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**APPENDICES**

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**Manual Format**

**LARGE TYPE**
Large type facilitates effective and efficient use of the Handbook.

**ITALICIZED NOTES**
Italicized notes enclosed in a box provide the user with explanations, information and references to relevant policies and forms. These italicized notes do not constitute a part of the bylaws or policies of the Association.

**GRAY BACKGROUND**
Substantive changes to the text of the Handbook are set off by a gray background.

**DECIMAL NUMBERINGS WITH TOPIC HEADINGS**
The decimal numbering system provides efficiency and flexibility. Section headings assist the user in indentifying the section content, thus facilitating ready access to pertinent regulations.

**BLEED TABS**
A “bleed tab” helps the user to quickly turn to the desired article or policy. A “B” tab indicates a bylaw article. A “P” tab indicates a policy. An “A” tab indicates an appendix.

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**BYLAW ARTICLE 1**

Name and Location

1.1 Name
1.1.1 This Association shall be known as the Florida High School Athletic Association, Inc., a non-profit corporation, and shall be a voluntary association.

1.2 Location
1.2.1 Its principal place of business shall be Gainesville, Florida.

---

**BYLAW ARTICLE 2**

Aim

2.1 Aim
2.1.1 The aim of this Association shall be to promote, direct, supervise and regulate all interscholastic athletic activities of high school students; to establish, maintain, and enforce such regulations as may be necessary to assure that all such activities shall be conducted in the spirit of sportsmanship, and that all athletic contests are conducted for the physical, mental and moral welfare of high school students and protect them from exploitation.

2.2 Membership in National Federation
2.2.1 This Association shall hold membership in the National Federation of State High School Associations, and shall be governed by the rules and regulations thereof as far as practicable.

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2004-05 FHSAA Handbook

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**GRAY BLEED BAR**
A “gray bleed bar” helps a user flipping through the Handbook to quickly identify pages on which substantive changes have been made.
These Bylaws have been adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the Representative Assembly of the Florida High School Athletic Association and are applicable to the 2007-08 school year. Substantive changes are shaded.
## Revisions to Bylaws for 2007-08 School Year

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<td>Article 3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Comprehensively revised to require accreditation by approved accrediting agency for membership; to establish list of approved accrediting agencies; to provide grandfather clause for existing members not currently accredited; to establish two-year provisional period for first-time member schools; to require attendance at compliance seminar every three years; to require self-study of athletic program every five years; to authorize FHSAA Office to conduct compliance audits; to require first-time member schools to document resources to meet financial obligations of membership; to provide that the Board of Directors must vote to elect and re-elect continuing members and admit first-time members; to establish definitive list of schools not eligible for FHSAA championships; to establish restricted membership; to eliminate affiliate membership and replace it with approved nonmember school status; to establish qualifications privileges and obligations of approved nonmember school status; to provide that the Board of Directors must vote to grant a school approved nonmember school status.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.1.4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Amended to establish that the Board of Directors will establish operational guidelines for sectional appeals committees, and will, when requested by the Commissioner, review certain decisions of sectional appeals committees.</td>
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<td>4.4.2(i)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Amended to provide that the Commissioner may grant provisional eligibility to a student-athlete who suddenly becomes ineligible due to circumstances which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, are of a sudden and extraordinary nature that are completely beyond the control of the student, his/her parent(s) and school, and will cause the student to miss all or most of a sport season if he/she is required to wait until the next meeting of the sectional appeals committee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.4.2(o)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Created to establish that the Commissioner may refer to the Board of Directors for review certain decisions of the sectional appeals committees.</td>
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<td>5.1.1.1</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Created to establish that the representation of a school in the two-year provisional period is not eligible for election or to vote in elections.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.3.1(b)</td>
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<td>Amended to establish that member schools may play nonmember schools located in Florida that have been granted approved nonmember school status, rather than affiliate membership.</td>
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<td>9.7.1</td>
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<td>Amended to clarify that the privilege to participate in state championship series is limited to senior high schools duly elected to membership.</td>
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<td>9.7.1.1</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Created to establish definitive list of schools not eligible for FHSAA championships.</td>
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## Revisions to Bylaws for 2007-08 School Year

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<td>11.1.1.1</td>
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<td>Created to establish an exception to the bona fide student rule to allow students who will be changing schools in the fall to participate in summer athletic activities sponsored by or affiliated with that school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.3.1.1</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Created to establish that a student who participates in the summer athletic activities sponsored or affiliated with a school will be considered to have established residence in that school for the coming school year.</td>
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<td>11.8.1</td>
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<td>Amended to add a licensed physician assistant to the list of medical practitioners who may administer physical examinations.</td>
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<td>12.1.1</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Amended to add suspension to the list of penalties that may be imposed on schools violating rules.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.1.1.1</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Created to establish restricted membership as a penalty that may be imposed on schools violating rules.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.1.2.1</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Created to establish that the Commissioner may refer to the Board of Directors for review certain decisions of sectional appeals committees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.1.2.2</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Created to establish that a school that allows a student to participate in competition in accordance with a decision of a sectional appeals committee will not be subject to penalties normally assessed a school that allows an ineligible student to participate if the sectional appeals committee decision is later reversed by the Board of Directors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.2.4.1</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>Created to establish that the Commissioner may refer to the Board of Directors for review certain decisions of sectional appeals committees.</td>
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<td>13.4</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Amended to provide that expulsion hearings will be conducted by the Board of Directors, rather than the Commissioner, and that the final decision as to whether a school is to be expelled or placed on restricted membership resides with the Board of Directors.</td>
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**NOTE**

