.m.; basketball, 8 p.m.);
Make-Up Exam, Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005

Spring Sports — Monday, Feb. 27, 2005 (flag football, softball, track & field, and water polo, 6:30 p.m.; baseball, 8 p.m.);
Make-Up Exam, Saturday, Mar. 18, 2005

Requests to take the make-up examination must be submitted online using the “Request to Take Contest Officials Make-Up Rules Examination” form and received in the FHSAA Office not less than one week before the scheduled date of the make-up examination.

Officials not interested in officiating in the postseason may take an open-book examination. The window for open-book testing is August 7-12 for fall sports; October 16-30 for winter sports; and February 5-19 for spring sports. Officials should contact their local association officers for the date, time and location of the test.

2005-06 Calendar At-A-Glance

(BA=baseball; BB=basketball; FB=football; FF=flag football; SB=softball; SC=soccer;
TR=track & field; VB=volleyball; WP=water polo; WR=wrestling)

JULY

- 15 Fall Registration Deadline

AUGUST

- 1-31 Fall Rules Clinics
- 7-21 Open Book Window
- 22 Closed-Book Exams (FB, VB)

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Recommendations Mailed (VB)
- 2 Winter Registration Deadline
- 6 Winter Officials Pack-out (BB, WR)
- 12 Officials Advisory Committee Meeting
- 13 Test Developers (BB, SC, WR)
- 17 Recommendations Mailed (FB)
- 17 Make-up Exams (FB, VB)
- 17 Last Day to Register Fall Sports
- 19 Lead Field Clinic Clinicians (BB, SC, WR)

OCTOBER

- 3-11/9 Winter Rules Clinics (Winter Soccer)
- 7 Recommendations Due (VB)
- 10-11/9 Winter Rules Clinics (Basketball and Wrestling)
- 16-30 Open Book Window

NOVEMBER

- 7 Closed-Book Exams (BB, SC, WR)
- 8 Recommendations Due (FB)
- 15 Recommendations Mailed (Girls SC)
- 18 Fall Game/Meeting Reports Due

DECEMBER

- 1 Recommendations Mailed (BB, WR)
- 2 Spring Registration Deadline
- 6 Spring Officials Pack-out (FF, SB, TR, WP)
- 3 Make-up Exams (BB, SC, WR)
- 3 Last Day to Register Winter Sports
- 5 Lead Field Clinic Clinicians (BA, SB)
- 6 Recommendations Mailed (Boys SC)
- 6 Test Developers (BA, SB)

JANUARY

- 1 Recommendations Due (Girls SC)
- 3 Baseball Officials Pack-out
- 10 Recommendations Due (BB)
- 13 Recommendations Due (WR)
- 14 Recommendations Due (Boys SC)
- 30-2/28 Spring Rules Clinics

FEBRUARY

- 1-28 Spring Rules Clinics
- 5-19 Open Book Window
- 21 Recommendations Mailed (SB)
- 24 Winter Game/Meeting Reports Due
- 27 Closed-Book Exams (BA, FF, SB, Track, WP)

MARCH

- 1 Recommendations Mailed (BA, Boys VB, WP)
- 6 Officials Advisory Committee Meeting
- 14 Assignment Sheet Mailed (Track)
- 18 Make-up Exams (BA, FF, SB, TR, WP)
- 18 Last Day to Register Spring Sports
- 25 Assignment Sheet Due (Track)

APRIL

- 1 Association of the Year App. Due
- 14 Recommendations Due (BA, WP, Boys VB)
- 15 Recommendations Due (SB)
- 15 Recommendations Mailed (FF)
- 28 Spring Game/Meeting Reports Due

MAY

- 6 Recommendations Due (FF)

JUNE

- 1-10 Online Sanction Renewal available
- 5 Test Developers (FB, VB)
- 9-10 Presidents Meeting (Tentative)
- 11 Online registration available
- 12 Lead Field Clinic Clinicians (FB, VB)

General Regulations & Policies

Substantive changes to this Officials Guidebook for the 2005-06 school year are indicated with a shaded background.

100. Getting Started

101. Authority of FHSAA

101.01 FHSAA Bylaw 9.10.1 authorizes the Board of Directors to establish policies and procedures for the registration and regulation of contest officials.

101.02 Individual officials or local officials associations that violate the policies expressed in this Officials Guidebook are subject to reprimand, probation and/or monetary penalties, and/or suspension or expulsion as an individual official or officials association by the FHSAA.

102. Registration of Officials

102.01 Registration is Mandatory.

(1) An individual who intends to officiate as either a baseball umpire, basketball official, football official or clock operator, flag football official, soccer official, softball umpire, track & field official, volleyball official, water polo referee and/or wrestling referee in an interscholastic athletic contest involving an FHSAA member school must register with the FHSAA Office before he/she officiates.

(2) An application for registration as an FHSAA official may be made via the downloadable application form provided on FHSAA.org or online via the iFHSAA interactive database. Downloadable applications for the upcoming school year will be available to each sanctioned local officials association and individual officials in late April of the current school year.

(3) The application for registration must be RECEIVED in the FHSAA Office by the following deadlines each school year:

- Fall Sports (fall soccer, football, volleyball) – July 15
- Winter Sports (basketball, winter soccer, wrestling) – Sept. 2
- Spring Sports (baseball, flag football, softball, track & field, water polo) – Dec. 2

A \$10 late fee will be assessed to an applicant whose renewal application for registration is received after the applicable deadline. The \$10 late fee may be waived for new applicants. The FHSAA shall not assume responsibility for any delays caused by either the U.S. Mail or applications returned to the applicant due to insufficient information.

(4) Applications for registration for the current year will not be accepted in the FHSAA Office after the administration date of the make-up examination in the sport for which application is being made, with the exception of boys volleyball.

102.02 Requirements for Registration.

(1) To be registered as an official an individual must:

(a) Be 18 years of age or older [for exception, see s.102.02(4)];

(b) Submit to the FHSAA Office a valid FHSAA Application for Registration form (downloadable from FHSAA.org, or register online via the iFHSAA interactive database);

(c) Pay the appropriate non-refundable registration fee, as well as any assessed late fee and any outstanding fines and/or penalty fees for all previously registered sports;

(d) Join and maintain membership in a local officials association which has been sanctioned by the FHSAA Office; and

(e) Certify that he/she has never been arrested for or convicted of a felony; or any crime or offense which involved dishonesty; or any crime or offense which involved possession, use or distribution of any illegal substance; or any crime or offense which involved any immoral conduct, regardless of the punishment therefore; or has never been denied registration to officiate by the FHSAA or a high school association in any other state. If arrested for or convicted of a felony, the applicant must submit a police/court report verifying the reason, date of arrest/conviction, and conclusion of the incident followed by a letter of reference from a person in the judicial system or a local officials association officer.

(2) An individual official who has an outstanding balance with the FHSAA as a result of unpaid registration fees, monetary fines or penalties, or other assessed fees shall not be permitted to renew his/her registration until the outstanding balance has been paid in full.

(3) An individual official who has been suspended or expelled from officiating by the FHSAA shall not be permitted to renew his/her registration until the individual's period of suspension has lapsed or he/she has been reinstated.

(4) High school students who are at least 16 years of age may register as a "student official" and be assigned to a "mentor" official for training. "Student officials" will be allowed to register at a reduced fee of \$10 in their first year of officiating. A regular officials application may be used. Student officials will be allowed to work middle school and junior high contests once registered.

(5) The FHSAA Office reserves the right to reject any application for registration as an FHSAA official. Local officials association officers and/or boards of directors are required to report criminal misconduct on the part of any member of their association to the FHSAA Office for investigation.

(6) An FHSAA official renewing his/her registration must join and maintain membership in a local officials association which has been sanctioned by the FHSAA Office. The individual must indicate on his/her registration application the name of the association of which he/she is a member. An individual who is not a member of a sanctioned local officials association will have his/her application for registration returned. An individual cannot contract with or otherwise offer his/her services to a member school as an independent official.

(7) A first-time applicant or official transferring from another state must join and maintain membership in a local officials association which has been sanctioned by the FHSAA Office. A local association must grant such an individual conditional membership until such time as the individual is registered with the FHSAA Office. The individual must indicate on his/her registration application the name of the association of which he/she is a conditional member. An individual who is not a conditional member of a sanctioned local officials association will have his/her application for registration returned.

(8) An individual may join and maintain membership in more than one local officials association. However, for administrative purposes, the individual must desig-

nate one local officials association as his/her “primary” association for each registered sport. Individuals may join additional local associations on a secondary basis. An official must advise his/her primary association of his/her secondary association affiliations and vice versa. However, the individual official is responsible for providing any associations of which he/she is a member on a secondary basis with information regarding clinic attendance, exam grades and current status with the FHSAA. The individual official is also responsible for providing his/her primary association with the number of varsity games officiated as assigned by his/her secondary association(s) prior to the deadline for filing that report with the FHSAA.

102.03 Termination Date of Registration. All registrations terminate June 30 each year regardless of the date the application for registration is made and accepted.

102.04 Officials Not Employed by FHSAA. Individuals registering as FHSAA officials do so as independent contractors, and not as employees of either the member schools or the FHSAA. Schools must contract with FHSAA-sanctioned officials associations for officials as individual contractors and not as school or FHSAA employees.

102.05 Registration Fees.

(1) Registration fees, as well as all outstanding monetary penalties, must be paid at the time the application for registration is submitted to the FHSAA Office. Officials may pay fees by check through the mail or by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) online. Registration fees for the 2005-06 school year are as follows:

- First Sport – \$34;
- Each Additional Sport – \$27.

The discounted \$27 registration fee for each additional sport after the first sport is available only to those individuals who register for more than one sport on the same application form, or those who register online. The full fee of \$34 per sport will be assessed an individual who registers for more than one sport on multiple applications throughout the school year.

(2) A \$10 administrative fee will be assessed for any registration not completed online due to the added expense to process paper registration.

(3) Registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

102.06 Supplies. Registered officials will receive an FHSAA Officials Guidebook; one FHSAA insignia; National Federation rules book; National Federation case book; National Federation officials manual; National Federation illustrated rules book (in basketball and football only); sample rules examination, where available; and National Federation insurance.

102.07 Returned Checks. An individual will be assessed a \$30.00 administrative fee for all checks returned by the bank due to “insufficient funds” or for any other reason. The individual will be suspended from officiating until the fee has been paid.

102.08 State Series Pass. A registered contest official may purchase an FHSAA State Series Pass from the FHSAA Office at a cost of \$40 annually. The pass may be purchased on the FHSAA Application for Registration form. This pass will admit the bearer only to all district, regional and FHSAA Finals state championship games, tournaments and meets in all sports sanctioned by the FHSAA during a school year. This pass is not valid at any preseason or regular season event. State Series Pass holders must sign in at the pass gate, provide proper photo identification and record

the pass number. State Series Passes are non-transferable. Abuse of a State Series Pass will result in its confiscation.

103. Rules Meetings and Examinations

103.01 Rules Meetings.

(1) With the exception of Football Clock Operators and student officials, each FHSAA official must complete a minimum of one FHSAA rules meeting in the sport(s) in which he or she is registered each year. Student officials are strongly encouraged to attend with their mentors.

(2) At the end of the rules meeting cycle in each sport, officials who fail to complete a mandatory FHSAA rules meeting in the sport(s) for which they are registered shall be suspended, effective immediately, from officiating at any FHSAA sanctioned contest, in any sport, at any level. This suspension shall be lifted upon payment of a rules meeting non-completion fine in the amount of \$50.00 and the clearance of any other financial obligations to the FHSAA that may be outstanding.

(3) An appeal for waiver of penalties assessed for failure to complete a mandatory FHSAA rules meeting in a sport shall be submitted using the form provided on FHSAA.org for that purpose. Such an appeal must be received in the FHSAA Office not later than 15 calendar days from the date of the last scheduled rules meeting in that sport.

103.02 Rules Examinations.

(1) Each FHSAA official, with the exception of Football Clock Operators and student officials, must take the supervised FHSAA rules examination in the sport(s) in which he or she is registered each year. An official who attains Rank 1 status for five consecutive years in a sport (beginning in 2003-04) shall be exempted from the mandatory rules examination in that sport beginning with the sixth year and every other year thereafter as long as he/she maintains the Rank 1 status.

(2) Officials wishing to officiate only regular season contests may take an open-book examination in lieu of the closed-book examination.

(3) At the end of the examination cycle in each sport, officials who fail to take the mandatory FHSAA rules examination in the sport(s) for which they are registered shall be suspended, effective immediately, from officiating at any FHSAA sanctioned contest, in any sport, at any level. This suspension shall be lifted upon payment of a rules examination non-participation fine in the amount of \$50.00 and the clearance of any other financial obligations to the FHSAA that may be outstanding.

(4) The local officials association which each official designates as his/her primary local association will be notified of the official's grade by the FHSAA Office after all rules examinations have been graded. Secondary local associations must consult with primary local associations as to the status of secondary members. Grades will be available via iFHSAA but will not be given to individual officials over the telephone.

(5) An official who is found guilty of cheating on rules examinations will receive a grade of zero on the examination, placed on probation for one year and receive a fine of \$100.

(6) Individuals who register online may view their test scores via iFHSAA after all rules examinations have been graded.

103.03 Making Up the Rules Examination.

(1) Officials who fail to take the closed-book rules examination on its first administration or who fail to score “75” or better on the initial attempt of either exam will be given one opportunity to retake or make up the examination on a date and at a site to be announced by the FHSAA Office. Officials who score a “75” or better on the initial exam will not be permitted to retake the exam. Officials retaking the exam because of a score lower than “75” on the initial exam will not receive a score higher than “75” on the retake regardless of the number of correct answers recorded.

(2) Prior to requesting a seat at a make-up examination site, individual officials must be registered in the sport for which a make-up exam seat is being requested. Both the Application for Registration as a Contest Official and the request for a seat at the make-up exam site must be RECEIVED by the FHSAA Office prior to the deadline date for make-up exam requests. Make-up examination requests must be made in writing using the form provided on FHSAA.org. Such requests must include the official’s name, the last four digits of his/her Social Security number, the sport in which a make-up exam seat is being requested and the preferred exam site. Make-up examination requests must be received in the FHSAA Office not later than the Monday of the week preceding the week during which the make-up examination will be administered. Confirmation letters will be sent via e-mail to those officials requesting a seat at a make-up exam site who meet the requirements for participation.

