



AMENDED OFFICIAL NOTICE

*Proposals to Amend
FHSAA Bylaws
for consideration by the
FHSAA Representative Assembly
January 11-12, 2010*





FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Distributed to official FHSAA representatives at all member schools, district superintendent delegates to Representative Assembly and district school board delegates to Representative Assembly.

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Official Notice

This Official Notice contains all proposals to amend FHSAA Bylaws for consideration by the FHSAA Representative Assembly at its January 11-12, 2010 meeting. This publication contains all proposals properly sponsored by member school representatives, advisory committees, the FHSAA Board of Directors and the Executive Director.

A total of 12 proposals have been submitted for consideration by the Representative Assembly. Proposals 1 – 11 are sponsored jointly by the Executive and the Board of Directors. Proposal 12 is sponsored the Executive Director. The proposals appear in order of citation. Each proposal is accompanied by the topical area of the proposal, intent of the proposal, the individual or group sponsoring the proposal, the text of the proposal, the effective date of the proposal if adopted, and the rationale for the proposal as stated by its sponsor.

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PROPOSAL NO. 2010-01

Topic: General Terms

Intent: Add frequently used terms to a more central location in the Bylaws

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 1.4 by adding new subsections to read:

1.4.18 Representative of a School's Athletic Interests. “Representative of a school's athletic interests” refers to any independent person, business, organization or group that participates in, assists with and/or promotes that school's interscholastic athletic program. This includes:

- (a) A student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program, such as a team manager, student trainer, etc., at that school;
- (b) The parents, guardians or other family members of a student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program at that school;
- (c) Relatives of a coach or other member of the athletic department staff at that school;
- (d) A volunteer worker in that school or that school's athletic program;
- (e) An athletic booster organization of that school;
- (f) A member of an athletic booster organization of that school;
- (g) A person, business, organization or group that makes financial or in-kind contributions to the athletic department or to an athletic booster organization of that school; and
- (h) Any other person, business, organization or group that is otherwise involved in promoting the school's interscholastic athletic program.

1.4.19 Grading Period. A grading period is defined as one semester. A semester is defined as one half of a school year (approximately 18 school weeks or 90 school days).

1.4.20 Member School. A “member school” is a senior high school, middle/junior high school, a combination school or home education cooperative that is provisionally admitted or duly elected to membership in the Association.

1.4.21 Secondary Violations. Secondary violations are those that are isolated or inadvertent in nature, or provide little or no competitive advantage.

1.4.22 Major Violations. Major violations are those that are committed intentionally, or that provide a significant competitive advantage, or are committed due to a lack of administrative control of the interscholastic athletic program regardless of whether the school claims ignorance of the rule(s) violated. Multiple secondary violations may together be considered a major violation. A secondary violation committed by a school already on probation may be considered a major violation.

1.4.23 Residence. Residence as used throughout the rules and regulations of this association is used in two contexts: “school residence”, meaning the school at which student attends or represents and “physical residence”, meaning the location at which a student lives with his/her parent or guardian.

1.4.24 Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School. Athletic activities affiliated with a school are any athletic activities not sponsored by the school but are organized, coached and/or supervised by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school's athletic interests or in which the majority of participants are students who attend the school.

1.4.25 Principal. A “principal” is the administrator responsible for the day-to-day operation of a school, whether the individual's specific title is principal, headmaster, director, administrator, head of school or otherwise. The principal is responsible for the conduct of the school's interscholastic athletic programs. *(from Bylaw 3.2.4)*

1.4.26 FHSAA Representative. A “FHSAA representative” is the school administrator who represents the school in its relationship with the Association. The FHSAA representative is the principal, unless the principal delegates the task to an assistant principal or the athletic director. The principal, however, cannot delegate the ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the school's

interscholastic athletic programs. (s. 1006.20(3)(b) Florida Statutes) (from Bylaw 3.2.5)

Effective Date: Upon adoption

Rationale: To make the bylaws easier to follow and add clarity to the rules and regulations of the association

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-02

Topic: Membership

Intent: Revise the bylaw by moving part to policy for ease of operations and places a sunset on Approved Non-member Status

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 3 to read:

CONSTITUTIONAL BYLAW, ARTICLE 3

Membership

3.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

3.1.1 Opportunity for Membership. A senior high school, a middle/junior high school, a combination school or a home education cooperative located in Florida may be a member of the FHSAA if it meets the qualifications, conditions and obligations of membership.

3.1.2 Classifications. Senior high school members may be divided into classifications for purposes of competition in FHSAA championships. The Board of Directors will adopt the criteria for determining these classifications.

3.1.3 Assignment to Geographical Areas. Member schools are assigned to geographical areas for the purpose of representation in the FHSAA governance structure and substructures.