The comprehensive revisions to Sections 11.3, “Residence,” and 11.4, “Transfers,” that were adopted by the 2006 Representative Assembly and subsequently ordered held in abeyance until July 1, 2007 by the Florida Legislature pending study by an independent “Student-Athlete Recruiting Task Force,” were repealed by the 2007 Representative Assembly.
BYLAW, ARTICLE 1

Name and Location

1.1 NAME
This Association shall be known as the Florida High School Athletic Association, Inc., a non-profit corporation, and shall be a voluntary association.

1.2 LOCATION
Its principal place of business shall be Gainesville, Florida.

The italicized notes contained herein are for explanation, information and reference purposes only and do not constitute a part of the Bylaws or Policies of this Association.
BYLAW, ARTICLE 2

Aim

2.1 AIM

The aim of this Association shall be to promote, direct, supervise and regulate all interscholastic athletic activities of high school students; to establish, maintain, and enforce such regulations as may be necessary to assure that all such activities shall be part of and contribute toward the entire educational program of the State of Florida; to cooperate closely with the Florida Department of Education in the development of interscholastic athletic activities; to promote the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play in all athletic contests; to safeguard the physical, mental, and moral welfare of high school students and protect them from exploitation.

2.2 MEMBERSHIP IN NATIONAL FEDERATION

This Association shall hold membership in the National Federation of State High School Associations, and shall be governed by the rules and regulations thereof as far as practicable.
Article 3 has been comprehensively revised by the 2007 Representative Assembly. The comprehensive revision took effect upon adoption and was enforced during the membership period for the 2007-08 school year.

3.01 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

3.01.1 Opportunity for Membership. A middle/junior high school, a senior high school and a home education cooperative located in Florida may be a member of the Association if it meets and honors the qualifications, conditions and obligations of membership established in this article.

3.01.2 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.

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

3.01.4 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.

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

3.02 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

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

3.02.1.1 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.

3.02.2 Provisional Period. The “provisional period” is the first two years of a school’s membership that precedes the school’s election to full membership. During the two-year provisional period, the school can participate in regular season interscholastic competition with member schools, but will have no other privileges of membership.
3.02.3 **Types of Member Schools**

3.02.3.1 **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.

3.02.3.2 **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).

3.02.3.3 **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 senior high school grades. A combination school must hold membership as a senior high school.

3.02.3.4 **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.

3.02.4 **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 the authority responsible for the conduct of the school’s interscholastic athletic programs.

3.02.5 **FHSAA Representative.** An “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.

3.02.6 **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.

3.02.7 **School Year.** A “school year” is the annual period beginning on July 1 of one calendar year and ending on June 30 of the next calendar year.

### 3.1 QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

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

(a) The school is registered with the Florida Department of Education;

(b) The school is accredited by an agency approved by the Association;

(c) The governing body of the school approves the school’s membership in the Association and adopts these bylaws as the rules governing its interscholastic
athletic programs;

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

(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 email accounts;

(h) The school successfully completes a two-year provisional period; and

(i) The Board of Directors elects the school to membership.

3.1.1.1 Approved Accrediting Agencies. Accreditation for purposes of membership will be accepted from 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.

3.1.1.2 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.

3.1.1.3 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.

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

3.1.1.5 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.

See Policy 37, “Policy on Boarding Schools,” on page 163.
3.1.2 **Home Education Cooperatives.** A home education cooperative located in the state of Florida may become a member if:

(a) The governing board of the cooperative adopts these bylaws as the rules governing its interscholastic athletic programs;
(b) The principal applies for membership on a form provided for that purpose;
(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 provisional period;
(f) The cooperative provides the principal, the FHSAA representative and the athletic director with high-speed Internet access and email accounts; and
(g) The Board of Directors elects the cooperative to membership.

3.1.2.1 **Student Members of Cooperatives.** Each student member of a 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 written in Florida Statutes.

3.2 **PROVISIONAL PERIOD**

3.2.1 **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. The school also must satisfy the additional specific requirements of each year of the provisional period.

3.2.1.1 **First Year.** During the first year of the provisional period:

(a) The school must be represented at an FHSAA compliance seminar by its principal, FHSAA representative and athletic director; and
(b) The school must complete and submit a self-study and evaluation of its interscholastic athletic programs in a form prescribed by the Board of Directors;

3.2.1.2 **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.