103.04 “75” Required to Officiate Varsity Contest.

(1) In order for an FHSAA official to officiate varsity level contests, the official must receive a grade of 75 or higher on the current year FHSAA rules examination in the applicable sport. Any official who does not take either the regularly scheduled FHSAA rules examination or the make-up examination will receive a grade of zero and will be ineligible to officiate a varsity level contest during the current school year, or a sub-varsity contest until the fine is paid or waived. Local officials associations may not assign officials who are not in compliance with this provision to officiate varsity or sub-varsity level contests.

(2) If, for any reason, the FHSAA Office is unable to grade the current year rules examination prior to the start of a sports season, the grade an official received on the previous year’s rules examination will be used to determine his/her eligibility to officiate a varsity level contest until such time as the current year grades become available.

(3) An official who fails to take the rules examination on its first administration is not eligible to officiate varsity contests in that sport until the makeup examination has been taken and a score of “75” or better has been awarded, unless a waiver in writing has been granted by the FHSAA.

(4) Individual officials and officials associations which violate the provisions of s.103.04(1), s.103.04(2) or s.103.04(3) will be subject to monetary penalties, possible denial of registration or sanction or both for the following school year until all monetary penalties have been paid.

103.05 Field Clinics.

(1) The FHSAA each year will coordinate weekend field clinics for FHSAA officials on a regional basis throughout the state. These clinics provide in-depth classroom instruction in the mechanics of officiating, as well as an opportunity for on-the-field training. Attendance at these field clinics is mandatory as follows:

(a) All officials must attend a field clinic in their sport(s) at least once every four years.

Officials who do not meet these minimum field clinic attendance requirements will not be eligible for assignment to officiate an FHSAA State Series contest on the regional and state levels.

(2) Twelve (12) supplemental points on the promotional scale will be awarded each official who attends a Field Clinic.

(3) Field Clinic registration fees for the 2005-06 school year are as follows:

- Football – \$40 in advance; \$50 at clinic site
- Volleyball – \$40 in advance; \$50 at clinic site
- Basketball – \$50 in advance; \$60 at clinic site
- Soccer – \$40 in advance; \$50 at clinic site
- Wrestling – \$40 in advance; \$50 at clinic site
- Baseball – \$50 in advance; \$60 at clinic site
- Softball – \$50 in advance; \$60 at clinic site

(4) Prior to registering for a Field Clinic in a sport, an individual official must be registered in that sport. Both the Application for Registration as a Contest Official and the Field Clinic Registration Form must be RECEIVED by the FHSAA Office not later than 5 p.m. 14 days prior to the date of the Field Clinic. Field Clinic Registration Forms must be properly completed in order to be processed. Officials who do not meet the 14-day deadline and who wish to attend a Field Clinic must register on site. Confirmation letters will be sent via e-mail to those officials registering to attend the Field Clinic prior to the 14-day deadline who meet the registration requirements.

104. Membership in Other Organizations

(1) The FHSAA does not require its registered officials to join or maintain membership in any organization other than a sanctioned local officials association. However, membership in such outside organizations is permissible provided: (a) the organization does not have guidelines, regulations, policies or procedures which conflict with those of the FHSAA; and (b) the organization does not practice discrimination.

(2) Business unrelated to the FHSAA officials program, such as recreational or youth league assignments, etc., shall not be a part of the agenda for any FHSAA-related meeting conducted by a local officials association. The assignment of officials to officiate FHSAA athletic events shall not be influenced in any way by assignments to work non-FHSAA events.

105. Cancellation of Registration

An official who registers with the FHSAA and who, during the same school year, is unable to continue to work as a contest official, must cancel that registration in writing to the FHSAA Office to avoid fines for not attending the FHSAA rules clinic and not taking the FHSAA rules examination, provided any financial obligations to the FHSAA outstanding at the time of cancellation are cleared. Officials canceling their registration WILL NOT receive credit for experience or games officiated in the sport in which registration is being canceled. Application fees for canceled registrations WILL NOT be refunded. Officials canceling their registrations in a given year are encouraged to register again in subsequent years as their individual situations permit.

Officials are not required to register with the FHSAA in a given year if they do not intend to officiate during that year.

106. Rules of Conduct

The following provisions are rules of conduct by which all FHSAA officials are expected to abide. A violation of any one of these provisions may subject an offending official to a monetary penalty, suspension as an official, or both.

(1) All FHSAA officials must conduct themselves on and off the athletic field in a manner conducive to the best interests of the FHSAA, its member schools, and the interscholastic athletic program in general. No FHSAA official may pursue a course of action which is detrimental to the welfare of the FHSAA or its member schools.

(2) All FHSAA officials must comply with all FHSAA guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures as contained in this Officials Guidebook.

(3) All FHSAA officials must be neatly dressed in the appropriate uniform as prescribed in this Officials Guidebook, and project a physically fit appearance, when officiating a contest involving an FHSAA member school.

(4) All FHSAA officials must arrive on time for the contest as required by the rules of the applicable sport.

(5) All FHSAA officials should be in good physical condition, mentally ready to officiate the best possible contest and be fully cognizant of the sport's rules. Officials are expected to make each call as they see it without fear or favor, regardless of the score, and to hustle at all times.

(6) No FHSAA official may officiate a contest involving a school at which his/her child currently attends, the official himself/herself and/or a relative currently works, or from which the official himself/herself attended or graduated within the last seven (7) years.

(7) No FHSAA official may cancel a contract made between his/her local officials association and a member school or violate any provisions thereof without a reason that is satisfactory to the FHSAA.

(8) No FHSAA official may arrive or appear at the contest site with the odor of an alcoholic beverage on his/her breath.

(9) No FHSAA official may use tobacco or tobacco-like products during the contest or in the vicinity of the athletic court or field.

(10) No FHSAA official may engage in unsportsmanlike conduct.

(11) No FHSAA official may refuse to officiate any contest with another FHSAA official because that same other FHSAA official is or is not also a registered member of a national or international officials organization.

(12) No FHSAA official may officiate a contest or part of a contest which is classified as an "exhibition" or "practice game" between two or more member schools. Such games are prohibited by FHSAA Bylaws. This provision, however, does not preclude an FHSAA official from officiating an intra-squad contest or scrimmage in which all participants are students at the same one school.

(13) No FHSAA official may publicly criticize or berate a coach or other employee of a member school. Professional ethics require that officials use proper channels to report their problems rather than airing them publicly.

107. Athletic Injury Guidelines

The following guidelines are to be followed in the event an athlete is injured during a contest. These guidelines are for the protection of the injured athlete and the official(s).

(1) Coaches and medical personnel must be aware that some sports rules will require officials to charge the injured athlete's team with a time out.

(2) Coaches and medical personnel should be allowed to enter the field or court and should be given unlimited time to evaluate an injury and give emergency care. Officials should not request that coaches move an injured athlete.

(3) The officials' only role in dealing with athletic injuries is to stop play as soon as possible so that the injured athlete can receive attention as soon as possible. Officials must not offer medical advice or take any action to manage or treat any injury.

200. Local Officials Associations

201. Sanction

201.01 Sanction is Mandatory.

(1) Each local officials association must make application for sanction each year with the FHSAA Office on a form available on iFHSAA. A local officials association which fails to make application for sanction with the FHSAA Office, or to which sanction is denied, will not be permitted to assign officials to athletic contests in which FHSAA member schools participate.

(2) A list of sanctioned local officials associations will be sent each school year to FHSAA member schools. Member schools may contract only with those local officials associations sanctioned by the FHSAA Office.

(3) Proposed new local officials associations may not contact member schools regarding contracts for contests until sanctioned by the FHSAA Office.

201.02 Request for New or Additional Sanctions. Associations that were not sanctioned by the FHSAA in the preceding school year may be considered for sanction by the FHSAA if they meet the following criteria:

(1) Such an association must successfully demonstrate in writing to the FHSAA's satisfaction the need for sanction of a new association in its geographic area.

(2) Such an association must properly complete and return to the FHSAA Office an Application for Sanction as a Local Officials Association after satisfying s.201.02(1).

(3) Such an association, if approved, must have a unique name (i.e. one that is not already used, or similar to one being used, by a currently sanctioned local association) and adopt and submit a proposed constitution and bylaws. The constitution and bylaws must contain provisions for election of officers, establishment of committees, recruitment of new and minority officials, training of member officials, procedures for assigning member officials to contests, procedures for recommending member officials for State Series assignments, and a procedure for addressing grievances made by member officials. The proposed constitution and bylaws must be approved by the FHSAA Office, and must be reviewed every five (5) years.

(4) Such an association must provide to the FHSAA Office a copy of the IRS

letter showing the association's name and the taxpayer identification number assigned to that name.

(5) A proposed new local officials association making application for sanction to the FHSAA must include with its application a list of the names of individual officials who are prospective members. Such prospective members shall not presently be "primary" members of any other viable local officials association sanctioned by the FHSAA.

(6) Consideration for sanction will not be forthcoming until the FHSAA has received a sufficient number of Applications for Registration as a Contest Official from individuals listing the applicant association as their primary association, such that the applicant association's membership will meet or exceed the FHSAA's minimum membership requirements set forth in s.201.04. Applicant associations that do not meet the minimum membership requirement in a specific sport by the date of the FHSAA's first registration material mailing WILL NOT receive final approval of sanction in that sport. In the event final sanction is withheld, individuals listing the applicant association as their primary association on their Applications for Registration as a Contest Official will be asked to redesignate their choice of local association for the affected sport.

201.03 Renewal of Existing Sanction. Local associations sanctioned by the FHSAA in the PRECEDING school year, provided they are in good standing with the FHSAA, may renew their sanctions if they meet the following criteria.

(1) An association requesting renewal of sanction must properly complete their renewal online. No members of a local association may register until the sanction is renewed by the association president.

(2) An association requesting renewal of sanction must have on file with the FHSAA Office a copy of the IRS letter showing the association's name and the taxpayer identification number assigned to that name as well as a current copy of its constitution and bylaws.

(3) The total number of member officials in the sport(s) for which an association is requesting renewal of sanction must meet or exceed the FHSAA's minimum membership requirements as set forth in s.201.04. Associations that do not meet the minimum membership requirement in a specific sport will not be sanctioned in that sport.

(4) An association sanctioned by the FHSAA in the preceding school year requesting sanction in a sport for which it was not sanctioned during the preceding school year must meet the criteria outlined in s.201.03(1) in the sport for which a new sanction is being requested.

201.04 Minimum Membership Requirements.

(1) In order to receive and/or renew a sanction for a given sport, local officials associations must meet the following minimum membership requirements: For sanction in the sports of baseball, basketball, flag football, soccer, softball, track & field, volleyball and water polo, 10 officials per sport. For sanction in the sport of football, 25 officials. For sanction in the sport of wrestling, five (5) officials. Local associations are sanctioned on a "by sport" basis, and membership totals in each sport will be computed as described in s.201.04(2).

(2) For sanctioning purposes, total membership in an association shall be defined as the total number of officials registered with the FHSAA who have designated the

association as their PRIMARY local association in the specific sport(s) for which an association is sanctioned. This total shall be computed by the FHSAA after the administration date of the make-up examination in each sport, and be the basis for sanction renewal decisions for the next school year. Officials affiliated with an association on a secondary basis WILL NOT be counted as part of an association's total membership. Officials registered with an association in one sport WILL NOT be counted in another sport unless they also are registered in that sport.

202. Membership in Local Association

202.01 Officials Required to Join. All FHSAA officials must join and maintain membership in a local officials association which has been sanctioned by the FHSAA Office. Individual officials may not contract with or otherwise offer their services to member schools.

202.02 No Official in Good Standing May be Refused. Each local officials association must afford membership to any FHSAA official in good standing who requests to join the sanctioned local officials association. Membership to an FHSAA official in good standing may not be refused.

202.03 Conditional Membership for First-Time Officials. Only registered FHSAA officials, in good standing, may be given membership in a local officials association. However, individuals making application for registration to the FHSAA Office for the first time may request and must be allowed to join a local officials association on a conditional basis until such time as the individual has been approved by the FHSAA Office.

202.04 Administration and Governance. Each local officials association shall adopt bylaws establishing its organizational structure and governance. These bylaws shall not be in conflict with any provision of FHSAA bylaws, guidelines, regulations, policies or procedures. Individual officials who have been placed on probation by the FHSAA shall not be eligible for election or appointment to any office within the local officials association until such time as his/her period of probation has expired or been rescinded.

203. Obligations of Officials Associations

The FHSAA has assigned the following obligations to each local officials association.

203.01 Education of Member Officials. Each local officials association is responsible for educating FHSAA officials in the rules of the sport in which they will officiate. It is important that each FHSAA official has a thorough knowledge of the rules before he/she officiates his/her first contest and takes the FHSAA rules examination.

203.02 Training of Member Officials. Each local officials association must hold a minimum of two training sessions for its member officials during the regular season in each sport. These training sessions should focus on application of the rules to specific situations and mechanics. Attendees at these training sessions and meetings may earn a maximum of 10 promotional points for attendance at a minimum of 10 sessions. Dates and content of training sessions must be submitted to the FHSAA Office in writing two weeks prior to the first airing of the FHSAA rules meeting date.

203.03 Distribution of Materials. Each local association will receive a mailing consisting of rules books, patches, and cards as well as other materials deemed necessary from the FHSAA. Field clinic and individual registration can be accessed via iFHSAA. It is the responsibility of the local association to distribute this material to its members. A schedule of material mailings is included on the first page of this guidebook.

203.04 Changes in Membership. Local associations are responsible for informing the FHSAA of any changes to, or discrepancies on, the muster reports (membership lists) that the FHSAA provides to the local association. This information should be provided to the FHSAA as soon as possible. Local association membership lists should match the FHSAA's association muster reports exactly.

203.05 Reports. Local associations are responsible for completing the "Games Officiated Report" online via iFHSAA by the applicable deadline. Associations will be requested to submit to the FHSAA Office a survey of membership demographics relative to race and gender.

204. Committees

204.01 Committees are Mandatory. Each local officials association is required to have an evaluation, assignment, recommendations, grievance, and education/training committee. These committees exist to ensure that each local officials association operates in a fair and democratic manner which is in the best interest of each of its member officials. Any exception to the committees as established herein must be approved in writing by the FHSAA Office.