3.1.4 Deadlines. When deadline dates fall on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday as established by Florida Law, the deadline will be the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

3.1.5 Termination of Membership. All privileges of a member school will cease immediately when its membership ends.

3.2 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

3.2.1 Member School. A “member school” is a senior high school, middle/junior high school, a

combination school or home education cooperative that is provisionally admitted or duly elected to membership in the Association. Member school not only refers to the institution, but also to its administration, faculty, athletic staff, student-athletes, student body, and any other individual or group engaged in activities representing, supporting or promoting the athletic interests of the school.

3.2.1.1 Restricted Member. A “restricted member” is a member school that has its membership privileges restricted in some manner because it fails to meet the qualifications, conditions and obligations of membership.

3.2.1.2 Provisional Member. A “provisional member” is a member school that is under a “provisional period” immediately following its initial application for membership. During the “provisional period”, the school can participate in preseason and regular season interscholastic competition with member schools, but will have no other privileges of a “full member”.

3.2.1.3 Full Member. A full member will enjoy all privileges of membership, unless otherwise specifically withheld according to these bylaws. Membership privileges include, but are not limited to, the privilege to compete in FHSAA championships, the privilege to vote in Association elections, the privilege to seek election to positions in the FHSAA governance structure and sub-structures, and the privilege to make application for and serve as host of multi-school events that require FHSAA office approval. (from 3.9.1)

~~**3.2.2 Provisional Period.** The “provisional period” is the first two years following a school’s application for membership. During the provisional period, the school can participate in regular season interscholastic competition with member schools, but will have no other privileges of membership.~~

3.2.2 Types of Member Schools

3.2.2.1 Senior High School. A “senior high school” is any traditional public school, charter school, private school or university laboratory school that provides instruction to students at one or more grade levels from 9 through 12.

3.2.2.2 Middle/Junior High School. A “middle/junior high school” is any traditional public school, charter school, private school or university laboratory school that provides

instruction to students in middle school configurations (grades 6 through 8) or junior high school configurations (grades 7 through 9).

3.2.2.3 Combination School. A “combination school” is any ~~traditional~~ public school, charter school, private school or university laboratory school that provides instruction to students in both middle/junior high school grades and/or senior high school grades under the direction of a single principal as defined in Article 3.02.4 (i.e. K-12, K-8, 6-12, 7-12, etc.). A combination school must hold membership as a middle/junior high school if its terminal grade is grade 6 through 9 or as a senior high school if its terminal grade is grade 10 through 12.

3.2.2.4 Home Education Cooperative. A “home education cooperative” is a parent-directed group of individual home education students that provides opportunities for interscholastic athletic competition to those students and may include students in grades 6 - 12.

~~**3.2.4 Principal.** A “principal” is the administrator responsible for the day to day operation of a school, whether the individual’s specific title is principal, headmaster, director, administrator, head of school or otherwise. The principal is responsible for the conduct of the school’s interscholastic athletic programs. (move to Bylaw 1.4)~~

~~**3.2.5 FHSAA Representative.** A “FHSAA representative” is the school administrator who represents the school in its relationship with the Association. The FHSAA representative is the principal, unless the principal delegates the task to an assistant principal or the athletic director. The principal, however, cannot delegate the ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the school’s interscholastic athletic programs. (move to Bylaw 1.4)~~

3.2.3 Approved Nonmember School. An “approved nonmember school” is a school that is not a member of the Association but has been approved to compete against member schools in regular season dual competitions only.

3.2.3.1 Approved Nonmember Sunset. The “approved nonmember school” status will no longer exist at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 academic/athletic year. All “approved nonmember schools” at that time will have the opportunity to apply for Full Membership. No new “approved nonmember school” applications

will be accepted during the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years.

3.3 QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

3.3.1 Schools. A senior high school, middle/junior high school or combination school located in the state of Florida may become a member if:

- (a) The principal applies for membership on a form provided for that purpose;
- (b) The school is registered with the Florida Department of Education;
- (c) The school is accredited by an agency approved by the Association;
- (d) The governing body of the school approves the school’s membership in the Association and adopts these bylaws annually as the rules governing its interscholastic athletic programs;
- (e) The school pays all dues and other fees required of member schools;
- (f) The school maintains the insurance coverage required of member schools;
- (g) The school provides the principal, the FHSAA representative and the athletic director with ~~high-speed Internet access and e-mail accounts, and a dedicated fax line~~ the appropriate modes of communication;
- (h) The school, if applicable, successfully completes a two-year its provisional period; and
- (i) The Board of Directors elects the school to membership.