3.2.2 **Extension of Provisional Period.** The Board of Directors may extend the provisional period to a third year at the request of a school that has not qualified for full membership 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, if granted, may be assigned as a restricted member or apply for approved nonmember school status.
3.2.3 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.

3.2.4 Privileges During Provisional Period. A provisional member can participate in regular season interscholastic competition with member schools, but will have no other privileges of membership.

3.3 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

3.3.1 Institutional Control. A member school must control its interscholastic athletic programs in accordance with these bylaws and other rules 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.

3.3.1.1 Scope of Responsibility. Responsibility for control of a school’s interscholastic athletic programs extends to and includes 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.

3.3.2 Compliance with Rules. A member school must comply with all bylaws and other rules of the Association. The school must monitor its programs to assure compliance, must identify and report to the FHSAA office instances in which compliance has not been achieved, and must take appropriate corrective actions. 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.

3.3.2.1 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.

3.3.2.2 Cooperation with Association. A member school must fully cooperate in the investigation of any alleged violation. 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.

3.3.2.3 Attendance at Compliance Seminar. A member school, at least once every three years, must be represented by either its principal, FHSAA representative, or athletic director at an FHSAA compliance seminar.
### 3.3.2.4 Self-Study and Evaluation.
A member school, once every five years, must complete and submit to the FHSAA office a self-study and evaluation of its interscholastic athletic programs in a form prescribed by the Board of Directors.

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

### 3.3.3 Insurance Coverage.
A member school must provide athletic accident medical insurance coverage, catastrophic accident insurance coverage, and catastrophic disability insurance coverage 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.

### 3.3.4 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.

### 3.3.5 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.

### 3.4 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

#### 3.4.1 First-Time Membership.
The principal of a school applying for first-time membership must submit a complete application packet. The application packet must be received in the FHSAA office on or before April 30 for the school to be considered for admission in the following school year.

1. **Application Packet.**
   1. **Application Form.** The application form must be obtained from the FHSAA office. The form must be fully completed and signed by the principal.
   2. **Insurance Coverage.** The principal must provide photocopies of insurance certificates showing that the school has purchased the
3.4.1.3 **Financial Condition.** The principal must document that the school can meet the financial obligations of membership. This documentation must be either:

(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.

3.4.1.2 **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 involuntary ended.

3.4.2 **Continuing Membership.** The FHSAA office on or before April 1 will provide to each member school a form on which to continue its membership in the following school year. The principal must complete, sign and return the form to the FHSAA office on or before April 30. 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 will not be considered for reelection to membership for the following school year.

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

3.4.2.2 **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.

The Board of Directors has established a late fee of $50 for a continuing member that does not file its application by the April 30 deadline. A continuing member that does not file its application by the May 31 final deadline will be assessed an additional late fee equal to 50 percent of its annual dues and will be suspended from membership until the application is filed and all late fees are paid.

3.5 **PROCEDURES FOR ADMITTANCE AND ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP**

3.5.1 **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.

3.5.2 **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.

3.5.2.1 First-Time Full Membership. A school that has completed the two-year 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 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.

3.5.2.2 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.

3.5.3 Advance Notice of Unfavorable Recommendation. The Commissioner 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.

3.5.4 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.

3.5.4.1 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 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.

3.6 Membership Dues and Fees

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

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

3.6.3 Payment Deadline. Dues and fees are payable July 1 of each year. A member school that does not pay its dues and fees by August 31 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.

3.7 PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

3.7.1 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.

3.7.1.1 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 enrolled in 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.

3.7.2 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.

3.8 TERMINATION AND RESTRICTION OF MEMBERSHIP

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

3.8.2 Suspension. The Commissioner may suspend a member school that fails to meet one or more of the qualifications, conditions and/or obligations of membership until the deficiency is corrected.

3.8.2.1 Failure to Pay Dues and Fees. A member school that does not pay its dues and fees by August 31 will be suspended effective September 1. Membership is terminated if the school fails to pay its dues and fees by December 31.

3.8.2.2 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.

3.8.3 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.

3.8.3.1 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.

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

3.8.5 Readmission. A former member school that applies to reestablish its membership must pay a readmission fee, satisfy 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 involuntary.

3.9 APPROVED NONMEMBER SCHOOLS

3.9.1 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 school is registered with the Florida Department of Education;
(b) The principal of the school completes and submits the application form;
(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.

3.9.2 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.

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

(a) Comply with all Association bylaws and rules, including rules governing the eligibility of students;
(b) 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;
(c) Use FHSAA-registered contest officials if it is the host school; and
(d) Demonstrate high standards of sportsmanship and integrity.
3.9.4 Application and Approval. The application for approved nonmember status, to be considered for the following school year, 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.

3.10 GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

3.10.1 Method of Division. The Board of Directors shall 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 on the Association’s Board of Directors, Representative Assembly, and Sectional Appeals Committees.