204.02 Composition of Committees. Neither an executive board member nor the assignment officer (booking commissioner) may serve as a voting member of any committee established herein. Only one of these officers may serve on a committee in an ex-officio capacity. No member may serve on more than one committee. An executive board member must recuse himself/herself if he/she is party to or otherwise involved in an appeal. Committees must consist of three or five members.

204.03 Responsibilities of Committees.

(1) **Evaluation Committee.** The Evaluation Committee is responsible for setting up the process and selecting those individuals who will assist with the evaluation of member officials within the local officials association. Each official with two or more years experience should be evaluated at least once during each season. First-year officials should be evaluated periodically throughout the season so that mini-clinics may be offered, if necessary, to re-enforce good officiating skills.

(2) **Assignment Committee,** The Assignment Committee is responsible for overseeing the entire contest assignment procedure within the local officials association. This includes ensuring compliance with requirements on the composition of officiating crews, reviewing and approving each member official's schedule of assigned contests, and making the assigning officer aware of any corrections that need to be made before the assignment schedule is submitted to the membership. It is not implied that the Assignment Committee is to make assignments.

(3) **Recommendations Committee.** The Recommendations Committee is responsible for reviewing the evaluations of each member official during the regular season. This committee is also responsible for preparing and submitting to the

FHSAA Office a list of member officials who deserve consideration for assignment to State Series contests. The assignment officer (booking commissioner) should act on the recommendations of this committee.

(4) **Grievance Committee.** The Grievance Committee is responsible for hearing complaints and appeals made or brought by one or more of its member officials. Member officials who have grievances because of penalties may appeal under the provisions of the local officials association's Constitution and Bylaws.

(5) **Education/Training Committee.** The Education/Training Committee is responsible for the planning, content and implementation of training sessions, including on-the-field/court training. This also includes educating local officials on FHSAA policies and procedures, NFHS rules and mechanics, and developing a curriculum that is current and effective in both content and methodology.

205. Regular Season Contest Assignments

205.01 Must be Made by Assignment Officer. The assignment of each member official to regular season contests must be made by the local officials association's assignment officer and approved by the association's Assignment Committee before being issued to the member official.

205.02 Criteria to be Followed in Making Assignments.

(1) The criteria to be followed in assigning a member official to a regular season contest are:

(a) The qualifications and ability of the official as determined by his/her FHSAA ranking, the official's performance on the most recent FHSAA rules examination, and evaluations of the official made by the local officials association;

(b) No official may be assigned to work more than two home football games during a season for the same one school or more than four home games during a season for the same one school in any other sport;

(c) If a local officials association permits a school with which it is contracted to scratch or otherwise request that a particular official not be assigned to officiate its contests, the assignment officer must not assign that official to that school's home contests.

(2) Assignments giving preference to a particular school or official are prohibited.

(3) Crews assigned to officiate varsity level boys and girls contests must have one official with four or more years experience (Rank 1 or 2) unless a Rank 3 official is evaluated to be exceptional. The assignment of the referee for football should be a Rank 1 or Rank 2 official with a minimum of five years of FHSAA experience or its interscholastic equivalent.

(4) Crews assigned to officiate junior varsity contests must have a minimum of one Rank 1 or Rank 2 official.

206. Officials Advisory Committee

206.01 Responsibilities of the Committee. The FHSAA has established an Officials Advisory Committee to advise the Board of Directors on matters pertaining to the officials community. The committee shall meet bi-annually to make such recommendations and forward such comments as it deems appropriate to the FHSAA Board of Directors.

206.02 Composition of the Committee. The Officials Advisory Committee will be composed of 28 elected members, one official from each administrative section in each of the seven sanctioned sports in which officials are registered by the FHSAA. Florida's representative to the National Federation Officials Association will serve on the committee in a non-voting capacity. In the event the FHSAA registers officials in additional sanctioned sport(s), the number of seats on the committee will be increased to ensure appropriate representation on the committee.

206.03 Nomination of Candidates.

(1) Candidates for election to the Officials Advisory Committee must be FHSAA officials in good standing, be registered in the same sport as the seat for which they are being nominated, and be nominated by their primary local officials association. Each local officials association may nominate one official for each sport in which they are sanctioned by the FHSAA. No official may be nominated in more than one sport. Nomination forms may be submitted online at FHSAA.org.

(2) Local associations will not be eligible to nominate a candidate for the Officials Advisory Committee in a particular sport if they currently have a member of their association serving on the Officials Advisory Committee in that sport (i.e., a member of a particular officials association may not succeed another member of the same officials association in the same sport).

(3) No official may succeed himself/herself as a member of the Officials Advisory Committee, either as the representative of the same or a different sport.

(4) Officials nominated by their local association for election to the Officials Advisory Committee will not be placed on the ballot if they are not properly registered and in good standing with the FHSAA at the time the ballot is prepared or if their nomination does not meet one or more of the other provisions of the section.

206.04 Conduct of Elections. Elections will be held every four years on a rotational basis by sectional representation. Odd sections (1 and 3) will be held on odd years beginning with 2004-05. Even sections (2 and 4) will be held on even years beginning with 2005-06. Online elections will begin during the 2005-06 school year. Each official is entitled to vote for one representative in the sport in which he/she officiates. Officials may only vote for candidates in their own sections. The candidate(s) (as applicable, in accordance with the provisions of s.206.02) with the most votes in each sport shall be declared the winner(s). The votes shall be counted upon the completion of the final FHSAA rules clinic in each sport.

Pursuant to FHSAA Policy 19 A. (6), should a vacancy occur in any seat with an unexpired term on an advisory committee, the Commissioner shall appoint a qualified individual from the represented group to fill the vacant seat for the duration of the term.

206.05 Length of Terms. Each elected official will serve a term of four (4) years. To ensure that the terms of the members of the Officials Advisory Committee do not all expire in the same year, terms will be staggered.

300. Assignments to Officiate State Series

301. District Tournaments/Meets

301.01 Must be Made by Assignment Officer. The assignment of

officials to officiate district tournaments/meets (with the exception of track & field) must be made by the assignment officer of the local officials association to which the officials belong and approved by the Assignment Committee, according to the following procedure:

(1) The principal of the district coordinator school should submit to the assignment officer of the appropriate local officials association a list of officials who have been selected by the school representatives (coaches) present at the district meeting to officiate their district tournament/meet;

(2) If the officials selected by a particular district already have been assigned to other district tournaments/meets, the assignment officer may assign other officials from his/her association to officiate the district tournament/meet. If, however, the officials selected by a particular district were specifically requested in writing by the district and those officials are unavailable, the assignment officer must notify the district coordinator of their unavailability.

301.02 Criteria to be Followed in Making Assignments. Criteria to be followed in assigning a member official to officiate a district tournament/meet are:

(1) The recommendation of the coaches in each district; and

(2) The qualifications and ability of the official as determined by his/her FHSAA ranking, the official's performance on the most recent FHSAA rules examination, and evaluations of the official made by the local officials association.

302. Regional & State Tournaments/Meets

302.01 Will be Made by FHSAA Office.

(1) The assignment of officials to officiate a regional tournament or meet, as well as a state tournament or meet, will be made by the FHSAA Office. These assignments may or may not be made from the list of officials compiled by the association's Recommendations Committee as required in s.302.01(2), with the exception of track & field, which will be done by the FHSAA Office for regional and state meets.

(2) The Recommendations Committee within each local officials association must compile and submit by the prescribed deadline to the FHSAA Office a list of member officials who deserve consideration for assignment to a regional tournament contest or state tournament contest. This list of recommended officials must be approved by majority vote of the local officials association membership prior to its submission to the FHSAA Office.

302.02 Criteria to be Followed in Making Assignments. Those officials in each sport who have met the following criteria will be given priority consideration for selection to officiate State Series contests:

(1) Officials who are classified by the FHSAA as Rank 1 or Rank 2 in that sport;

(2) Officials who were selected to officiate a district tournament contest in that sport;

(3) Officials who have scored "80" or above on the FHSAA closed-book rules examination for that year in that sport;

(4) Officials who have completed the FHSAA rules meeting for that year in that sport;

(5) Officials who have completed a field clinic within the previous four years;

(6) Officials who are recommended to the FHSAA Office by the local officials

association to which they belong.

302.03 Payment of Fees for State Series Contest. The host member school will be notified of the appropriate fees to be paid officials assigned to officiate State Series contests on the regional level. Checks in payment for officials' services must be issued to the local officials association to which the officials belong. Checks issued to officials' associations for payment of state series games may be presented to the crew at the game site or mailed immediately to the association's address.

400. The Coach-Official Conference

401. Calls Based on Rules

401.01 Procedure for Conducting Conference. A conference requested by a head coach or by a team captain on behalf of the head coach to discuss rule enforcement should be conducted according to the following procedure:

- (1) The head coach or team captain must request a timeout when the rules governing the contest allow;
- (2) The head coach or team captain must inform the referee or umpire-in-chief that he/she requests a conference at the sideline to discuss a rule;
- (3) The referee or umpire-in-chief must honor such requests;
- (4) The rule in question should be briefly and courteously discussed and the correct decision should be reached;
- (5) The referee or umpire-in-chief must correct all errors, if errors are made, providing they are correctable according to the rules governing the contest;
- (6) Finally, the contest should be resumed without delay.

402. Judgment Calls

402.01 Conference to Discuss Judgment Call Prohibited.

- (1) A judgment call on the part of an official is not subject to question or discussion. No conference to discuss a judgment call may be granted by an official.
- (2) An official must refrain from discussing a judgment call made during a contest with coaches, players, spectators and members of the news media.

500. Disqualifications (Ejections) of Athletes and Coaches

501. Definitions

501.01 Disqualification. Disqualification (also commonly referred to as an ejection) is the act of ordering the removal of an athlete or coach from participation in an athletic contest for the remainder of that contest due to an act of a flagrant and/or unsportsmanlike nature, or other such act specifically stated in a sports' playing rules that warrants disqualification (ejection), which is committed by the athlete or coach during the course of the contest. The ordered disqualification (ejection) of an

athlete should not be confused with the disqualification of an athlete for simple rules violations (e.g. fouling out in basketball). An athlete or coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest by an official for any reason is permanently disqualified from that contest and may not return for its remainder. The course of a contest includes the time immediately prior to, during and after the competition. This includes occupying a coaching box in baseball and softball.

501.02 Flagrant Acts. Flagrant acts, commonly referred to as flagrant fouls, are acts by an athlete against an opposing athlete committed with the intent to harm or injure the opponent. Refer to the rules book governing each respective sport for specific rules governing flagrant acts or fouls in that sport.

501.03 Unsportsmanlike Conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct is behavior that is unbecoming to an ethical, fair and honorable individual. It consists of acts of deceit, disrespect or vulgarity.

501.04 Gross Unsportsmanlike Conduct. FHSAA Bylaw 11.11.2 states: "A student who, prior to, during or following an interscholastic athletic contest, commits an act of a malicious and hateful nature toward a contest official or an opponent, shall be guilty of gross unsportsmanlike conduct and be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition for a period of six weeks. Such malicious acts shall include, but not be limited to, cursing, striking or threatening a contest official during a contest or at any other time because of resentment over occurrences or decisions during a contest; physical contact with an opponent that is beyond the normal scope of competition and which appears to be with the intent of inflicting bodily harm on the opponent; spitting on a contest official or opponent; directing gender, racial or ethnic slurs toward a contest official or opponent; or other such acts which may be deemed as unacceptable conduct either by the principal of the member school the student attends or this Association."

502. Procedure for Disqualification of an Athlete

An FHSAA official must adhere to the following procedure when disqualifying (ejecting) an athlete from a contest:

- (1) Call timeout. Stop the action.
- (2) Do not hurry. If an athlete is disqualified (ejected), request the athlete to accompany you to his/her team bench or box. Go directly to the head coach and clearly notify the head coach directly that the player is disqualified (ejected). Provide both the athlete and the head coach with a statement of explanation as to why the athlete is disqualified (ejected). Be professional, courteous and assertive. Do not, however, debate the issue with either the athlete or the coach.
- (3) Go to the opposing head coach and notify him/her that the athlete has been disqualified (ejected) and provide him/her with the exact same statement of explanation.
- (4) Report the disqualification (ejection) to the official scorekeeper if the rules of the contest so require.
- (5) Resume the contest.

503. Disqualification (Ejection) of a Coach

503.01 Procedure for Disqualification. An FHSAA official must adhere to the following procedure when disqualifying (ejecting) a coach from a con-

test:

(1) Call timeout. Stop the action.

(2) Do not hurry. Go directly to the head coach and clearly notify him/her that he/she or, if applicable, another member(s) of his/her coaching staff is disqualified (ejected). Provide the head coach with a statement of explanation as to why he/she or the member(s) of his/her coaching staff is disqualified (ejected). Inform the disqualified (ejected) individual that he/she must leave the premises (facility) for the remainder of, and after, that contest and that he/she may not give any further instruction to, have any further contact with, or confer with athletes or other members of the coaching staff for the remainder of the contest. Be professional, courteous and assertive. Do not, however, debate the issue with any member of the coaching staff.

(3) Go to the opposing head coach and notify him/her that the coach has been disqualified (ejected) and provide him/her with the exact same statement of explanation.

(4) Report the disqualification (ejection) to the official scorekeeper if the rules of the contest so require.

(5) Resume the contest.

503.02 Disqualified Coach Must Leave Premises.

(1) A coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest must leave the premises (facility) and may not give any further instruction to, have any further contact with, or confer with athletes or other members of the coaching staff for the remainder of the contest, including halftime, breaks between quarters and other intermissions, and following the contest. The coach may not sit in the spectator seating area, stand beyond the fence, etc. The coach must remove himself/herself from the (premises) facility to a position where he/she is no longer visible to the participants and spectators and the competition is no longer visible to the coach. The coach shall not be at the contest site in any capacity for a minimum of the following two regularly scheduled contests on any level and seven days.

(2) If a coach who has been disqualified (ejected) from a contest refuses to leave the premises (facility) as specified in s.503.02(1) or is intent upon continuing to coach his/her athletes or conferring with other members of his/her coaching staff in defiance of the officials, the officials are instructed to discontinue the contest and declare it a forfeit.

(3) If a coach or coaches are disqualified (ejected) from a contest and no other authorized school personnel is available to take charge of the athletes, the contest must be forfeited.

504. Protocol after Disqualification is Administered

504.01 Official May Not Hear Appeal or Reverse Decision.

Once an official has disqualified (ejected) an athlete and/or coach, the official may not entertain any appeal from the athlete, coach, athletic director, principal, parent, spectator or any other individual associated with the school. The disqualification (ejection) of an athlete and/or coach is a judgment call and may not be reversed. The official's decision is final. All questions regarding appeals must be referred to the FHSAA Office.