~~**3.3.1.1 Approved Accrediting Agencies.** Accreditation for purposes of membership will be accepted from any of the following agencies:~~

- (a) Association of Christian Schools International;
- (b) Association of Independent Schools of Florida;
- (c) Christian Schools of Florida;
- (d) Council of Bilingual Schools;
- (e) Episcopal Diocese of Florida;
- (f) Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools;
- (g) Florida Catholic Conference;
- (h) Florida Conference of Seventh Day Adventist Schools;
- (i) Florida Council of Independent Schools;
- (j) Florida League of Christian Schools;
- (k) Lutheran Schools Florida Georgia District;
- (l) National Independent Private School Association;

~~(m) Florida Coalition of Christian Private Schools Association; and~~

~~(n) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. (move to Policy)~~

~~**3.3.1.1 Existing Members without Accreditation.** A school that is a full member as of June 30, 2007, but is not accredited by an approved agency, will have a maximum of three (3) years to earn accreditation. (sunssets on June 30, 2010)~~

3.3.1.2 Loss of Accreditation. A member school that loses its accreditation will have a maximum of three (3) years to regain accreditation. No privileges of membership will be withheld during this three-year period.

3.3.1.3 Exemption from Accreditation Requirement. A middle/junior high school is exempt from the accreditation requirement.

~~**3.3.1.4 Boarding Schools.** The Board of Directors will establish additional qualifications and conditions for recognition of member boarding schools whose boarding students participate in interscholastic competition.~~

3.3.2 Home Education Cooperatives. A home education cooperative located in the state of Florida may become a member if:

(a) The principal applies for membership on a form provided for that purpose;

(b) The governing board of the cooperative adopts these bylaws annually as the rules governing its interscholastic athletic programs;

(c) The cooperative pays all dues and other fees required of member schools;

(d) The cooperative maintains the insurance coverage required of member schools;

(e) The cooperative successfully completes a ~~two-year~~ its provisional period;

(f) The cooperative provides the principal, the FHSAA representative and the athletic director with ~~high speed Internet access and email accounts, and a dedicated fax line~~ the appropriate modes of communication; and

(g) The Board of Directors elects the cooperative to membership.

~~**3.3.2.1 Student Members of Home Education Cooperatives.** Each student member of a home education cooperative must be registered as a home educated student with the district superintendent in the school district in which the student resides and meet all other requirements of~~

~~a home education student as provided by the Florida Statutes.~~

3.4 PROVISIONAL PERIOD

3.4.1 Requirements of Provisional Period. A two-year provisional period will begin with a school's first year of membership. During the provisional period the school must demonstrate an understanding of and comply with all bylaws and other rules of the Association.

3.4.1.1 First Year. During the first year of the provisional period the school must be represented at an FHSAA compliance seminar by its principal, FHSAA representative and athletic director; and

3.4.1.2 Second Year. During the second year of the provisional period:

(a) The school must be represented at an FHSAA compliance seminar by either its principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director; and

(b) The school must submit to an onsite inspection of its interscholastic athletic programs, and

(c) Demonstrate a working knowledge of FHSAA regulations.

3.4.1.3 Extension of Provisional Period. The Board of Directors may extend the provisional period ~~to a third year~~ additional years or approve, at the request of a school that has not qualified for full membership, to have their provisional period extended at the end of the two year period. ~~A provisional member that has not qualified for full membership at the end of the third year may, if granted, be assigned as a restricted member or apply for approved nonmember school status.~~

3.4.2 Exemption from Provisional Period. A newly opening school created by the consolidation or division of the student populations of existing member schools is exempt from the ~~two-year~~ provisional period if:

(a) The new school is governed by the same board as the existing member schools; and

(b) The new school meets all other qualifications and conditions of full membership.

3.4.3 Privileges during Provisional Period. A provisional member may participate in pre-season and regular season interscholastic competition with member schools, but will have no other privileges of a full membership.

3.5 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

3.5.1 Administrative Control. A member school must control its interscholastic athletic programs

in accordance with the regulations of the Association. Responsibility for this control rests with the principal, who is responsible for the administration of all aspects of the school's interscholastic athletic programs.

3.5.1.1 Scope of Responsibility. Responsibility for control of a school's interscholastic athletic programs extends to and includes the education of, responsibility for and control over the actions of the school's administration, faculty, athletic staff, student-athletes, student body, and any other individual or group engaged in activities representing, supporting or promoting the athletic interests of the school.

3.5.2 Compliance with Rules. A member school must comply with all bylaws and other rules of the Association. The school must monitor its athletic programs to assure compliance with all bylaws and regulations must identify and report to the FHSAA office instances in which compliance has not been achieved, and must take appropriate corrective actions regarding such instances of non-compliance. Staff members, student-athletes and other individuals and groups representing, supporting or promoting the school's athletic interests must comply with applicable bylaws and rules. The school is responsible for such compliance.