3.10.2 Administrative Sections. Until changed by the Board of Directors, the four administrative sections shall be defined as follows:


(b) Section 2: Member schools in Dixie, Gilchrist, Alachua, Putnam, St. John’s, Flagler, Levy, Marion, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Sumter, Lake, Volusia, Seminole and Orange counties.

(c) Section 3: Member schools in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Osceola, Brevard, Indian River, Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Highlands, Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Martin counties.

(d) Section 4: Member schools in Charlotte, Glades, Lee, Hendry, Collier, Palm Beach, Broward, Dade and Monroe counties.

BYLAW, ARTICLE 4

Governance

4.1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.1.1 The executive authority of this Association shall be vested in its Board of Directors, which shall be composed of 16 persons as follows:

(a) Four public member school representatives, one elected from each of the four administrative sections by all member school representatives within those respective administrative sections;

(b) Four nonpublic member school representatives, one elected from each of the four administrative sections by all member school representatives within those respective administrative sections;

(c) Three representatives appointed by the Commissioner of Education, one appointed from the two northernmost administrative sections, one appointed from the two southernmost administrative sections and one appointed statewide to balance the Board of Directors for diversity or state population trends, or both;

(d) Two district school superintendents, one elected from the two northernmost administrative sections by the members in those sections and one elected from the two southernmost administrative sections by the members in those sections;

(e) Two district school board members, one elected from the two northernmost administrative sections by the members in those sections and one elected from the two southernmost administrative sections by the members in those sections; and

(f) The Commissioner of Education or his/her designee from the Department of Education executive staff.

The district school superintendent and district school board member representative from either two sections combined shall not be from the same public school district.

4.1.2 A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of nine members. When a vote is taken on any matter pending before the Board of Directors, a quorum being present, a majority of the votes of the members of the Board of Directors voting on the matter shall determine the outcome thereof.

4.1.3 The officers of the Board of Directors shall be a President and a President-Elect who shall be elected by the Board of Directors from among its members. These officers also shall serve as officers of the Association with the Commissioner, who shall be the Association’s chief executive officer. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors, and perform other duties pertaining to the office. The President shall serve a term of one
year beginning with his/her election, which shall take place during the final regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors in the preceding school year.

4.1.3.1 Nominations for the office of President-Elect shall be made from the floor. To be eligible for nomination as President-Elect a Board member must have not less than two years remaining in his/her current term of office, or have not less than one year remaining in his/her current term of office and be eligible for re-election or re-appointment to a second term of office, and should have served as chair of a standing committee of the Board of Directors. If, however, the Board member elected to the office of President-Elect has not served as chair of a standing committee of the Board of Directors, he/she shall be appointed by the President to serve as chair of such a committee during his/her year in office as President-Elect. Election to the office of President-Elect shall require a majority of the ballots cast.

4.1.3.2 In the event the President is absent or unable to act, the President’s duties shall be performed by the President-Elect; and in the event of the death or resignation of the President, the President-Elect shall serve as President during the remainder of the term of office thus vacated and then shall serve as President for the term to which elected.

4.1.3.3 In the event of the death or disability of both the President and the President Elect, the Board of Directors shall hold a special election to elect an acting President to hold office until the next regularly scheduled final meeting of the Board of Directors for that school year.

4.1.4 The authority and duties of the Board of Directors, acting as a body and in accordance with the Association’s Bylaws, are as follows:

(a) To act as the incorporated Association’s Board of Directors and to fulfill the obligations of such as required by the Association’s charter and articles of incorporation;

(b) To establish such guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures as are authorized by the Bylaws;

(c) To provide a Commissioner for the Association;

(d) To levy annual dues and other fees and to set the percentage of contest receipts which is to be collected by the Association;

(e) To approve the budget of the Association;

(f) To organize and conduct statewide interscholastic athletic competitions, which may or may not lead to state championships, and to establish the terms and conditions for these competitions; and

(g) To act as an administrative board in the interpretation of, and final decision on, all questions and appeals arising from the directing of interscholastic athletics of member schools. In furtherance of this duty, the Board of Directors:

(1) Will adopt rules governing practice and procedure for all sectional appeals committees.
(2) Will hear appeals of decisions rendered by sectional appeals committees.

(3) Will, when requested by the Commissioner, review decisions of sectional appeals committees that directly conflict with decisions of other sectional appeals committees or of the Board of Directors on the same question or rule; or that, in the opinion of the Commissioner, are rendered in conflict with the rules of the Association or will have a great effect on the proper administration of the interscholastic athletic program throughout the Association.

(4) Will, when requested by the Commissioner, render an advisory opinion addressing issues as provided by rule.

4.1.4.1 A school that allows a student to participate in accordance with a sectional appeals committee decision that is later reversed by the Board of Directors will not be subject to the penalties normally assessed a school that allows participation by an ineligible student.

Bylaw 4.1.4 amended by 2007 Representative Assembly. Bylaw 4.1.4.1 adopted by 2007 Representative Assembly.

4.1.5 The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of five times annually. The date, time and place of each meeting shall be determined by its members. Additional meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President.