504.02 Official May Not Discuss Penalty for Disqualification.

Under no circumstance should an official discuss with an athlete, coach, athletic director, principal, parent, spectator, news media or any other individual the disciplinary

penalty which may be assessed an athlete or coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest. That penalty will be decided and processed by the FHSAA Office which will communicate such penalty directly to the school's principal or FHSAA representative.

504.03 Official Not Responsible for Enforcing Penalty. An official is not to enforce any disciplinary penalty assessed an athlete and/or coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest. Should, however, the official be aware of a school, coach or athlete's failure to comply with such disciplinary penalty, it is the duty of the official to report the offense to the FHSAA Office. Under no circumstance may an official approach the offending individual(s) directly.

505. Policy on Crowd Control

FHSAA policy requires the home school administration be responsible for the control of spectators during an athletic contest and recommends that the home school secure uniformed security to assist with this responsibility. However, the officials assigned to officiate a contest are responsible for the conduct of the contest. In the event a spectator or spectators interfere with the conduct of a contest or cause an official to become distracted through continual, unrelenting verbal abuse, the official should immediately stop the action and report the spectator or spectators to the home school administration or the nearest uniformed security officer and ask that they be restrained or removed from the facility. If the home school administration or uniformed security is unwilling or unable to comply and the official does not believe the contest can be safely continued, the official must declare the contest ended at that point. Under no circumstance should an official ever confront, challenge, rebuke or threaten a spectator, or make gestures of any kind toward a spectator before, during or after a contest.

506. Notifying FHSAA Office of Incidents

506.01 When Written Reports Must Be Filed. Officials must file a written report via facsimile transmission (352.372.9086) with the FHSAA Office within 24 hours using the "Unsportsmanlike Conduct Incident Report" form, which is provided on FHSAA.org, when:

- (1) An athlete or coach is ejected for any reason from a contest;
- (2) An athlete or coach is guilty of a flagrant act and/or unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after a contest for which he/she is not ejected;
- (3) A contest must be temporarily stopped due to unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of a spectator or spectators;
- (4) A contest, for whatever reason, does not go to its normal conclusion.
- (5) The contest facility is, in the official's opinion, judged to be unsafe for participants, or hazards are present; and
- (6) The contest facility or team equipment/uniforms do not meet rule specifications.

506.02 When Verbal Reports Must Be Filed. Officials are required to notify the FHSAA Office at (352) 372-9551 ext. 270 the following morning when acts of gross unsportsmanlike conduct are committed by an athlete or coach, or when a bench-emptying brawl occurs, or when a contest, for whatever reason, does not go to its normal conclusion. Such verbal reports are in addition to the necessary written

reports.

506.03 Responsibility for Filing Reports. The referee or umpire-in-chief is responsible for ensuring that reports as required by s.506.01 and s.506.02 are filed with the FHSAA Office on the “Unsportsmanlike Conduct Incident Report” form, which is provided on FHSAA.org. The actual reports, however, may be written by the official who ejected the athlete or coach, or who witnessed the behavior which required a contest to be temporarily stopped or discontinued.

506.04 Content of Written Reports. Written reports as required by s.506.01 should be made on the required form, must provide complete and detailed information concerning the incident which prompted the report, and must be neat and legible. The report must always include:

- (1) The sport and gender being contested (e.g. football, girls basketball);
- (2) The level of competition (e.g. junior high, junior varsity, varsity);
- (3) The date and site of the contest;
- (4) The names of the participating schools;
- (5) The first and last name of any athlete and/or coach who was ejected from a contest, as well as the jersey number of the athlete;
- (6) The score of the contest and the time remaining in the contest if it was necessary to declare it ended prematurely;
- (7) A narrative of exactly what occurred and exactly what was said to prompt the action which required the filing of the report; and
- (8) The name, signature, address and daytime telephone number of the official filing the report.

600. School’s Responsibilities to Officials

Member schools are charged with the following responsibilities relative to FHSAA officials when serving as host for an athletic contest to which the officials are assigned.

- (1) An authorized representative of the host school must greet the officials upon their arrival.
- (2) The host school shall provide a private, secure place for the officials to park.
- (3) The host school should provide a secure dressing facility which affords privacy [See s.1001.07 regarding dressing facilities for state series contests].
- (4) The host school should provide the officials access to private shower facilities.
- (5) The host school should provide the officials with refreshments (i.e., water and/or sports drinks) during the halftime intermission and other appropriate times.
- (6) The host school must provide pregame, halftime and postgame security for the officials. A school official or principal’s designee must escort the officials to and from the playing field or court to prevent harassment.
- (7) The host school principal or game administrator must indicate to the referee or umpire-in-chief his/her seat location should a situation develop where assistance is needed during the contest.
- (8) School personnel, including coaches, must not enter the officials’ dressing facility while the officials are in attendance except when requested by the officials.

700. Dress Code

701. Required Uniforms

Note: The use of the blue and green FHSAA Shield insignia is mandatory in all sports on all levels.

701.01 Baseball.

(1) The baseball umpire's uniform must consist of a light blue shirt OR Major League style navy blue pullover shirt with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket, provided all members of the officiating crew are uniformly attired; light gray slacks; shoes as required by NFHS Rule; athletic socks; and navy blue cap with the FHSAA acronym embroidered in FHSAA blue on the front and the FHSAA vertical logo embroidered on the back. A jacket, if worn, must be black.

(2) Homeplate umpires must wear all necessary protective equipment

(3) By local association adoption, a jacket, if worn, may be navy blue with a ribbed knit cuff of navy variations (i.e. navy with white, gray, etc.), or a solid navy blue V-neck pullover sweater.

701.02 Basketball.

(1) The basketball official's uniform must consist of a black and white striped short sleeve shirt with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket, black slacks; shoes as required by NFHS Rule; black socks; and, if worn, a black belt. A jacket, if worn, must be black.

(2) Gray short-sleeved shirts with black pinstripes with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest may be worn by local association adoption and annual approval by the Commissioner or his/her designee (as in s.703.0).

701.03 Flag Football.

(1) The flag football official's uniform must consist of a black and white striped shirt with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket; black pants with black socks or black shorts with white socks; solid black football shoes and a black baseball cap with white piping. The referee must wear a white baseball cap.

(2) Additional essential equipment includes a plastic whistle, penalty marker, white bean bag to mark nonpenalty spots, game card, pencil and rubber bands or some device to keep track of the down number. The penalty marker shall be a light gold flag (15" x 15") with a middle pouch weighted with sand, beans, etc.

701.04 Football.

(1) The football official's uniform must consist of a black and white striped shirt with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket; white knickers; black hose with northwestern stripes worn over white hose or, by local association adoption, solid one-piece hose with the northwestern stripe woven in; shoes as required by NFHS Rule; black belt; and black baseball-type cap with white piping. The referee must wear a white baseball cap. A jacket, if worn, must be black.

(2) By local association adoption, football crews will have the option of wearing black shorts or white knickers during the regular season and jamborees. When split crews are used, the host crew will determine the dress for that game and notify the visiting crew. White knickers will be required for State Series games.

701.05 Soccer. The soccer official's uniform must consist of a black shirt with white pin stripes or solid black shirt, either of which must bear the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket; black shorts or black long trousers; black belt;

black knee socks with white tops or stripes; and shoes as required by NFHS Rule. In the event of a color conflict with either team, the official must change to a jersey of a color distinct from both teams with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket. A cap, if worn, must be black. A jacket, if worn, must also be black.

701.06 Softball.

(1) The softball umpire's uniform must consist of a light blue shirt, Major League style light blue pullover shirt, or Major League style navy blue pullover shirt with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket, provided all members of the officiating crew are uniformly attired; light gray slacks; shoes as required by NFHS Rule; athletic socks; and navy blue cap with the FHSAA acronym embroidered in FHSAA blue on the front and the FHSAA vertical logo embroidered on the back. A jacket, if worn, must be black.

(2) Homeplate umpires must wear all necessary protective equipment

(3) By local association adoption, a jacket, if worn, may be navy blue with a ribbed knit cuff of navy variations (i.e. navy with white, gray, etc.), or a solid navy blue V-neck pullover sweater.

701.07 Track & Field. The track & field official's uniform must consist of a white collared shirt with the FHSAA insignia worn on the left chest. A starter's sleeve must be a solid color of red, yellow or orange. Beige or khaki pants or shorts are encouraged. Officials may opt to wear the FHSAA insignia on a lanyard.

701.08 Volleyball. The volleyball official's uniform must consist of a white short-sleeve polo shirt with the smaller FHSAA insignia on the right chest; black slacks; shoes as required by NFHS Rule; black socks; and, if worn, a black belt. A jacket, if worn, must be black.

701.09 Water Polo. The water polo official's uniform must consist of a white shirt with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket, white slacks and white shoes. A jacket or hat, if worn, must be white.

701.10 Wrestling. The wrestling official's uniform must consist of a black and white striped short-sleeve shirt with the FHSAA insignia on the left chest or shirt pocket, black slacks; shoes as required by NFHS Rule; black socks; and, if worn, a black belt. A jacket, if worn, must be black.

702. Restrictions

702.01 Jewelry. Officials are prohibited from wearing jewelry while officiating a contest. The only exceptions to this policy are a wedding band, game timing device and a medical alert bracelet which, if worn, must be taped to the body with clear tape so that it remains visible.

702.02 Numbers. The wearing of numbers on shirts by FHSAA officials is strictly prohibited.

702.03 Local Association Patch. A local association patch may be worn on the upper front of the jacket or left shoulder of shirts, provided a request is made to and approved by the FHSAA Office in writing each year. Patches may not exceed three (3) inches in diameter and must be black and white in color. Other color combinations are prohibited.

702.04 FHSAA Insignia Prohibited at Non-FHSAA Contests. The FHSAA insignia, including "FHSAA" and the "Florida Shield," is the property of the FHSAA and may be used by contest officials only as approved by the FHSAA

Office. An FHSAA official may not wear any part of his/her uniform containing the FHSAA insignia at any time other than when officiating a contest involving an FHSAA member school. For example, an FHSAA official may not wear the FHSAA insignia on any article of clothing as a spectator, or while officiating AAU, American Legion, ASA, city recreational league contests, etc. This requirement does not preclude officials who have just finished officiating a contest from watching part of a succeeding contest while in uniform nor does it preclude officials who have arrived early for a contest from observing the preceding contest while in uniform.

703. Exceptions to Dress Code

Any exceptions to this dress code must be approved in writing by the FHSAA Commissioner or his/her designee.

800. Rankings for Officials

801. Rankings

801.01 Designations and Criteria.

(1) Each FHSAA official will be ranked each year by the FHSAA Office. The rankings to be used for this purpose are: Rank 1; Rank 2; and Rank 3.

(2) Rankings will be determined according to the following criteria:

(a) Score on the current year's FHSAA closed-book rules examination;

(b) Completed years of experience as a high school official to date;

(c) Number of regular season contests (varsity and sub-varsity) officiated in the previous year;

(d) Completion of the mandatory FHSAA Rules Meeting and optional FHSAA Field Clinic for the current year;

(e) Attendance at local association training sessions; and

(f) The number of proficiency points earned during the current year.

801.02 Definitions and Qualifications.

(1) **Rank 1 Official.** A Rank 1 Official is that individual who has demonstrated consistent superior performance over a sustained period of time. This official is at the top of his/her peer group and has met standards of performance in excess of those required of Rank 2 and Rank 3 officials. The qualifications for a Rank 1 Official are as follows:

(a) The official must score a 90 or better on the FHSAA closed-book rules examination for that year;

(b) The official must earn 85 or more proficiency points;

(c) The official must complete the mandatory FHSAA Rules Meeting for that year; and

(d) The official must have a minimum of seven (7) completed years experience as a high school official, either with the FHSAA or another state association which is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations.

(2) **Rank 2 Official.** A Rank 2 Official is that individual who has demonstrated the competence and gained the experience necessary to officiate at all levels of athletic competition in his/her sport. This official is in the broad middle range of his/her peer

group and is distinguished by the FHSAA by means of proficiency points. The qualifications for a Rank 2 Official are as follows:

- (a) The official must score an 80 or better on the FHSAA closed-book rules examination for that year;
- (b) The official must earn 60 or more proficiency points;
- (c) The official must attend the mandatory FHSAA Rules Clinic for that year; and
- (d) The official must have a minimum of three (3) completed years experience as a high school official, either with the FHSAA or another state association which is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations.

(3) **Rank 3 Official.** A Rank 3 Official is that individual who, for whatever reason, does not meet the qualifications for a higher ranking.

801.03 Proficiency Points.

(1) Proficiency points are earned by an official based on his/her score on the FHSAA rules examination for the current year; total completed years of experience as a high school official registered with either the FHSAA or another state association which is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations; attendance at the mandatory FHSAA Rules Clinic and optional FHSAA Field Clinic for the current year; and the number of contests, both varsity and junior varsity, officiated during the previous school year. The maximum number of proficiency points an official can earn in any given year is 102.

(2) Proficiency points are awarded as follows:

FHSAA Closed-Book Rules Examination Grade

Grade	Points	Grade	Points
95-100	30	80-84	15
90-94	25	75-79	10
85-89	20	74 or less	0

Completed Years of Experience

Years	Points	Years	Points
10 or more	20	5	10
9	18	4	8
8	16	3	6
7	14	2	4
6	12	1	2

Clinic Attendance/Completion

Rules Meeting	10 points
Field Clinic	12 points (9.5 hour attendance)

Local Association Training Sessions

1 point per pre-approved, predetermined session (maximum of 10 points)

Varsity Contests Officiated Previous Year

(one credit for each varsity contest officiated;
1/2 credit for each sub-varsity contest officiated)

Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, Water Polo

Credits	Points	Credits	Points
17 or more	30	4-7	15

13-16	25	1-3	10
8-12	20		

Basketball

Credits	Points	Credits	Points
30 or more	30	7-13	15
22-29	25	1-6	10
14-21	20		

Football

Credits	Points	Credits	Points
9 or more	30	3-4	15
7-8	25	1-2	10
5-6	20		

Soccer

Credits	Points	Credits	Points
28 or more	30	6-11	15
19-27	25	1-5	10
12-18	20		

Wrestling

Credits	Points	Credits	Points
12 or more	30	3-5	15
9-11	25	1-2	10
6-8	20		

801.04 Transferring From Another State Association. An official who transfers his/her registration from another state association which is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations and who meets all FHSAA qualifications will be assigned a ranking by the FHSAA Office in accordance with his/her record in the previous state association. Documentation from the previous state association must be received on the state association's official letterhead for verification of the official's grade on the rules examination for the current year, rules clinic attendance for the current year, number of contests officiated during the previous year, and completed years of experience to date.