3.5.2.1 Eligibility of Student-Athletes. A member school must certify the eligibility of all student-athletes. The school must not permit a student-athlete to participate in interscholastic competition unless the student-athlete meets all eligibility requirements.

3.5.2.2 Cooperation with Association. A member school must fully cooperate in the investigation of any alleged violation of the bylaws or other rules of the Association. A school that refuses to permit the interview of any individual, to grant access to and inspection of pertinent records, to submit relevant information to the Association upon request, or otherwise interferes with or obstructs the investigation, will be in violation of this provision.

3.5.2.3 Attendance at Compliance Seminar. A member school, ~~at least once every three years,~~ must be represented by ~~either~~ its principal, and/or FHSAA representative and/or athletic director at a periodic FHSAA compliance seminars as established by the Board of Directors.

3.5.2.4 Compliance Review. The FHSAA office may review member schools to verify compliance with bylaws and other rules of the Association. A school selected for review must fully cooperate with the review. A school that refuses to grant access to and inspection of records under review or refuses to permit the interview of any individual responsible for maintaining those records, or otherwise interferes with or obstructs the review, will be in violation of this provision.

3.5.3 Insurance Coverage. A member school must verify that athletic accident medical insurance coverage, catastrophic accident insurance coverage, and catastrophic disability insurance coverage is provided for each of its student-athletes. The school also must provide general liability insurance coverage for itself. The Board of Directors will establish the minimum limits for each type of insurance coverage.

3.5.4 Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct. A member school must establish policies that promote sportsmanship and ethical conduct in its interscholastic athletic programs. These policies must require student-athletes, coaches and all other individuals associated with the school's interscholastic athletic programs to adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. The school must educate, on a continuing basis, all staff members, student-athletes, student body, and other individuals and groups representing, supporting or promoting the school's athletic interests about these policies.

3.5.5 Acceptance of Decisions. A member school must accept in good faith the decisions of the Association. A member school that, by any act or attitude, refuses to accept a decision of the Association, or holds in contempt or derision the decision, or permits or acquiesces in any contempt or derision on the part of any group or individual associated with the school may be expelled or assigned to restricted membership. This provision does not deny a member school the right to due process within the Association as provided in these bylaws.

3.6 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

3.6.1 First-Time Membership. The principal of a school applying for first-time membership must submit a complete application packet as provided by this association. The application packet must

be received in the FHSAA office on or before ~~April 30~~ a date established by the Board of Directors for the school to be considered for admission in the following school year.

3.6.1.1 Application Packet.

3.6.1.1.1 Application Form. The application form must be obtained from the FHSAA office. The form must be fully completed and signed by the principal.

3.6.1.1.2 Insurance Coverage. The principal must provide photocopies of insurance certificates showing that the school has purchased the insurance coverage required of member schools.

3.6.1.1.3 Financial Condition. The principal must document that the school can meet the financial obligations of membership. This documentation must be ~~either~~ one of the following:

(a) A photocopy of the school's most recent federal tax return; or

(b) A photocopy of financial statements from the most recent period that have been independently audited or reviewed by a certified public accountant.

(c) A photocopy of prior year operating revenues and expenses as reported to the governing body for the school; or

(d) A photocopy of operating budget revenues and expenses for the school that has been approved by the governing body.

3.6.1.2 Former Member. ~~A former member school that applies for re-admittance will be considered a first-time member, regardless of whether the school's previous membership was voluntarily or involuntarily ended. A former member school that applies to re-establish its membership must pay a re-admission fee, satisfy any outstanding obligations to the Association, and completes its provisional period, before it becomes eligible for re-election to full membership. These conditions will apply whether the school's previous membership was terminated voluntarily or involuntary.~~

3.6.2 Continuing Membership. The FHSAA office, ~~on or before April 1,~~ will provide to each member school a form on which to continue its membership for the following school year. The principal must complete, sign and return the form to the FHSAA office on or before ~~April 30~~ a date established by the Board of Directors. A school that does not submit the form by the deadline will

be assessed a late fee. A school whose form is not received by ~~May 31~~ the date established by the Board of Directors may not be considered for reelection to membership for the following school year.

3.6.2.1 Insurance Coverage. A member school continuing its membership must provide photocopies of insurance certificates showing that the school has purchased the insurance coverage required of member schools.

3.6.2.2 Good Standing. A member school must be in good standing with the Association to continue its membership without restriction. Good standing requires the school to satisfy all outstanding obligations to the Association by the conclusion of the current school year.

3.7 PROCEDURES FOR ADMITTANCE AND ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP

3.7.1 First-Time Admittance. The Board of Directors at its final meeting of each school year will determine if a school applying for first-time membership in the Association will receive provisional admission in the following year. The FHSAA office will recommend whether the school should be admitted.