4.1.6 Members of the Board of Directors shall serve terms of three years and are eligible to succeed themselves only once. A member of the Board of Directors, other than the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee, may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.

4.1.7 Each Director shall take office on July 1 following his/her election or appointment and shall serve for a three-year term, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, or until a successor has been elected or appointed.

4.2 REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

4.2.1 The legislative authority of this Association shall be vested in its Representative Assembly, which shall be composed of the following:

(a) An equal number of member school representatives elected from each of the four administrative sections;

(b) Four district school superintendents, one elected from each of the four administrative sections by the district school superintendents in their respective administrative sections;

(c) Four district school board members, one elected from each of the four administrative sections by the district school board members in their respective administrative sections; and
(d) The Commissioner of Education or his/her designee from the Department of Education executive staff.

No member of the Board of Directors other than the Commissioner of Education or his or designee can serve on the Representative Assembly.

The Board of Directors shall establish the number of member school representatives to serve in the Representative Assembly from each of the four administrative sections. Additionally, the Board of Directors shall be authorized to appoint an equal number of member school representatives from each administrative section as it deems necessary to ensure racial and gender diversity in the Representative Assembly.

4.2.2 A quorum of the Representative Assembly shall consist of one more than half of its members.

4.2.3 The Representative Assembly shall elect a chairperson and a vice chairperson from among its members. The chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the Assembly and shall have a vote in all matters. The vice chairperson shall serve in the capacity of chairperson in the absence of the chairperson or his/her inability to perform his/her duties.

4.2.4 The authority of the Representative Assembly is limited to its sole duty, which is to consider, adopt, or reject any proposed amendments to these Bylaws. The Representative Assembly, while empowered to adopt, reject, or revise proposed amendments, may not, in and of itself, as a body be allowed to propose any amendment for its own consideration.

4.2.5 The Representative Assembly shall meet as a body annually. A two-thirds majority of the votes cast by members present is required for passage of any proposal.

4.2.6 Members of the Representative Assembly, other than the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee, shall serve terms of two years and are eligible to succeed themselves for two additional terms. Members of the Representative Assembly, other than the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee, may serve a maximum of six consecutive years in the Representative Assembly.

4.3 SECTIONAL APPEALS COMMITTEES

4.3.1 The initial appellate authority of this Association shall be vested in its Sectional Appeals Committees, one seated within each administrative section. Each Sectional Appeals Committee shall be composed of five (5) persons. Those persons shall be:

(a) Two member public school representatives elected by the member school representatives within the section;

(b) One member nonpublic school representative elected by the member school representatives within the section;

(c) One district school superintendent elected by the district school superintendents from the public school districts within the section; and
(d) One district school board member elected by the district school board members from the public school districts within the section.

No member of the Board of Directors shall be eligible to serve on a Sectional Appeals Committee.

4.3.2 A quorum of the Sectional Appeals Committee shall consist of three (3) members. In the absence of a quorum, the Commissioner shall appoint a replacement to serve for that meeting only. The replacement shall be a person who is qualified to serve in that position. When a vote is taken on any matter pending before the Sectional Appeals Committee, a quorum being present, a majority of the votes of the members of the Sectional Appeals Committee voting on the matter shall determine the outcome thereof.

4.3.3 Each Sectional Appeals Committee shall elect from among its members a chairperson and vice chairperson. The chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the committee. The vice chairperson shall serve in the capacity of chairperson in the absence of the chairperson.

4.3.4 In the event that a school of which a member of a Sectional Appeals Committee is associated makes an appeal or becomes a party to a controversy, that member shall be disqualified. The same procedure shall be followed if, for any reason, one or more members of the committee cannot serve.

4.3.5 The authority and duties of the Sectional Appeals Committee shall be to consider requests by member schools seeking exceptions to the Bylaws and regulations of this Association, to hear undue hardship eligibility cases which are filed by member schools on behalf of students, and to hear appeals of decisions rendered by the Commissioner which are filed by member schools. The Sectional Appeals Committee shall have no authority to waive any provision of Florida Statutes.

Examples of Florida Statutes that cannot be waived include, but are not limited to, the mandatory grade point average requirements; the definition of a grading period as being one semester; the mandatory grading scale; and the authority of school districts to establish codes of conduct by which students must abide to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition.

4.3.6 Each Sectional Appeals Committee shall meet as needed to carry out its duties nine times annually during the school year: between August 1 and 15, September 1 and 15, October 1 and 15, November 1 and 15, December 1 and 15, January 1 and 15, February 1 and 15, March 1 and 15, and April 1 and 15.

4.3.7 Members of a Sectional Appeals Committee shall serve terms of three years and are eligible to succeed themselves only once. A member of the Sectional Appeals Committee may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.