802. Officials Recognition Program

802.01 Purpose. The FHSAA will operate an officials recognition program through which deserving officials will be recognized for (1) meritorious achievement; (2) milestones in years of service as a high school official; and (3) selection to officiate an FHSAA state championship event.

802.02 Meritorious Achievement. The meritorious achievement award will be presented to each official who qualifies under the following criteria in the same one year: (1) 10 or more years completed service; (2) Rank 1 status; and (3) a score of 95 or better on the rules examination. The award, which will be in the form of a commemorative plaque, will be presented only one time in his/her career in each sport.

802.03 Milestones in Years of Service. Officials will be recognized by the FHSAA when they reach different milestones in years of service as follows: 10,

15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years. Officials will be presented certificates commemorating this award at each of these marks. Officials achieving 25-year status and above will receive both a certificate and a memento to commemorate their award.

802.04 Officiating State Championship Event. Officials who are selected to officiate an FHSAA state championship event will be presented with a certificate to commemorate their experience.

802.05 Officials Association of the Year. The local Officials Association of the Year will be presented with a commemorative plaque and a patch for each member who officiated during the winning year.

900. Officiating Fees

901. Establishing Fees

901.01 Agreements with Schools.

(1) Officiating fees should be agreed upon by negotiations between local officials associations and the member schools which they serve.

(2) The FHSAA requires that local officials associations enter into a written agreement or contract with each school, district school board, conference, league, etc. which the association serves during the regular season. This document should contain all financial terms and conditions, as well as detail the obligations of both parties. Events requiring sanction from the FHSAA office and or NFHS must be submitted under a separate contract and may have no bearing on the regular season contract. District tournament assignment as in s.301 may not be included in the regular season contract. The agreement shall require the signatures of the authorized representatives of both parties. Each local officials association shall submit a copy of its contract to the FHSAA Senior Director of Athletic Operations and Officials not later than one full calendar week prior to the start of regular season competition.

(3) The accomplishment of any agreement or contract can be complete only when the fee or fees agreed upon are within the ability of the school to pay and are also commensurate with the services rendered. Any agreed upon fees must be within the maximum allowed by the FHSAA official pay scale.

902. Maximum Pay Scale

902.01 Fees. The following fees are the maximum amounts that may be paid by any FHSAA member school to any local officials association. Only local officials associations that have complied with the addition and selection of of the Education/ Training Committee as requested by the Board of Directors are eligible to charge the 2005-06 maximum fee rate. Associations that do not comply must use the 2004-05 maximum rate table. This scale does not preclude payment of lower fees if agreed upon. Fees are per official.

	<u>2004-05</u>	<u>2005-06</u>
Baseball		
Regular Season Games		
Varsity Games (2 Umpires).....	\$45.00	\$50.00

Varsity Games (3 Umpires).....	\$40.00	\$45.00
Junior Varsity Games	\$35.00	\$40.00
State Series Games		
District Tournament Games.....	\$48.00	\$53.00
Regional Tournament Games	\$50.00	\$55.00
FHSAA Finals state tournament games.....	\$55.00	\$60.00

Basketball

Regular Season Games

Varsity Games (2 Officials).....	\$45.00	\$50.00
Varsity Games (3 Officials).....	\$40.00	\$45.00
Junior Varsity Games	\$35.00	\$40.00

State Series Games

District Tournament Games.....	\$48.00	\$53.00
Regional Tournament Games	\$50.00	\$55.00
FHSAA Finals state tournament games.....	\$55.00	\$60.00

2004-05 **2005-06**

Flag Football

Regular Season Games

Varsity Games (3 Officials).....	\$31.50	\$33.00
Junior Varsity Games (3 Officials).....	\$26.50	\$28.00

State Series Games

District Tournament Games (4 Officials)	\$34.50	\$36.00
FHSAA Finals First-Round Play-In Games (4 Officials).....	\$36.50	\$38.00
FHSAA Finals state tournament games (4 Officials).....	\$41.50	\$43.00

Football

Regular Season Games

Varsity Games (Field Officials).....	\$57.00	\$60.00
Junior Varsity Games (Field Officials).....	\$43.00	\$46.00
Clock Operator.....	\$26.00	\$29.00

State Series Games

District Tiebreakers (Field Officials)	\$57.00	\$60.00
District Tiebreakers (Clock Operator).....	\$26.00	\$29.00
Regional Tournament Games (Field Officials)	\$63.00	\$66.00
Regional Tournament Games (Clock Operator).....	\$31.00	\$34.00
State Semifinal Games (Field Officials)	\$63.00	\$66.00
State Semifinal Games (Clock Operator).....	\$31.00	\$34.00
FHSAA Finals state championship games (Field Officials).....	\$72.00	\$75.00
FHSAA Finals state championship games (Clock Operator)	\$38.00	\$41.00

Soccer

Regular Season Games

Varsity Games (2 Officials).....	\$43.00	\$46.00
Varsity Games (3 Officials)		
Referee.....	\$43.00	\$46.00
Assistant Referees	\$33.00	\$36.00
Junior Varsity Games (2 Officials).....	\$33.00	\$36.00
Junior Varsity Games (3 Officials)		
Referee.....	\$33.00	\$36.00
Assistant Referees	\$24.00	\$27.00

State Series Games

District Tournament Games		
Referee.....	\$45.00	\$48.00

Assistant Referees	\$35.00	\$38.00
Regional Tournament Games		
Referee.....	\$47.00	\$50.00
Assistant Referees	\$37.00	\$40.00
FHSAA Finals state tournament games		
Referee.....	\$52.00	\$55.00
Assistant Referees	\$42.00	\$45.00

Softball

Regular Season Games

Varsity Games (Two Umpires)	\$40.00	\$45.00
Varsity Games (Three Umpires).....	\$35.00	\$40.00
Junior Varsity Games	\$30.50	\$35.00

State Series Games

District Tournament Games.....	\$43.00	\$48.00
Regional Tournament Games	\$45.00	\$50.00
FHSAA Finals state tournament games	\$50.00	\$55.00

2004-05 **2005-06**

Track & Field

State Series Meets

FHSAA Finals state meet (based on officiating duties).....	\$55.00	\$55.00
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Volleyball

Regular Season Matches

Varsity Matches (best 3-of-5 matches)		
Referee and Umpire	\$37.00	\$40.00
Line Judges (optional)	\$24.00	\$27.00
Varsity Tournaments (best 2-of-3 matches)		
Referee and Umpire	\$27.00	\$30.00
Line Judges (optional)	\$14.00	\$17.00
Junior Varsity Matches (Best 2-of-3 matches)		
Referee and Umpire	\$23.00	\$26.00
Line Judges (optional)	\$12.00	\$15.00

State Series Matches

District Tournament Matches		
Referee and Umpire	\$40.50	\$44.00
Line Judges (optional)	\$27.00	\$30.00
Regional Tournament Matches (Girls)		
FHSAA Finals First-Round Play-In Matches (Boys)		
Referee and Umpire	\$44.00	\$48.00
Line Judges	\$28.50	\$33.00
FHSAA Finals state tournament matches		
Referee and Umpire	\$49.50	\$54.00
Line Judges	\$31.50	\$36.00

Water Polo

Regular Season Games

Varsity Games		
Two Referees	\$35.00	\$35.00
One Referee.....	\$40.00	\$40.00
Junior Varsity Games		
Two Referees	\$27.00	\$27.00
One Referee.....	\$33.00	\$33.00

State Series Games

District Tournament Games		
Referees (two).....	\$38.00	\$38.00
Play-In Games		
Referees (two).....	\$43.00	\$43.00
FHSAA Finals State Tournament Games		
Referees (two).....	\$45.00	\$45.00

Weightlifting

FHSAA Finals state meet (based on 10 hours work).....	\$60.00	\$65.00
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Wrestling

Regular Season Meets/Tournaments

Varsity Meets.....	\$50.00	\$55.00
Junior Varsity Meets.....	\$39.00	\$44.00
Dual-Team Tournament		
First dual match (per official).....	\$50.00	\$55.00
Each additional dual match (per official).....	\$40.00	\$45.00
Weigh-ins.....	\$13.00	\$16.00

2004-05 2005-06

Individual Bracket Tournaments

First Day.....	\$102.50	\$105.00
Second Day.....	\$32.50	\$35.00
Weigh-ins.....	\$13.00	\$16.00

State Series Tournaments

District Tournaments		
First Day.....	\$110.00	\$115.00
Second Day.....	\$40.00	\$45.00
Weigh-ins.....	\$15.00	\$20.00
Regional Tournaments		
First Day.....	\$120.00	\$125.00
Second Day.....	\$50.00	\$55.00
Weigh-ins.....	\$15.00	\$20.00
FHSAA Finals state tournament		
First Day.....	\$157.00	\$162.00
Second Day.....	\$60.00	\$65.00
Third Day.....	\$33.00	\$38.00
Weigh-ins.....	\$15.00	\$20.00

902.02 Mileage. Sixty (60) cents per mile, one way, one official, is the maximum rate. Two vehicles per playoff crew are permitted in football for state series games.

1000. FHSAA Athletic Regulations That Apply to Officials

1001. General Policies and Regulations

1001.01 Playing Rules. Contest rules as set forth by the National Federation of State High School Associations for each sport, with the exception of flag

football, unless set aside by an FHSAA rule, will apply in all interscholastic contests, whether in regular season or state series competition. All rules must be strictly adhered to.

1001.02 Protests of Officials Decisions Not Allowed. Decisions of FHSAA officials in contests, in all cases, are final. Protests over officials' calls by member schools will not be allowed.

1001.03 Interrupted or Suspended Outdoor Contests.

(1) If a severe thunderstorm or electrical storm occurs in the area prior to the start of or during any outdoor contest, the officials must immediately contact the principal, or his/her designee, of each school involved to determine if the contest should be played as scheduled, delayed, suspended or postponed. If the principal, or his/her designee, of either of the schools involved requests that the contest be interrupted or postponed, the officials must immediately honor such request. If the principal, or his/her designee, of only one of the competing schools is available, his/her request must be honored. In the event that neither the principal or his/her designee is present, the head coach will be presumed to be the principal's designee.

(2) The safety and welfare of all concerned is of paramount importance. In no case may an official deny a request by a principal, or his/her designee, to delay, suspend or postpone an outdoor contest due to inclement weather or imply that the contest will be forfeited as a result of such a request.

(3) A suspended contest shall be resumed from the point of interruption. Otherwise, National Federation Rules regarding the resumption of suspended contests will apply.

1001.04 Cheerleading Policy for Indoor Contests. The following policy on cheerleaders must be governed by officials with regard to indoor contests:

(1) Cheerleaders must remain in their seats along the sidelines at all times when the ball is alive or a contest is in progress.

(2) Penalties for violation of this policy are as follows:

- First offense – Verbal warning;
- Second and subsequent offense – Technical foul in basketball; awarding of point against violating school in volleyball and wrestling.

1001.05 Policy on Alcohol and Tobacco Products.

(1) The use of alcohol, tobacco or tobacco-like products by players, coaches and officials is prohibited before and during the contest or in the vicinity of the playing site, or after the contest in the vicinity of the playing site.

(2) A coach or student-athlete in violation of this policy is guilty of gross unsportsmanlike conduct and must be disqualified (ejected) from the contest. Additionally, the official must report any violation of the policy by a student-athlete or coach to the FHSAA Office. Violation of this policy by a student-athlete or coach will subject the school to a monetary penalty. Violation of this policy by an official will subject the official to a monetary fine, probation, suspension, or a combination of the three.

1001.06 Bands, Noisemakers, Signs at State Series Contests.

(1) With the exception of basketball, bands will not be allowed to play at district and regional tournaments in indoor sports.

(2) All mechanical noisemaking devices, as well as any noisemakers which

simulate a game whistle, are prohibited at indoor contests, as well as baseball, softball and soccer. Noisemakers which simulate a game whistle are prohibited at all outdoor contests.

(3) The display of signs, banners, placards or similar items at FHSAA State Series tournaments, games and meets is permitted, provided:

(a) They are in good taste and reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use;

(b) They reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their school or community, and make no reference to the opposing team, its school, players or community;

(c) They are not displayed on the court, or in a manner which interferes with play;

(d) They do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators;

(e) They are not safety hazards; and

(f) They are not prohibited by facility management.

1001.07 Dressing Facilities. The host school for each state series contest beyond the district tournament (i.e., district football tiebreakers, regional tournament games/matches in all sports, etc.) shall provide contest officials with a secure and adequate dressing room (one each for mixed gender crews) with properly operating bathroom facilities including showers with warm water at the site of the contest. If the site does not have such facilities, the host school shall obtain and provide at its expense an appropriate hotel/motel room(s) reasonably close to the site. The host school is required to complete dressing room arrangements and have the information available to the referee or umpire-in-chief at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest. It is the responsibility of the head referee or umpire-in-chief to contact the school administration at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest to verify the arrangements for the contest. The referee or umpire-in-chief shall report to the FHSAA Office the failure of any host school to provide dressing facilities as required.

1002. Baseball Regulations

1002.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Umpire Crew.** A minimum of two umpires is required for all regular season baseball games. Should only one umpire report to a game site, the game shall not be played unless the use of the one official present is agreeable to both head coaches.

(2) **Suspended Game.** A game called for any reason where a winner cannot be determined, or any game called at anytime for mechanical failure (i.e. artificial lights, water systems, etc.) will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, with the lineup and batting order of each team the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of the game. (NFHS Rule 4-2-4 Note).

(3) **Completed Game.** A game that has been called because of rain, mechanical or other conditions after four-and-one-half or five innings have been completed will be declared a completed game if a winner can be determined.

(4) **Pitching Restrictions:** A pitcher must not pitch more than 14 innings in a week (Monday-Saturday) and may never pitch more than 10 innings on two consecu-

tive days. A pitcher may pitch a maximum of 10 innings in any one day.

1002.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Umpire Crew.** Three umpires will be used for all State Series baseball games.