3.7.2 Election to Full Membership. The Board of Directors at its final meeting of each school year will determine whether to elect to full membership a school that has applied for first-time full membership or has applied to continue its full membership for the following school year.

3.7.2.1 First-Time Full Membership. A school that has completed ~~the two-year~~ its provisional period will be considered for first-time election to full membership. The FHSAA office will report to the Board of Directors whether the school has satisfied the conditions of ~~the two-year~~ its provisional period and meets fully the qualifications and conditions of membership. The FHSAA office also will recommend whether the school should be elected to full membership.

3.7.2.2 Continuing Membership. A member school that applies to continue its membership will be considered for re-election to full membership. The FHSAA office will report to the Board of Directors whether the school continues to meet fully the qualifications and conditions of membership and is a member in good standing. The FHSAA office also will recommend whether

the school should be re-elected to full membership.

3.7.3 Advance Notice of Unfavorable Recommendation. The FHSAA office will provide advance notice in writing to the principal of a school that will not be recommended for admittance, election or re-election to membership. The notice must contain the reason for the unfavorable recommendation. The principal will be advised that he or she may appear before the Board of Directors at the meeting to explain why the school should be admitted, elected or re-elected to membership.

3.7.4 Decision of Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors whether to admit, elect or re-elect a school to membership must be by majority vote. The decision will be final.

3.7.4.1 Reconsideration of Decision. A school that is not admitted, elected or re-elected to membership by the Board of Directors may request that the decision be re-considered. The Board of Directors may reconsider the decision at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The school, however, will not be permitted to compete against member schools until it is admitted, elected or re-elected to membership.

3.8 MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES

3.8.1 Annual Dues. The Board of Directors will determine the annual dues to be assessed each member school.

3.8.2 Membership Fees. The Board of Directors may assess additional membership fees to be paid by each member school.

3.8.3 Payment. Dues and fees are payable ~~July 1~~ of each year in accordance with the deadline set by the Board of Directors.

3.9 PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

3.9.1 Privileges of Full Membership. A full member will enjoy all privileges of membership, unless otherwise specifically withheld according to these bylaws. Membership privileges include but are not limited to the privilege to compete in FHSAA championships, the privilege to vote in Association elections, the privilege to seek election to positions in the FHSAA governance structure and sub-structures, and the privilege to make application for and serve as host of multi-school events that require FHSAA office approval.

3.9.1.1 Schools Not Eligible for FHSAA Championships. The following member schools are not permitted the privilege of participation in FHSAA championships:

- (a) Senior high schools in the two-year provisional period;
- (b) Middle/junior high schools, as well as home education cooperatives comprised entirely of students in middle/junior high school grade levels;
- (c) Schools operated by the Department of Juvenile Justice;
- (d) Schools contracted by the Department of Juvenile Justice to provide juvenile justice educational programs, if students attend those programs are permitted to represent the school in interscholastic competition; and
- (e) Schools that provide housing to students but are not recognized as boarding schools by the Board of Directors, if students housed by the school are permitted to represent the school in interscholastic competition.

~~**3.9.2 Privileges during Provisional Period.** A provisional member shall be permitted to participate in regular season interscholastic competition with member schools, but otherwise shall have no privileges of membership.~~

3.10 TERMINATION AND RESTRICTION OF MEMBERSHIP

~~**3.10.1 Resignation.** A member school may resign its membership at any time. Resignation, however, will not relieve the school of any outstanding obligations to the Association.~~

3.10.1 Suspension. The FHSAA office may suspend a member school that fails to meet one or more of the qualifications, conditions and/or obligations of membership until the deficiency are corrected.

3.10.1.1 Failure to Pay Dues and Fees. A member school that does not pay its dues and fees by ~~August 31~~ the deadline set by the Board of Directors will be suspended from membership ~~effective September 1~~. The suspended school may be reinstated at any time prior to December 31 by paying its dues and fees, and an additional reactivation fee. Membership is terminated if the suspended school fails to pay in full its dues and fees by December 31.

3.10.1.2 Failure to Provide Proof of Insurance. A member that fails to provide the FHSAA office with proof that it has the required insurance

coverage will be suspended until the proof of insurance coverage is provided.

3.10.2 Expulsion. The Board of Directors may expel a member school that fails to meet one or more of the qualifications, conditions and/or obligations of membership, or fails to support and adhere to the purposes and policies of the Association.

3.10.2.1 Restricted Membership. The Board of Directors instead of expulsion may restrict one, more or all of the membership privileges of the school. The school remains a member even if all of its membership privileges are restricted.