4.4 COMMISSIONER

4.4.1 The Commissioner, the Association’s executive officer, shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. The person chosen shall be employed under written contract for a stated period of time. The contract is to be renewed under conditions
mutually satisfactory to the Commissioner and the Board of Directors. However, no person may serve as Commissioner beyond the end of the fiscal year in which his/her seventieth birthday occurs.

4.4.2 The duties of the Commissioner shall be:

(a) To manage and direct the affairs of this Association.

(b) To interpret all Bylaws, guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures of this Association and issue rulings pertaining to such interpretations. The Commissioner shall have the authority to waive the Bylaws of the Association in order to comply with statutory changes.

(c) To prepare and submit to the Board of Directors not later than June 30 a proposed budget for the following fiscal year for the Board of Director’s tentative approval. Final approval of a budget shall be made by the Board of Directors during its first meeting of the new fiscal year.

(d) To receive all funds of this Association; to disburse all funds within the budget fixed by the Board of Directors; to keep accurate records of all funds received and disbursed; and to make such reports as may be required by the Board of Directors.

(e) To publish annually a calendar of events, including interscholastic athletic activities sponsored by this Association.

(f) To issue a membership list of this Association as of July 1 each year, and keep the member schools informed of any changes in that list.

(g) To prepare and issue to member schools necessary forms and other supplies.

(h) To pass upon the eligibility of all students who participate in those activities which are under the authority of this Association. The Commissioner’s office will have emergency power to grant provisional eligibility to a student-athlete who suddenly becomes ineligible due to circumstances which, in the opinion of the Commissioner’s office, are of a sudden and extraordinary nature that are completely beyond the control of the student-athlete, his/her parent(s) and school, and which will cause the student to miss all or most of a sport season in which the student-athlete participates if he/she is required to wait for the next opportunity for a hearing before the sectional appeals committee. This provisional eligibility will be in effect until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the sectional appeals committee that will consider the undue hardship eligibility waiver request filed on behalf of the student by his/her school. In the event the sectional appeals committee does not grant the undue hardship eligibility waiver, the student-athlete will immediately become ineligible for further competition. The member school that permitted the student-athlete to compete during the period of provisional eligibility, however, will not be subject to the penalties normally assessed a school that uses an ineligible student-athlete unless it is determined that the provisional eligibility was granted on the basis of erroneous information provided by the student-athlete, his/her parent(s) or school.
(j) To investigate all violations of the bylaws, policies or other rules of this Association that may come to his/her attention and assess penalties for such violations. This includes the forfeiture of athletic contests.

(k) To call upon members of the Board of Directors to perform such duties as may be necessary and expedient.

(l) To call upon the Board of Directors for advice and assistance.

(m) To keep a record of all meetings of this Association, the Board of Directors, the Representative Assembly, the Sectional Appeals Committees, and all correspondence of this Association.

(n) To review all controversies between member schools and render decisions thereon.

(o) To refer to the Board of Directors for its review any decisions of sectional appeals committees that he/she believes directly conflict with decisions of other sectional appeals committees or of the Board of Directors on the same question or rule, or that, in his/her opinion, are rendered in conflict with the rules of the Association or will have a great effect on the proper administration of the interscholastic athletic program throughout the Association.

(p) To approve all tournament, meet and contest schedules and to have general supervision over such tournaments, meets and contests under the rules and regulations of this Association.

(q) To perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors, and refer any of his/her official rulings to the Sectional Appeals Committee or Board of Directors for review upon request of any member school.

4.5 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Representative Assembly shall be the annual meeting of this Association. The Association’s member schools shall be represented at the annual meeting by the duly elected members of the Representative Assembly. The Commissioner shall notify all members of the Representative Assembly as to the exact time and place of the meeting not less than 30 days in advance of the date set. Member school representatives who are not members of the Representative Assembly shall have no vote at the annual meeting.

4.6 COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW

All meetings of this Association in which business is conducted shall be operated in compliance with the Florida Sunshine Law.
ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

5.1 ELECTIONS

5.1.1 The election of member school representatives to the Board of Directors, Representative Assembly and Sectional Appeals Committees shall be according to the following procedure:

(a) No later than February 1 each year, the Commissioner shall notify electronically the representative of each member school in each administrative section and/or legislative division in which a member of the Board of Directors, Representative Assembly and/or Sectional Appeals Committee is to be elected of the positions for which elections are to be held and shall provide online a form requesting candidates for the position(s) available. A member school representative who wishes to declare his/her candidacy for one or more of the available positions shall make such declaration for candidacy electronically using the online form by February 10.

(b) The Commissioner shall provide online on or before April 1 to the representative of each member school in each administrative section and/or legislative division an official ballot, which shall contain for each position available the names of all announced candidates. The representative of each member school shall vote electronically for one candidate in each position on the official online ballot by April 10. The candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared by the Commissioner to have been elected.

(c) If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast on the first official ballot, a second official ballot shall be provided online, bearing the names of the two candidates who received the highest number of votes on the first official ballot and a second vote shall be taken on them only. Ten days shall be allowed for member school representatives to vote electronically on the second official online ballot. The candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast on the second ballot shall be declared by the Commissioner to have been elected. However, in the event of a tie vote on the second ballot, the Board of Directors, by majority vote, shall determine the winner.