(2) **Pregame Warm-up for District, Regional Games.** Each team will be allowed 15 minutes for infield practice before each game. No batting practice will be permitted on the playing field. Batting practice may be conducted on an auxiliary field if one is available.

(3) **Pregame Warm-up for State Tournament.** Each team will be allowed 10 minutes for infield practice before each game. Infield practice time may be reduced or eliminated due to existing field conditions. No batting practice will be permitted on the playing field. Batting practice may be conducted on an auxiliary field if one is available.

(4) **Official Ball for State Tournament.** The Spalding Top-Flite Pro baseball is the official ball of the FHSAA Baseball Finals. No other ball may be used by any team at the state tournament.

1002.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-2-9 Note.** A double first base is permitted.

- **1-4-4.** Commemorative or memorial patches permitted with written approval of FHSAA Office.

- **2-33-1.** Speed-up rules may be exercised by either or both head coaches without any need for agreement.

- **3-3-1 Penalty.** Coaches or players will not be restricted to the dugout for violations of g, h, i, j, k or l. If ejected, the coach will be removed from the premises. Ejected players must remain in the dugout under the supervision of the head coach.

- **4-2-2.** 10-run rule in effect.

- **4-2-4.** Suspended games procedure as stated in s.1002.01(2) and s.1002.01(3).

- **4-5-1.** Decision of the officials is final. No protests allowed.

- **6-1-6.** Pitching limitation adopted as stated in s.1002.01(4).

1003. Basketball Regulations

1003.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A minimum of two officials (referee and umpire) is required for all interscholastic basketball games. The use of three officials is recommended when it is practicable. However, crews of three officials will be mandatory for a minimum of three boys and three girls varsity home basketball games at each school during the regular season. The decisions of the game officials shall be final. No protests will be allowed.

(2) **Team Uniforms:** Compression/bicycle shorts may be worn provided they are of a single color that is the predominate color of the uniform short. They may be of the same length of the uniform short or be slightly longer than the uniform short. Compression/bicycle shorts are prohibited as the uniform bottom. Tights, body suits and leotards are prohibited.

1003.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Three officials will be used for all State Series bas-

ketball games.

(2) **Pregame Warm-up:** The warm-up period for all district, regional and state tournament games will be 15 minutes.

(3) **Team Uniforms:** The home team will wear light colored jerseys. The visiting team will wear dark colored jerseys. Both team jerseys are required at the tournament site.

(4) **Official Ball for State Tournament:** The Spalding Top-Flite 1000 28.5 is the official ball of the FHSAA Girls Basketball Finals. The Spalding Top-Flite 1000 is the official ball of the FHSAA Boys Basketball Finals. No other ball may be used by any team at the respective state tournaments.

1003.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-12-1 Note.** Either size ball approved for junior high competition.

- **1-12-3.** Adopted specific ball mandated for state finals.

- **1-13. Coaching Box.** Allows the head coach a 14-foot restricted box to instruct players and substitutes while off the bench during a live ball situation.

- **2-3; 5-12-5 Note.** TV or radio timeouts may be authorized.

- **3-5-1 Note.** The use of artificial limb must be approved in writing by the FHSAA Office.

- **3-5-2 Ex. 1.** The authorized use of a head covering provided it meets authorized criteria.

- **5-4-3.** Interrupted games.

- **5-5 Note.** Once a 35-point differential in score is reached at any point during the second half, the clock shall run continuously through:

- (a) jump-ball possessions (held-ball situations);

- (b) out-of-bounds plays (administration of the throw in);

- (c) free-throw shooting (except technical fouls); and

- (d) violations and fouls (except technical).

The clock SHALL NOT run continuously through:

- (a) timeouts (team, officials and media); and

- (b) technical fouls.

- **10-3-12 Pen. Note.** The second technical charged to a player is not automatically considered flagrant when both violations carry the penalty of a technical foul. [i.e., dunking before the game and delay of game by touching or dislodging the ball on the throw-in, (9-2 Pen. 3).] The player would be disqualified for the remainder of the contest.

1004. Flag Football Regulations

1004.01 Playing Rules. National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) Flag Football Rules, as modified by the FHSAA, are the official rules for all regular season games involving teams participating in the invitational state series as well as invitational FHSAA state series games.

1004.02 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A crew of three (3) officials must be used in all games involving teams agreeing to participate in the invitational FHSAA state series.

1004.03 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A crew of four (4) officials must be used in all invitational FHSAA state series games.

(2) **Pregame Warm-up:** The warm-up period for all district tournament, FHSAA Finals first-round play-in games and FHSAA Finals state tournament games will be 15 minutes.

(3) **Official Ball for State Tournament:** The Spalding J5Y youth football is the official ball of the FHSAA Flag Football Finals. No other ball may be used by any team at the state tournament.

1004.04 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following modifications to NIRSA rules have been adopted by the Board of Directors.

• **1-1-3.** The game shall be played under the supervision of 2 to 4 officials. It is recommended strongly that 3 officials be used during regular season competition. Four officials shall be used during FHSAA State Flag Football Series contests.

• **1-4-1.** Players of opposing teams must wear contrasting solid-colored jerseys, without pockets, numbered on the front and back. Numbers must be the same color on the front and back of the jersey. The number on the front of the jersey must be a minimum of 6 inches in height and centered. The number on the back of the jersey must be a minimum of 8 inches in height and centered. Numbers must be of solid color contrasting with the color of the shirt. The number may have a contrasting color border, which shall not exceed 1/4 inch. No players on the same team shall wear identical numbers.

• **1-5-5.** A mouth piece shall be worn by all players.

• **1-5-6.** Players shall not be permitted to wear sunglasses.

• **9-1-3E.** The FHSAA disapproves of any form of taunting that is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances, including comments or remarks regarding race, religion, gender or national origin.

1005. Football Regulations

1005.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Length of Quarters:** The length of quarters must not exceed:

• Combination Seventh & Eighth Grade Games – Eight (8) minutes

• Combination Seventh, Eighth & Ninth Grade Games – 10 Minutes

• Junior Varsity Games & Varsity Games – 12 Minutes

(2) **Length of Halftime:** The halftime for any football game must not exceed 20 minutes in length. This 20-minute period includes all halftime activities and the mandatory three-minute warm-up. Clock operators will set the halftime clock at 17 minutes and will not start the clock until signaled by the referee after all team personnel have vacated the field. Once the 17 minutes have expired, an additional three minutes will be placed on the clock for the mandatory warmup period. Marching bands are entitled to the field for the full 20-minute period. Teams may take their three-minute warmup in the end zones if the bands are still on the field after the 17-minute clock has expired.

(3) **Tiebreaker:** The tiebreaker plan which is described in the National Federation Football Rules Book must be used in all football jamborees, preseason classics, regular season games and state series games which end in a tie. However, the Commissioner may waive the use of the tie-breaker in football jamborees or preseason

classics upon written request of the host school principal, provided the request is based on the unanimous desire of the coaches of the participating schools.

(4) **Mandatory Water Breaks:** The referee must call an uncharged one-minute timeout at the clock stoppage nearest the halfway point of each quarter. Coaches may meet with their players during this timeout. This rule must be enforced in all games up to and including the second Saturday in October, including both fall and spring preseason classics and jamborees.

(5) **Use of “Wireless Microphone” by Referee:** The referee of a varsity football game may wear a “wireless mike” during any game under the following provisions:

(a) That both coaches agree to use the system prior to the start of the game.

(b) Only the type foul and the distance penalty may be given.

(c) A player’s name, position or number may never be given.

(d) The information is given after the captain has made his decision to accept or decline the penalty.

(6) **Jamborees:** FHSAA officials must be used. Hopefully, a different crew of officials will be used for each quarter. Normally, officials will donate their services for jamborees. Regulation football rules must be used. Each period must start with a kickoff. Each team may request two timeouts per period. Each team may participate in a maximum of two 12-minute quarters, excluding tie breakers. Opponents need not be different in each quarter. Pregame procedures, such as marching captains to center of field and flipping coins should be avoided in order to conserve time. Decide in advance which team will kick and which team will receive for each quarter.

(7) **Mercy Rule:** If one team is ahead by a margin of 35 points or more at the end of the second quarter, the head coach of the team that is behind may request of the referee a running clock. If, however, the differential in the score is 35 points or more at the end of the third quarter or at any point thereafter, the running clock shall become mandatory. Once the running clock is initiated, it shall run continuously with the exception of during any timeout taken by a team or officials, during the period between quarters, or when the differential in the score becomes less than 30 points.

(8) **Pregame Warmups:** A school’s team shall warm up in an area between the end line and the 45-yard line on the side of the field to which it is assigned for pregame warmups by the host school management. Enforcement of this policy shall be the responsibility of the host school management until the jurisdiction of the game officials begins. A violation of this policy shall be considered an act of unsportsmanlike conduct and shall be penalized pursuant to NFHS Rules.

1005.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Five field officials and one clock operator will be used for District Tiebreakers as well as Regional Tournament Games. Seven field officials and one clock operator will be used for State Semifinal Games and the FHSAA Finals state championship games.

(2) **Official Ball for State Championship Games:** The Spalding Top-Flite 100 (professional shape) and Spalding J5V (collegiate shape) are the official balls of the FHSAA Football Finals. No other balls may be used by any team.

1005.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

• **1-1-4 Note. Size of Officials Crew:** Five (5) field officials and one clock opera-

tor will be used for all varsity football games, with the exception of the state semifinal and state championship games, which shall utilize a crew of seven (7) field officials and one clock operator.

- **1-1-5. Wireless Microphone:** Use of a “wireless microphone” by the referee is permitted as follows: (a) The head coach of both teams must agree to the referee’s use of the system prior to the start of the game; (b) Only the type foul and the distance penalty may be announced by the referee; (c) A player’s name, position or number may never be announced; and (d) The information is not announced until after the captain has made his decision to accept or decline the penalty.

- **1-3-1g Note. Size of Ball:** A smaller ball may be used for eighth grade games and below.

- **1-3-2 Note. Official Ball:** The FHSAA has adopted a specific ball for use in the FHSAA Finals [see s.1005.02(2)].

- **1-3-7. Supplemental Equipment:** Supplementary equipment to aid in game administration may not be used.

- **1-5-2d. Artificial Limbs:** The use of artificial limbs is authorized on an individual player basis. The school must provide the referee with written approval from the FHSAA Office.

- **1-5-3(b) Note 1. Hearing Impaired Players:** Teams with hearing impaired player(s) may use a drum to establish cadence following the ready-for-play signal.

- **1-5-3c. Written Authorization:** The specified written authorization must be date specific with a copy furnished to the referee.

- **Table 3-1. Halftime:** Halftime will be 20 minutes (includes all halftime activities and three-minute warmup). Clock operators will set the halftime clock at 17 minutes and will not start the clock until signaled by the referee after all team personnel have vacated the field. Once the 17 minutes have expired, an additional three minutes will be placed on the clock for the mandatory warmup period.

- **3-1-1 Note. Overtime:** The overtime procedure listed in the NFHS Rules Book is adopted for all contests in both the regular season and the state series. The FHSAA Office may waive the use of the overtime procedure in jamborees or preseason classics upon request of the host school principal, provided the request is based on the unanimous desire of all participating schools.

- **3-1-2. Mercy Rule:** If one team is ahead by a margin of 35 points or more at the end of the second quarter, the head coach of the team that is behind may request of the referee a running clock. If, however, the differential in the score is 35 points or more at the end of the third quarter or at any point thereafter, the running clock shall become mandatory. Once the running clock is initiated, it shall run continuously with the exception of during any timeout taken by a team or officials, during the period between quarters, or when the differential in the score becomes less than 30 points.

- **3-1-5. Interrupted Games:** Games interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority, at some point, must be continued from the point of interruption if the game affects a team’s berth in the state series.

- **3-1-5 Note. Length of Quarters:** Games involving a mixture of players in grades 7, 8 and 9 will be played in 10-minute quarters.

- **3-2-1. Coin Toss:** If the coin toss, or simulated coin toss, is held on the playing field, it must be held three minutes prior to the scheduled game starting time.

- **3-5-7h. Mandatory Water Breaks:** The referee must call an uncharged,

one-minute timeout at the clock stoppage nearest the half-way point of each quarter. Coaches may meet with their players during this timeout. This rule must be enforced in all games up to and including the second Saturday in October, as well as in spring classic games and spring jamborees.

- **3-5-71. TV Timeouts:** TV timeouts may be authorized by the host school principal for regular season games. The FHSAA Office may authorize TV timeouts for contests in the state series as specified elsewhere in these regulations.

- **3-6-1. Play Clock:** If a visible 25-second clock is used it shall be operated by a registered official.

1006. Soccer Regulations

1006.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Games:** Varsity and junior varsity soccer games will be played in two halves of 40 minutes. These requirements will apply to all regular season games as well as invitational tournaments.

(2) **Ties:** Regular season contests which end in a tie remain a tie. In the event of a tie in an invitational tournament game, the FHSAA soccer overtime procedure may be used.

(3) **Size of Officials Crew:** The official crew for regular season soccer games will consist of two officials. The use of three officials for regular season games is optional.

(4) **Uniforms:** Compression/bicycle shorts, if worn under the uniform short, shall be the same length, or slightly longer, and shall be a solid color and the same basic color of the uniform short for all players. Compression/bicycle shorts are prohibited as the uniform bottom. The goalie exception for a different color uniform will be in effect.

(5) **Area Behind End Lines:** Officials shall keep areas behind the end lines clear of spectators and media representatives. Photographers may be permitted behind the end lines provided they are at least three yards behind the end lines on the corners and at least six yards behind the end lines near the goals. Photographers shall not be permitted to stand behind the goals when the ball is in play.

1006.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Three officials will be used for all FHSAA State Series soccer games.

(2) **Pregame Warm-up:** Each team will have a 20 minute warm-up period prior to each game. Teams should arrive at the tournament site a minimum of 30 minutes prior to game time.

(3) **Official Ball for State Tournament:** The Brine NCAA Championship Soccer Ball shall be the official ball of the FHSAA Soccer Finals. The use of this ball will be mandatory by all teams in all games played in the state tournaments.

1006.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **4-1-1(a).** Compression/bicycle shorts may be worn under the uniform bottom in accordance with the National Federation rule. Such shorts, however, may not be worn in lieu of the uniform bottom.

- **5-1-1.** The minimum crew size that may be used during a regular season game is

two officials (head referee and assistant referee).