3.10.3 Cessation of Privileges. All privileges of a member school will cease upon any termination of its membership.

~~**3.10.5 Readmission.** A former member school that applies to reestablish its membership must pay a readmission fee, satisfies any outstanding obligations to the Association, and complete the two year provisional period, before it becomes eligible for reelection to full membership. These conditions will apply whether the school's previous membership was terminated voluntarily or involuntarily. (moved to 3.6.1.2)~~

3.11 APPROVED NONMEMBER SCHOOLS

~~**3.11.1 Qualifications for Approved Nonmember Schools.** A nonmember school may apply each year for approval to participate in limited interscholastic athletic competition with member schools. A nonmember school may be approved for such competition if:~~

- ~~(a) The principal of the school completes and submits the application form;~~
- ~~(b) The school is registered with the Florida Department of Education;~~
- ~~(c) The governing board of the school approves the application; and~~
- ~~(d) The school pays the nonrefundable application fee established by the Board of Directors.~~

3.11.1 Privileges of Approved Nonmember Schools. An approved nonmember school may participate with member schools in regular season dual competitions only. An approved nonmember school cannot participate with member schools in any competitions in which more than two schools participate, such as invitational tournaments or meets.

3.11.2 Obligations of Approved Nonmember Schools. An approved nonmember school when competing against a member school must:

1. Comply with all Association regulations, including rules governing the eligibility of students;
2. Abide by NFHS playing rules, or the rules adopted by the FHSAA Board of Directors for a sport in which the NFHS does not publish playing rules, including modifications made to such rules by the FHSAA Board of Directors;
3. Use FHSAA-registered contest officials if it is the host school; and
4. Demonstrate high standards of sportsmanship and integrity.

3.11.3 Application and Approval. No new applications for "Approved Nonmember" status will be accepted. ~~The application for approved nonmember status.~~ For a current "Approved Nonmember" to be considered for the following 2010-2011 school year, an application for "Conditional Approved Nonmember" status must be received in the FHSAA office not later than April 30. The Board of Directors will consider the applications received at its final meeting of the year. The decision of the Board of Directors on each application will be final.

3.12 GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

Method of Division. The Board of Directors will divide the Association's membership along existing county lines into four contiguous and compact administrative sections, each containing an equal or nearly equal number of member schools to ensure equitable representation in the FHSAA governance structure and substructures.

Effective Date: Upon adoption

Rationale: By moving pertinent parts to policy allows the Board of Directors to ease the operations of the association

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-03

Topic: Eligible Contestants

Intent: Clarify the level of competition when school compete in interscholastic competition

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 8.3.1 by adding a new criterion to read:

8.3.1 Eligible Contestants. Member schools may only engage in interscholastic contests with the following:

- (a) Schools which are members of this Association; or
- (b) Nonmember schools located in Florida that have been approved by the Board of Directors for regular season dual-team competition with member schools; or
- (c) Out-of-state schools which are members in good standing of associations which regulate interscholastic athletics for schools within their state. They must follow comparable eligibility guidelines and the season for the sport involved must run concurrently with that of the Florida High School Athletic Association.
- (d) Member schools shall not participate in athletic contests or contractually obligate themselves to participate in any tournament, meet or contest in which any schools which do not meet these criteria are scheduled to participate, or with non-school teams or groups.
- (e) Competition in team sports involving middle/junior high schools must be between middle/junior high schools only.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Rationale: Puts the level of competition between schools so as to prevent injury to students of unequal physical maturity levels

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-04

Topic: Local Rules

Intent: Clarify position of school districts in making more stringent rules

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 9.1.1.1 to read:

9.1.1.1 Local Rules May Be More Stringent. Schools and/or school districts may adopt more stringent rules for the students under their supervision. No school or school district, however, may adopt rules that are less stringent than those of the FHSAA.

Effective Date: Upon adoption

Rationale: To allow school districts the authority to make more stringent rules

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-05

Topic: Dual Enrollment and Early Admission Programs

Intent: Places the stipulation that a student must not have met graduation requirements we engaging in dual enrollment or early admission

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 9.2.2.3 to read:

9.2.2.3 Students in Dual Enrollment and Early Admission Programs. A student who attends a dual enrollment or early admission program operated by a community college or university may participate at the school the student would normally attend if:

- (a) The school awards credit toward graduation for the work the student completes at the community college or university; and
- (b) The community college or university officially issues grades on the same schedule as the school's semester; and
- ~~(c) The student takes and completes the minimum number of credits required for graduation~~ The student has not met the minimum number of credits required by the school's or school district's student progression plan for high school graduation; and
- (d) The student does not participate in the intercollegiate athletic programs of the community college or university; and
- (e) The student meets all other FHSAA eligibility requirements (no form or letter is required).

Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Rationale: To prevent students from continuing to participate after meeting graduation requirements

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-06

Topic: Participation in Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a school

Intent: Clarifies the bylaw concerning the associations position on school of choice and clarifies the bylaw as it relates to home education students

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 9.2.4 to read:

9.2.4 Participation in Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School. The FHSAA supports and endorses Florida's philosophy of school of choice for academic purposes. A student who ~~However, if a student chooses to attend or participate for a school, public or private, in which the student participated~~ in any non-school athletic activities affiliated with a school that the student does not attend or did not attend in the previous school year (in the case of home education students, does not participate for or did not participate for) and then establishes his/her school residence (in the case of home education students, he/she participates) at the affiliated school within one calendar year of such participation will not be eligible in the new school until the student has been in attendance at that school for one calendar year. Establishing such school residence is bona fide evidence that the student is attending the school in whole or in part for athletic reasons.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Rationale: To state association's position on school of choice options

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-07

Topic: Academic Requirements: GPA

Intent: Establishes a per semester GPA eligibility requirement for middle/junior high school students

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 9.4.1 and Subsection 9.4.1.1 to read:

9.4.1 Cumulative 2.0 GPA Required for Academic Eligibility. A middle/junior high student must have 2.0 GPA, or the equivalent of a 2.0 GPA based on a 4.0 scale, at the conclusion of each semester. A high school student must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, at the conclusion of each semester to be academically eligible during the next semester. (s.1006.15(3)(a)1, Florida Statutes)

9.4.1.1 Courses to be Used in Calculating High School GPA. The grades from all courses required for graduation that a student takes, including those taken by the student before he/she begins high school, must be included in the calculation of the student's cumulative GPA at the conclusion of each semester. For public school students, this includes the courses listed in s.1003.43(1), Florida Statutes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Rationale: Brings this bylaw in compliance with state statute 1006.15(3)(a)1, Florida Statutes

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-08

Topic: Academic Requirements: Lack of Transcript

Intent: Defines the eligibility status of a student who cannot obtain a transcript from a previous school

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 9.4.1 by adding a new subsection to read:

9.4.1.8 Student Not Eligible for One Full Semester if Transcript Cannot be Obtained. A student whose former school cannot or will not provide an official sealed transcript will not be eligible in the new school until he/she has been in

attendance for one full semester and has established a cumulative GPA. The school must submit a written report to the FHSAA Office that includes the student's name, date of first attendance in the school, and the beginning and ending dates of the previous semester.

Effective Date: Upon adoption

Rationale: Clarifies when a student is not a transfer student but cannot obtain a transcript from the previous school

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-09

Topic: Limit of Eligibility: Middle/Junior High School Students

Intent: Clarify the limit of eligibility for middle/junior high school students

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 9.5.2 to read:

9.5.2 Middle School/Junior High Student Has 1-Year Limit of Eligibility in Each Grade. A middle school/junior high student may participate only one year ~~as a sixth grader, only one year as a seventh grader and only one year as an eighth grader~~ in each grade level of middle school or junior high. A middle school or junior high student who repeats a grade will not be eligible during the grade being repeated.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Rationale: Help to assist with the academic success of middle/junior high school students and help to alleviate possible “red shirting”

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-10

Topic: Student Athletic Participation

Intent: Move from policy same language

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 9 by adding a new section to read:

9.10 STUDENT-ATHLETE PARTICIPATION

9.10.1 Athletic Participation Defined. A student in athletic uniform during an athletic contest is defined as having participated. Any member school which allows a student to participate in interscholastic athletic competition (dress in any part of the full uniform worn for that contest with the exception of a cap) in violation of the regulations of this Association will be held guilty of using an ineligible student and subject to the penalties assessed. (from Policy 5)

Effective Date: Upon adoption

Rationale: Inadvertently left out of previous revision of the handbook and was placed in policy until it could be properly moved back to Bylaw

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-11

Topic: Sectional Appeals Committees: Composition

Intent: Clarifies and corrects an error made from the previous revision

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing and the Board of Directors

Proposal: Amend current Bylaw 4.5.1(c) to read:

(c) One member representing public school districts selected on a rotating basis, when possible, by the Florida Association of ~~School Administrators~~ District School Superintendents from among district school superintendents, or by the Florida School Boards Association from among district school board members in the section.