5.1.1.1 The representative of a member school that is in the two-year provisional period and has not been elected to full membership is not eligible for election or to vote in elections.

Bylaw 5.1.1.1 created by the 2007 Representative Assembly.

5.1.2 The election of district school superintendents to the Board of Directors, the Sectional Appeals Committees and the Representative Assembly shall be the responsibility of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents.
election of district school board members to the Board of Directors, the Sectional Appeals Committees and the Representative Assembly shall be the responsibility of the Florida School Boards Association.

**5.2 VACANCIES**

**5.2.1** In the event a vacancy occurs in any seat on the Board of Directors, Representative Assembly or Sectional Appeals Committees that is held by an elected member school representative, the Board of Directors shall appoint a qualified individual from the representative group to fill the vacant seat for the duration of the unexpired term.

**5.2.2** In the event a vacancy occurs in any seat on the Board of Directors which is held by a district school superintendent or district school board member, the Florida Association of District School Superintendents or the Florida School Boards Association, respectively, shall be responsible for promptly filling the vacant office for the duration of the unexpired term.

**5.2.3** If a vacancy occurs in the Office of President or Vice President of the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors shall elect a successor from among its members to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

**5.2.4** If a vacancy occurs in the Office of Chairperson or Vice Chairperson of a Sectional Appeals Committee, the respective Committee shall elect a successor from among its members to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
6.1 BUDGET

An annual budget shall be prepared by the Commissioner for approval as submitted or amended by the Board of Directors. All moneys disbursed by the Commissioner shall be according to the budget and for the purpose of promoting the aims of this Association.

6.2 AUDIT

All accounts of this Association shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant and the report made available to any member school upon request.
BYLAW, ARTICLE 7

The Principal

7.1 DEFINITION AND RESPONSIBILITY

7.1.1 The term principal as used in these Bylaws refers to the supervising principal or principal of the member school, whichever signs the membership renewal application. He/she is held responsible by this Association for the enforcement of its rules and regulations in his/her school. If a principal designates his/her responsibilities as official representative to this Association to another member of his/her staff, that does not relieve him/her, as principal, of the obligation to ensure that these Bylaws, and rules and regulations established by the Board of Directors pursuant to these Bylaws, are adhered to in his/her school.

7.1.2 All phases of interscholastic athletic activities within a member school, including the activities of booster clubs, parent groups, etc., shall be under the principal’s supervision.

7.2 ATHLETIC FUNDS

7.2.1 All funds received from the sale of tickets to any athletic activity shall go directly to the treasury of the school as provided by Florida School Law and shall be expended only for purposes approved by the principal. Disbursement of funds derived from athletic activities shall not be subject to the approval of any outside organization, but shall be subject to audit as all school funds are, and under the control of properly authorized school officials. The records shall also be available for inspection by a properly accredited representative of this Association.

7.2.2 No member school may offer or allow to be offered any article of value (car, radio, television, etc.) to be given to some lucky number holder or to some individual to be determined in any manner before, during or after any interscholastic athletic contest as an added inducement for the purchase of tickets to such contest.

7.3 CONTRACTS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

The principal shall sign all contracts for interscholastic athletic competition and shall be responsible for compliance with contracts signed by him/her or his/her predecessor.

7.4 CERTIFICATION OF STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

7.4.1 The principal shall sign all eligibility reports and correspondence concerning eligibility and be responsible for their accuracy regardless of who compiles the information. The principal shall certify that the information is absolutely correct and that the students whose names appear on the reports are eligible in accor-
dance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

7.4.2 The assistant principal or the school’s representative to the Association, if other than the principal, may sign eligibility reports or eligibility correspondence if the principal is ill or out of town for an extended period of time, provided a statement to that effect appears on the eligibility report or correspondence.

7.5 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The principal shall keep on file copies of all records required to be forwarded to this Association.

7.6 RECRUITMENT OF STUDENTS

Recruitment of students or attempted recruitment of students for athletic purposes, regardless of their residence, is a gross violation of the spirit and philosophy of these Bylaws and is expressly forbidden. Recruiting is the use of undue influence and/or special inducement by anyone associated with a school in an attempt to encourage a prospective student to attend or remain at that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics. A member school is responsible for any such action committed by any person associated with the school, including the principal, assistant principals, the athletic director, coaches, teachers, any other staff members or employees, students, parents or any organization, such as booster clubs, having connection to the school. A member school also is responsible for any violation committed by any person acting at the direction of the school or anyone associated with the school. The Board of Directors shall establish and maintain a policy which defines undue influence and special inducement; lists examples of such actions which shall be considered to be violations of this article; establishes the penalties for such violations; and regulates academic recruitment programs and financial aid programs conducted and administered by member schools.

See Policy 38, “Policy on Recruiting,” that has been established by the Board of Directors, on page 164.