- **6-2-1.** The official time may be kept by the head referee.

- **7-1-1.** Varsity level games will be played in two 40-minute halves; sub-varsity level games will be played in two 40-minute halves.

- **7-1-3.** A regular season soccer game that has completed one-half or more of play is an official game. A game that has been called because of weather or darkness prior to the first half being completed is a suspended game and, if played, shall restart from the point of suspension.

- **7-1-5.** Eight (8) goal differential attained at end of the first half or secured at any point during the second half terminates the game.

- **7-3-1.** Regular season games that are tied at the end of regulation play will end as a tie. Games in invitational tournaments, as well as all games in the FHSAA State Fall Soccer Series, that are tied at the end of regulation play will be resolved according to the overtime procedure contained in s.1006.05.

- **7-3-2.** There will be a five-minute interval between the second half and the first sudden-victory overtime period. There will be a two-minute interval between the first sudden-victory overtime period and the second sudden-victory overtime period if no goals have been scored during the first sudden-victory overtime period.

The following modifications to NFHS Rules **HAVE NOT** been adopted by the FHSAA Board of Directors:

- **7-1-2.** Game-ending procedure or shortening game periods.

1006.04 Card System for Misconduct. Administration of the Card System for Misconduct in all contests must be administered as follows:

(1) A player who commits any of the violations listed in NFHS Rule 12-8-1(a-f) shall be issued a yellow card, shall be cautioned, may be substituted for immediately, and shall be required to leave the field until the next legal substitution opportunity. An official, however, may issue a red card and disqualify (eject) a player on a first offense if the situation warrants.

(2) A coach who commits any of the violations listed in NFHS Rule 12-8-1(a-f) shall be issued a yellow card and shall be cautioned. An official, however, may issue a red card and disqualify (eject) a coach on a first offense if the situation warrants.

(3) A player who commits a second violation of any of the violations listed in NFHS Rule 12-8-1(a-f) shall be issued a second yellow card, may be substituted for immediately and shall be disqualified from further participation in the game.

(4) A coach who commits a second violation of any of the violations listed in NFHS Rule 12-8-1(a-f) shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be issued a red card, shall be disqualified (ejected) and removed from the premises, and shall be subject to the provisions of the FHSAA Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

(5) A player who commits any of the violations listed in NFHS Rule 12-8-1(g) and 12-8-3(a-e) shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be issued a red card, shall be disqualified (ejected) from further participation in the game and shall not be replaced on the field with a substitute. This player shall be subject to the provisions of the FHSAA Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

(6) A player who violates NFHS Rule 12-8-2(a) or 12-8-2(b) (excessive or delaying acts) shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be issued a red card (official shows a yellow/red card combination) and disqualified (ejected) from further participation. The number of players on the field shall not be reduced for violation of

12-8-2(a, b).

(7) A player who violates NFHS Rule 12-8-3(c) shall be guilty of a hand ball foul (non-contact with opponent) and disqualified for serious foul play. The player shall be issued a blue card and disqualified from further competition in the game and shall not be replaced on the field with a substitute.

(8) A coach who commits any of the violations listed in NFHS Rule 12-8-1(g), 12-8-2(a) and 12-8-3(a-e) shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be issued a red card, shall be disqualified (ejected) and removed from the premises and shall be subject to the FHSAA Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

1006.05 Overtime Procedure. The overtime procedure to be used in the state series, as well as invitational tournament games, is as follows (Note: schools hosting invitational tournaments during the regular season may use this entire overtime procedure or go directly to penalty kicks as specified in s.1006.05(3):

(1) Following a five-minute interval, there shall be a maximum of two (2) 10-minute sudden-victory overtime periods. A coin toss as specified in NFHS Rule 5-2-2(e)(2) shall be held in advance of the first sudden-victory overtime period. The first goal scored in the sudden-victory overtime period will terminate the game. If the score remains tied at the end of the first sudden-victory overtime period, the teams shall change ends of the field after a two-minute interval and play a second sudden-victory overtime period.

(2) If a tie still exists following the second sudden-victory period, the head coaches and team captains for both teams will meet with the officials at the halfway line to review the procedure for penalty kicks as follows:

(a) The referee will choose the goal at which all of the kicks from the penalty line will be taken.

(b) Each coach will select any five players, including the goalkeeper, on or off the field (except those who may have been disqualified) to take the penalty kicks.

(c) A coin toss will be held as in NFHS Rule 5-2-2(e)(2). The team winning the toss will have the choice of kicking first or second.

(d) Teams will alternate kickers. There is no follow-up on the kick.

(e) The defending team may change the goalkeeper prior to each penalty kick.

(f) Following five kicks for each team, the team scoring the greatest number of these kicks will be declared the winner.

(g) Add one goal to the winning team score and credit the team with a victory. An asterisk [*] may be placed by the team advancing to indicate the advancement was the result of a tie-breaker system.

(3) If the score remains tied after each team has had five penalty kicks:

(a) Each coach will select five different players than the first five who already have kicked to take the kicks in a sudden victory situation, wherein if one team scores and the other team does not score, the game is ended without more kicks being taken. If a team has fewer than 10 available players at the end of the first set of kicks from the penalty mark due to either injuries or disqualification, the coach must use all players who have not participated in the first five kicks. The coach may choose additional players from the first five kickers to ensure that five different players participate in the second set of kicks.

(b) If the score remains tied, continue the sudden victory kicks with the coach selecting any five players to take the next set of alternating kicks. If a tie remains,

repeat s.1006.05(3)(a).

(5) The Misconduct Procedure as listed on page 73 in the NFHS Rules Book shall be in effect during the penalty kick phase of overtime.

1007. Softball Regulations

1007.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A minimum of two officials is required for all interscholastic softball games. If only one umpire reports to the game site, the game shall not be played unless the use of the one umpire is agreeable to both teams' head coaches.

(2) **Length of Junior Varsity Games:** When varsity and junior varsity teams are scheduled to play back-to-back on the same date, at the same site, and on the same field, no new inning may be started in a junior varsity game after 1 1/2 hours. In situations where the field is properly lighted and there is ample time between junior varsity and varsity games, the junior varsity teams shall be permitted to play a regulation game of seven innings.

(3) **Suspended Game:** A regular season game that has been called because of rain, mechanical or other conditions and a winner cannot be determined will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, with the lineup and batting order of each team the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of the game.

(4) **Completed Game:** A regular season game that has been called because of rain, mechanical or other conditions after four-and-one-half or five innings have been completed will be declared a completed game if a winner can be determined.

(5) **Coaches Boxes:** First base and/or third base coaches boxes may be occupied by players or coaches in team uniform. All coaches who are in live ball area performing a coaching duty must wear, other than a team uniform, appropriate coaching apparel (i.e., warm-up, coaching shorts/pants, polo-style shirts) in school colors or appropriate coaching apparel in colors of black, khaki, white or gray. Cutoffs or any type of jeans are prohibited. All coaches must be dressed in the same apparel.

(6) **Game Ball:** The game ball as specified in National Federation Rule 1-3-4, 6 shall be used and the COR shall not exceed .47.

(7) **Pitching Warm-up Areas:** Warm-up areas inside of the field are allowed provided the field has 25 feet or more from the foul line to the fence. All players must wear helmets, and an assistant coach or player must be in attendance to protect the catcher while the pitcher is warming up.

1007.02 State Series.

(1) **Pregame Warm-Up:** Each team will be allowed 15 minutes for infield practice before each game. No batting practice will be permitted on the playing field. Batting practice may be conducted on an auxiliary field if one is available.

(2) **Official Ball for State Tournament:** The Dudley SB12LND and WT12ND are the official balls of the FHSAA Softball Finals. No other balls may be used by any participating team.

1007.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications.

(1) The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-3-1 Note 2.** Double first base is permitted.
 - **3-3-1 Pen.** Coaches or players will not be restricted to the dugout for violations of g, h, i, j, k or l. If ejected, the coach will be removed from the premises. Ejected players must remain in the dugout under the supervision of the head coach.
 - **4-2-3.** The 10-run rule will be in effect for 4 1/2 or 5 complete innings.
 - **4-2-5.** Tied games. Tied games are not permitted. If a game is tied and called at the completion of the fifth inning or any complete inning thereafter, it will continue under the provisions of suspended game s.1007.01(3).
 - **4-2-3b.** Time limit for sub-varsity level only [see s.1007.01(2)].
- (2) The following National Federation rules, which are optional by state association adoption, have not been approved or adopted by the FHSAA:
- **4-2-3b.** A time limit shall not be used for varsity contests.
 - **4-2-6.** Tie-breaker procedure.
 - **4-4-1.** Protest provision. Decision of the officials is final. No protests allowed.

1008. Track & Field Regulations

1008.01 Regular Season. NFHS Track & Field Rules, as modified by the FHSAA, are the official rules for all track and field meets. The following modifications to those rules have been adopted by the Board of Directors.

- **1-2-1 ORDER OF RUNNING EVENTS:** All meets will be limited to the following running events to be contested in order as listed: Girls – 4x800m relay, 100m high hurdles, 100m dash, 1600m run, 4x100m relay, 400m dash, 300m low hurdles, 800m run, 200m dash, 3200m run, 4x400m relay. Boys – 4x800m relay, 110m high hurdles, 100m dash, 1600m run, 4x100m relay, 400m dash, 300m intermediate hurdles, 800m run, 200m dash, 3200m run, 4x400m relay. The 4x800m relay must be run during field event competition.

- **1-2-2** Girls and boys track and field meets will be held concurrently. Girls running events must precede boys running events and must be run alternately.

- **1-2-3 Order of Field Events:** All meets will be limited to the following field events: Girls – pole vault, shot put, high jump, long jump, triple jump, discus. Boys – discus, long jump, triple jump, shot put, pole vault and high jump.

- **4-2-1, 2 Participation and Entry Limitations:** No student may enter or participate in more than five (5) events in any one meet, only three (3) of which may be running events. A relay event is a running event. Participation in the preliminaries of any event will count as an entry regardless of whether the student qualified for the finals in that event. If a student exceeds this limitation, the school which he/she represents must forfeit all points and places earned by the student in the meet, both individual points and places as well as those earned by any relay team on which the student was a member. No student may engage in exhibition or practice performances during a track and field meet. Only those students who are properly entered and eligible may participate in a track and field meet.

- **4-3-1 Uniforms:** When a jersey and track shorts are worn, a male competitor must wear his jersey inside his shorts at all times. A female competitor must wear her jersey inside her shorts at all times, unless her jersey is designed to be worn outside the shorts. Competitors in violation of this rule will not be permitted to compete. The enforcement of this rule is the responsibility of the starter or event judge, but the ulti-

mate responsibility for wearing the proper uniform rests with the team coach. Each contestant must be numbered on the back of his/her jersey with numerals of color that contrast with the color of the jersey and is not less than three-quarters (3/4) inch wide. The number must be at least six inches high. Contestants on the same team may not wear identical numbers. Headbands which are no more than two (2) inches wide and made of non-abrasive, unadorned cloth, elastic, fiber, soft leather, or rubber are permissible. Hair-restraining devices no more than two (2) inches made of soft material are legal. Decorative headwear is prohibited. Commercial advertising, with the exception of the manufacturer's logo, is prohibited on all athletic uniforms. All jewelry, with the exception of wristwatches, is prohibited.

• **3-2-3(h) Shoes:** The Games Committee has the authority to determine the length of spikes used on all-weather surfaces. Track spikes may not exceed one-half (1/2) inch in length when measured from the sole to the tip of the spike.

1008.02 Event Regulations. Events in all track meets will be run as follows: Lane assignments in all races will be made according to the spearhead method. On a nine-lane track, the lane assignments will be 5-6, 4-7, 3-8, 2-9, and 1. On an eight-lane track, the lane assignments will be 4-5, 3-6, 2-7, and 1-8. On a six-lane track, the lane assignments will be 3-4, 2-5 and 1-6. When assigning lanes to qualifiers from preliminary heats to finals, the heat winners will be assigned to lanes 5 and 6 on a nine-lane track, lanes 4 and 5 on an eight-lane track, and lanes 3 and 4 on a six-lane track. The remaining contestants will be seeded and assigned lanes by time.

1009. Volleyball Regulations

1009.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Two officials (referee and umpire) are required for all interscholastic volleyball matches.

(2) **Pre-Match Warm-Up Period:** A 15-minute warm-up period (6-6-3) shall precede all matches as follows:

- First six minutes – Visiting team practices on the full court; the home team may practice ball-handling outside of the six-foot area from the volleyball court sideline or endline area with volleyballs if the facility permits (this provision does not apply to auxiliary gyms);
- Next six minutes – Home team practices on the full court; the visiting team may practice ball-handling outside of the six-foot area from the volleyball court sideline or endline area with volleyballs if the facility permits (this provision does not apply to auxiliary gyms);
- Last three minutes – Both teams on the playing court practicing serving over the net and receiving (opponent's serves only).

When starting a match after a preceding match, a reasonable amount of time should be given to the teams leaving to collect their personal belongings and vacate the bench area.

Prior to the match officials arrival on the court for the required officials-coaches-captains meeting 20 minutes before the start of the match, teams may warm up on the court with volleyballs. Ball handling and warmup by both teams on their respective sides of the net will be permitted provided no balls go over the net and the court is ready and supervised by the host.

1009.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Four officials will be used for all state series matches, from the district semifinal match through the conclusion of the state series. They will

be a referee, an umpire and two line judges.

(2) **Official Ball for State Tournaments:** Spalding Top-Flite TL4000 Gold is the official ball of the FHSAA Girls Volleyball Finals and FHSAA Boys Volleyball Finals. No other ball may be used by any participating team in these respective state tournaments.

1009.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications.

(1) The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-2-1.** All matches shall utilize rally scoring as follows:

(a) **Varsity matches (regular season and state series).** Best 3-of-5 games; each game shall be to 25 points with the exception of the fifth game, if necessary, which shall be to 15 points. A game must be won by a two-point margin with no cap.

(b) **Sub-varsity matches (junior varsity, freshman, middle school, etc.).** Best 2-of-3 games; each game shall be to 25 points with the exception of the third game, if necessary, which shall be to 15 points. A game must be won by a two-point margin with no cap.

(c) **Invitational tournaments.** Best 2-of-3 games; each game shall be to 25 points with the exception of the third game, if necessary, which shall be to 15 points. A game must be won by a two-point margin with no cap. The host school, however, may request to play best 3-of-5 games in its tournament.