Effective Date: Upon adoption

Rationale: Correction of error made from previous revision

PROPOSAL NO. 2010-12

Topic: Emergency Appeals Committee

Intent: To establish an Emergency Appeals Committee, including the ability for Telephone Conference Call meetings

Sponsor: Executive Director Roger Dearing

Proposal: A proposal in four parts by amending Bylaws 4.1.3 and 10.6.3, and adding two new bylaws with appropriate subsections:

Part I: Amend Bylaw 4.1.3 by adding a new subsection to read:

4.1.3.1 Telephone Conference Meetings.

On reasonable notice, the President of the Association may conduct a meeting of the Board of Directors by telephone conference call for routine administrative action or for emergency action. The telephone conference call shall be stenographically recorded and shall be conducted in such a manner that any member of the public shall have access to the telephone conference by telephone. The notice of such meeting shall provide the information necessary to allow public access by telephone to the telephone conference meeting.

Part II: Add new bylaw, with subsections, to read:

10.5.8 Emergency Hearings. The President of the Association may conduct an emergency meeting of the Board of Directors by telephone conference call if, and only if, a decision made by the Executive Director or a Sectional Appeals Committee would eliminate a school, in a team sport, or an individual, in an individual sport, from a State Championship Series contest before the next meeting of the Board of Directors. The President shall not conduct an emergency meeting of the Board of Directors to consider undue hardship cases, or other cases, affecting

a student's eligibility unless such student's eligibility would eliminate a school, in a team sport, or the student, in an individual sport, from a State Championship Series contest before the next meeting of the Board of Directors. In the event a member school requests an emergency hearing before the Board of Directors, requesting such hearing the member school consents to the hearing being conducted by telephone conference call and agrees to pay all expense including expenses such as the cost of the telephone conference call and the costs of the stenographic recording of such hearing.

10.5.8.1 Emergency Appeals Committee

10.5.8.1.1 Purpose of Committee. The Executive Director authorizes an Emergency Appeals Committee solely to decide those issues normally decided by the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors in which elimination from a State Championship Series has occurred.

10.5.8.1.2 Composition of Committee. The committee will be composed of five ad hoc members as follows:

(a) One non-attorney member from each of the four Sectional Appeals Committees; and

(b) One attorney member from one of the four Sectional Appeals Committees. The attorney member shall chair the Emergency Appeals Committee.

10.5.8.1.3 Selection of Committee Members. When requested by the Executive Director, the Emergency Appeal Committee members will be selected as follows:

(a) Each non-lawyer member will be designated by the Chairperson of the respective Sectional Appeals Committees; and

(b) The attorney member, who will serve as the chair of the committee, will be designated by the Executive Director.

10.5.8.1.4 Authority and Duties of Committee. The committee:

(a) Shall decide those issues normally decided by the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors when a school, in team

sport, or an individual, in an individual sport, would be eliminated from a State Championship Series contest before the next meeting of the Sectional Appeals Committee or Board of Directors;

(b) Shall not be called upon to decide undue hardship cases, or other cases, affecting a student's eligibility unless such student's eligibility would eliminate a school, in a team sport, or the student, in an individual sport, from a State Championship Series contest before the next meeting of the appropriate Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors.

10.5.8.1.5 Committee to Meet as Needed.
The committee meets as needed upon call by the Executive Director.

10.5.8.1.6 Appeal of Decisions.
The decision of the Emergency Appeals Committee can be appealed by the member school or the Executive Director at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Part III: Amend Bylaw 10.6.3 to read:

10.6.3 Appearances Before Sectional Appeals Committee, Infraction Appeals Committee, Emergency Appeals Committee and/or Board of Directors. The person or entity making the appeal has the opportunity to appear before the Sectional Appeals Committee, Infraction Appeals Committee, Emergency Appeal Committee and/or the Board of Directors if he/she so chooses. The person or entity making the appeal must give notice of their choice to appear at the time the appeal or request for waiver is filed. Appearance by the student and a school representative is mandatory for an appeal or request for undue hardship waiver involving age, limit of eligibility and unsportsmanlike conduct provisions when heard by the Sectional Appeals Committee, and is optional when heard by the Board of Directors.

Part IV: Add new bylaw, with subsections, to read:

10.6.6 Emergency Appeals Committee Appeals Procedures

10.6.6.1 Request for an Emergency Appeal.
A request for an emergency appeal shall be filed with the Executive Director within 48 hours after the member school learns that there is a need for a decision before the matter can be considered at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Sectional Appeals Committee. Failure to file a request within 48 hours shall be deemed a waiver of the right of an emergency appeal.

10.6.6.2 Telephone Conference Call.
By requesting a hearing by the Emergency Appeals Committee, the member school consents to such a hearing being conducted by telephone conference call and shall be governed by Bylaw 4.1.3.1.

10.6.6.3 Cost of Emergency Appeal.
By requesting a hearing by the Emergency Appeals Committee, the member school agrees to pay all expense including expenses such as the cost of the telephone conference call and the costs of the stenographic recording of such hearing.

Effective Date: Upon adoption

Rationale: To provide an addition level of due process when elimination from the state series is an issue