- **1-6-2 and 12-2-3.** The head coach shall represent each school.

- **4-2.** All player uniform shirts must be tucked in during play unless designed to be worn outside the shorts.

- **6-3-2.** The use of the libero player shall be permitted.

- **12-2-2, 7, 8.** Card System for Misconduct [see s.1009.05].

(2) The following modifications to NFHS Rules **HAVE NOT** been adopted by the FHSAA Board of Directors:

- **9-1-2 Note.** Teams may remain on same bench throughout match.

1009.04 Taping of Fingers and Hands. Taping, at a minimum, is permitted on individual finger(s) and/or across the palm of the hand. It may not be excessive, give an advantage to a player, have any special surface, or include hard objects, plastic or splints around the fingers. No more than two fingers may be taped together at any time. “Skids” are permitted, but no other wrap around the hand or across the palm may be used.

1009.05 Card System for Misconduct. Administration of the Card System for Misconduct in all contests must be administered according to NFHS Rule 12, specifically, Section 2, Articles 2, 7 and 8, with the following exceptions:

In accordance with FHSAA regulations regarding unsportsmanlike conduct, penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct will be assigned in the following fashion:

(1) **Players, substitutes, team attendants.**

First minor offense – yellow card

Second minor offense – second yellow card, player disqualified (but not ejected) for the remainder of the match, point awarded to opponent.

Single serious/flagrant offense – red card, player disqualified (ejected) from contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, point awarded to opponent.

(2) **Coaches.**

First offense – yellow card

Second offense or single serious/flagrant offense – red card, coach disqualified (ejected from contest and removed from facility) for unsportsmanlike conduct, point awarded to opponent.

1010. Water Polo Regulations

1010.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A minimum of two officials is required for all inter-scholastic water polo games. If only one umpire reports to the game site, the game shall not be played unless the use of the one umpire is agreeable to both teams' head coaches.

(2) **Length of Varsity Games:** Varsity water polo games shall be played in four periods of seven (7) minutes actual play each.

(3) **Length of Junior Varsity Games:** Junior varsity water polo games shall be played in four periods of six (6) minutes actual play each.

(4) **Team Uniform:** Any uniform that is used by a swimmer must cover ALL of the buttocks and must be made of a material that does not become transparent when wet. Any competitor in violation of this rule will not be allowed to enter into competition until the offending attire is replaced. If a competitor is found in violation of this rule after entering an event, the competitor will be disqualified from that event and will not be allowed to participate further until the offending attire is replaced.

1010.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Two referees will be used for all state series water polo games. Goal judges will be used when available.

(2) **Official Ball for State Tournament:** The Mikasa W6000 is the official ball of the FHSAA Boys Water Polo Finals and the Mikasa W6009 is the official ball of the FHSAA Girls Water Polo Finals. No other ball may be used by any participating team in these respective state tournaments.

1010.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications.

(1) **Playing Rules:** NFHS Water Polo Rules, as modified or amended by the FHSAA, are the official rules for all regular season games involving teams participating in the state series as well as FHSAA State Water Polo Series matches. The following modifications or amendments have been adopted by the FHSAA.

- **Exhibition Games.** Exhibition games, practice games, non-contract games and scrimmage games with other schools, groups, alumni, or league teams are strictly prohibited.

- **8-8-1. Note.** All players shall always enter the water feet first.

- **Rule 11. Duration of the Game.** A ten (10) goal differential attained at the end of the third period or secured at any point during the fourth period terminates the game.

(2) **Game Regulations.**

- **Roster and Lineup.** No later than 10 minutes prior to the competition's start, a coach from each team shall submit in writing to the secretary an accurate roster giving names and cap numbers of all players. Head coach and assistant coach(es) names shall also be submitted.

- **Sounding Device.** The use of a sounding device (i.e., megaphone, horn, etc.) at

poolside for coaching purposes is prohibited.

(3) **Athletic Uniforms.**

• **3-3-1. Uniforms.** All players shall wear suits of identical coloring and pattern that shall not become transparent when wet. Boys shall wear trunks which completely cover the buttocks. Girls shall wear suits which completely cover the buttocks and breasts.

• **3-3-4.** Jewelry or objectionable attire shall not be worn.

Commercial advertising, with the exception of the manufacturer's logo, is prohibited on all athletic uniforms.

1011. Wrestling Regulations

1011.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Weight Classifications:** All interscholastic wrestling tournaments and meets will be limited to competition in the following 14 weight classifications:

103 pounds and under	145 pounds and under
112 pounds and under	152 pounds and under
119 pounds and under	160 pounds and under
125 pounds and under	171 pounds and under
130 pounds and under	189 pounds and under
135 pounds and under	215 pounds and under
140 pounds and under	275 pounds and under

A student cannot wrestle more than one weight class above the weight class in which his/her actual weight places him/her, and must never wrestle in a weight class below his/her minimum certified weight class.

(2) **Growth Allowance:** The FHSAA Board of Directors has adopted the use of the 2-pound growth allowance as permitted in National Federation Rule 4-4-4. On or after Jan. 6, each weight class will be permitted a 2-pound growth allowance. This regulation is intended to encourage wrestlers to increase their strength, and thereby their muscle mass; and to discourage wrestlers from crash dieting to reduce weight so as to remain eligible in a lower weight class. Coaches and athletes are encouraged to use this provision accordingly. When there are consecutive days of team competition, there shall be a one-pound additional allowance granted each day for all wrestlers. In order to be granted this one-pound additional allowance, a minimum of 48 hours advance notice is required for opponent(s).

(3) **NWCA Alphamaster Form:** The **NWCA Alphamaster** form must be used as follows during weigh-ins:

(a) The wrestler's exact weight will be written opposite the name of each wrestler who weighs in prior to the meet.

(b) Any challenge of a minimum certified weight class must be made before the last wrestler has been weighed. A wrestler who has his/her minimum certified weight class challenged will be allowed to compete. The Commissioner must be notified in writing of the challenge.

(c) Both coaches and the referee must sign the form.

(d) The form must be exchanged prior to the final match of the meet. For tournaments, a copy of the form must be given to the tournament director prior to the start of the tournament.

(4) **Weigh-ins.**

(a) Contestants must weigh-in each day they participate for regular season dual meets a maximum of one hour prior to the time a dual meet is scheduled to begin. This rule permits the weigh-in to begin at 7:00 p.m. for a dual wrestling match which is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. This rule DOES NOT require a 30 minute wait between the end of the weigh-in and the scheduled beginning of the wrestling match. Each team may weigh-in a maximum of two wrestlers for each weight classification. Exact weights are required for each wrestler who weighs in for a contest. Rule 4, Section 5 (weigh-in) may not be revised or modified by conference rule, mutual consent, etc.

(b) The FHSAA requires a minimum of three officials (five is preferred) be present at all tournament weigh-ins. In addition, the host schools shall provide necessary adult personnel to serve as assistants to the weighmaster. The weighmaster will be the registered FHSAA official who is in charge of the weigh-in. The weighmaster will ensure that all NFHS and FHSAA rules and regulations are followed. The following procedure must be used:

1. Staging area (one adult volunteer or fourth official): all wrestlers will be in this area at the time the weigh-in is scheduled. Preferably, this area will be large enough to accommodate all contestants. The caller will call each weight class in order, beginning with the 103-pound class.
2. Line-up area (one adult volunteer or fifth official): each weight class will move to the line-up area where the arranger will place the contestants in bracket order.
3. Scale room (registered officials only): each weight class will then move into the scale room. The contestants will put their gear on of 16 chairs and remove their clothing. The first official (R1) will check all contestants for nails, skin, hair, etc. Any deficiencies (Nails, Skin, Hair, etc.) will be noted on the MCWF or the tournament bracket sheet. The second official (R2) will monitor the scale, recording the exact weight of all contestants on the MCWF. Exception: At the regional and state tournaments, the exact weights will be recorded on the official tournament bracket sheets. For all tournaments, R3 will be responsible for writing the weight class of the contestant on his/her wrist with a marker.

(c) All scales must be certified annually. Digital scales are required for all multi-school events to ensure the accuracy of the actual weight of the wrestler. This includes dual-team events and individually bracketed tournaments.

(d) No coaches shall be permitted in the staging area, line-up area or scale room, with the exception of the coach of a hearing or visually impaired wrestler.

(e) Female wrestlers shall be called into the weigh-in area together, as the last group to weigh in. The tournament director shall have a female person or persons available to weigh in any female wrestlers. The weighmaster should provide instructions to the female persons conducting the weigh-in as to the process of weighing in the female wrestlers. Female wrestlers are required to complete the weigh-in process the same as male wrestlers.

(f) Second or third day weigh-ins should follow the same procedures as defined above. A different color marker should be used each day to mark the wrestler's hand.

(5) **Match Limitations.**

(a) A school will be limited to one contestant in each weight classification for varsity competition.

(b) For a dual-team event, the coach may alter his line-up within the stipulations of NFHS rule 4-4-2.

(c) For individually bracketed tournaments, once a competitor's weight class is established, the competitor must wrestle at that weight class for the duration of the tournament in accordance with NFHS rule 10-2-2.

(d) In sub-varsity tournaments, however, a school may enter multiple contestants per weight class with one or the contestants in the weight class designated as the team scorer.

(6) **Multi-School Wrestling Events:** Multi-school wrestling events are of two types. The first is dual team events, where dual meets fees shall apply. The second is individually bracketed tournaments (IBTs) where the following requirements shall apply:

- IBTs with up to 8 teams: minimum of 2 mats, 4 officials
- IBTs with 9-16 teams: minimum of 3 mats, 5 officials
- IBTs with 17-24 teams: minimum of 4 mats, 6 officials
- IBTs with 24-32 teams: minimum of 5 mats, 8 officials

No new match in a multi-school wrestling competition may begin after 10 p.m. on any day. For multi-day competitions, there must be a minimum of 10 hours between the end of the last match on Day One and the start of weigh-ins the next day.

(7) **Uniform:** A contestant must be in proper uniform while in the mat area and/or otherwise in public view. PENALTY: Deduction of one (1) team point.

(8) **Biting:** The FHSAA Board of Directors has defined the intentional biting of an opponent by a wrestler during a match as judged by the official (NFHS Rule 7-4-3) as gross unsportsmanlike conduct. A wrestler who commits a violation involving intentional biting will be ejected from the match and suspended from further interscholastic athletic competition for a period of six weeks.

1011.02 State Series.

(1) **Wrestleback:** Each district will seed and bracket its District Tournament in accordance with the procedure as outlined in National Federation Rule 10 after the weigh-in has been completed. Brackets will be crossed in the quarterfinal round to better ensure that the best four wrestlers in each District Tournament advance to the Regional Tournament.

1011.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **3-2-1.** Use assistant referee during competition.
- **4-3-2.** The use of artificial limb provision.
- **4-4-4.** 2-pound growth allowance adoption.

• **8-1-5 & Pen. Chart.** **Ejection of Coach:** The coach is suspended from the remainder of the dual meet or tournament day and must leave the premises. Additionally, the coach is suspended for the next seven days.

1100. Penalty Code

1101. Types of Penalties.

The FHSAA Board of Directors has authorized the Commissioner to assess penalties against local officials associations and individual officials who violate FHSAA regulations governing the administration and conduct of the FHSAA officials program. The four penalties, in general, that may be assessed, separately or collectively,

include:

(1) REPRIMAND – An official letter of censure to the local officials association or individual official regarding the violation(s). The letter of reprimand becomes a permanent part of the local association’s or individual official’s record.

(2) FINE – A financial penalty assessed the local officials association or individual official for the violation(s). Fines range from as little as \$25 to as much as \$250 or more.

(3) PROBATION – A period of warning for one calendar year during which time any additional violations committed by the local officials association or the individual official may result in more severe penalties being assessed. Probation may also carry with it restrictions such as prohibition from officiating varsity level contests, prohibition from officiating State Series contests, etc.

(4) SUSPENSION – A period of time during which the local officials association is prohibited from assigning member officials to officiate contests, or the individual official is prohibited from officiating contests.

(5) REVOCATION – The most severe penalty that can be assessed any local officials association or individual official. It is the involuntary revocation of the local association’s sanction or individual official’s registration for a period of one or more years. No member school may enter into a contract with any local officials association whose sanctioned has been revoked. Neither may any local officials association accept into membership any individual official whose registration has been revoked.

1102. Fine Schedule.

The following fines are generally assessed local officials associations and/or individual officials for the most common violations of FHSAA regulations. This schedule is not all inclusive and does require the Commissioner to determine fines for violations not specifically covered herein. In all cases, these amounts are minimums and may be increased relative to severity of the violation.

<u>DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM AMOUNT</u>
1. Failure to report ejections of student-athletes or coaches for unsportsmanlike conduct	\$ 50.00
2. Failure to report ejections of student-athletes or coaches in the prescribed time period	\$50.00
3. Failure to submit ejection reports on the proper FHSAA form	\$25.00
4. Statements of criticism or other derogatory remarks concerning student-athletes, coaches, schools, etc.	\$ 50.00
5. Use of tobacco or tobacco-like products by an official during a contest or in the vicinity of the playing site.....	\$100.00
6. Officiating an illegal practice session, illegal scrimmage or other illegal contest	\$100.00
7. Use of profanity or other gutter language by an official directed at coaches	\$150.00

<u>DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM AMOUNT</u>
8. Pursuit of coaches, athletes, spectators, etc. with intent, following a contest, by an official	\$150.00
9. Physical contact by an official on a coach or other school personnel.....	\$250.00
10. Failure to submit local association reports by the established deadline ..	\$ 50.00
11. Officials officiating varsity level competition without the mandatory "75" score on the rules examination for the current year (per contest officiated)	\$ 50.00
12. Associations assigning officials who did not score the minimum "75" score on the rules examination to officiate varsity level competition (per official assigned).....	\$100.00
13. Falsification of records (registration).....	\$ 50.00
14. Improper use of uniform and/or FHSAA insignia.....	\$ 50.00
15. Assignment of unregistered or unqualified officials – Individual	\$ 50.00
Association	\$100.00
16. Failure to complete the FHSAA rules clinic (per sport)	\$50.00
17. Failure to take an FHSAA rules examination (per sport).....	\$50.00

1103. Misapplication of Rules.

Officials who grossly misapply playing rules will not be fined, but will receive letters of reprimand from the FHSAA. A second such letter may result in the suspension of an official for the remaining portion of a sports season.