The “2007-08 Certification of Compliance with FHSAA Policy on Recruiting” is Form GA3 on FHSAA.org.
8.1 SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

8.1.1 Students, coaches, administrators, spectators and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with a member school, as well as contest officials, shall practice and promote the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethics at all times directly or indirectly related in any manner to interscholastic relationships or events, whether prior to, during or following such relationship or event. It shall be the responsibility of each member school principal to ensure that those individuals connected with his/her school adhere to these standards. The Commissioner shall have the authority to investigate allegations and incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct or conduct which adversely affects the ethics of competition in connection with interscholastic contests. The Commissioner shall have full authority to invoke penalties against a member school and/or individuals whose conduct in connection with an interscholastic contest violates these principles or ethics.

See Bylaw 11.11 on page 63; as well as Policy 32, “Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct,” on page 155.

8.1.2 The disqualification of a coach, student or other representative of a member school from an athletic contest as a result of unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject his/her school to appropriate disciplinary action. It is expected that each member school will exercise control over each individual student and coach to the extent necessary to ensure safety and fair play for all participants.

8.1.3 The removal of a team or individual competitor from an athletic contest by a coach or administrator because of his/her dissatisfaction with contest officials or other conditions of the contest shall be considered an act of gross unsportsmanlike conduct.

8.1.4 In the event of gross misbehavior or unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of a team or individual officially representing a member school at an interscholastic athletic tournament, meet or contest, the Commissioner shall have the authority to deny further participation to such team or individual.

8.2 CROWD CONTROL

Any member school whose principal is found guilty of gross unsportsmanlike conduct or who fails to control the conduct of his/her student body, faculty, and/or followers within reasonable bounds shall be subject to a penalty not to exceed expulsion from membership in this Association.

BYLAW, ARTICLE 9

Interscholastic Contests

9.1 DEFINITION OF INTERSCHOLASTIC CONTEST

9.1.1 Any competition between organized teams of different schools in a sport recognized by this Association is an interscholastic contest and shall be subject to all regulations pertaining to such contests.


NOTE: Practice sessions of any kind on Sunday are prohibited.

9.1.2 Protests of interscholastic contests shall not be allowed. The decision of the officials shall be final.

9.2 RULES OF COMPETITION

The rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, or those approved by it, shall be the official rules for interscholastic athletic competition in all sports, unless waived by at least a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

9.3 SCHOOLS WITH WHICH CONTESTS MAY BE HELD

9.3.1 Member schools may permit eligible students to engage in interscholastic contests as school representatives only with the following:

(a) Schools which are members of this Association;

(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 of associations which regulate interscholastic athletics for schools within their states, provided the eligibility guidelines of those associations are comparable to those of the Florida High School Athletic Association, and the season established by those associations for competition in the sport involved is concurrent with that of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

Member schools shall not permit students to participate as school representatives in athletic contests or contractually obligate itself 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.
9.3.2 Middle schools, junior high schools and combination middle-junior-
senior high schools which are members of this Association may engage in inter-
scholastic contests with middle schools and junior high schools which are not
members of this Association provided:

(a) that such competition is confined to middle schools and junior high schools
located within the same county under conditions established by the District
School Board for that county;

(b) that students of member schools who have played during the sports season
as a member of their school’s varsity teams may not participate in such com-
petition on the middle school or junior high school teams and then return to
varsity competition;

(c) that a ninth-grade team representing a four-year senior high school which is
a member school may not participate in such competition against a middle
school or junior high school which is not a member, except as specified in (a); and

(d) that this Association will not undertake to arbitrate controversies which may
develop as a result of this permissive rule except to the extent of declaring
ineligible for further competition during the current season students who vio-
late the second condition set forth herein.

9.3.3 The Commissioner shall have the authority to approve participation by a
middle school, junior high school or combination middle-junior-senior high school
which is a member of this Association with middle schools and junior high schools
which are not members of this Association provided that such non-member schools
are located within a 50-mile radius of the member school.

9.3.4 It is not the intent of these Bylaws, to prevent or hamper the operations
of any regularly organized recreation or playground department, which is working
to provide recreational facilities for students who are not members of regularly
organized high school athletic teams, and which is under the direction of a city or
county Recreational Director or Health and Physical Education Director, provided
schools outside the unit are not allowed to participate.

9.4 CONTRACTS

9.4.1 Contracts are required for all interscholastic athletic contests between
schools which are members of this Association. To be valid the contracts shall
be executed upon the regular Association forms. These forms shall be furnished
by the Commissioner. A contract may be canceled by the mutual consent of the
parties to the contract at any time prior to the beginning of the contest. In case of
failure of the parties to reach agreement concerning cancellation, the matter shall
be referred to the Commissioner for adjudication. The Commissioner’s decision, or the decision of the Sectional Appeals Committee and/or Board of Directors in case of appeal shall be final, and the provisions of the decree shall be carried out by the parties to the contract. Failure to comply with the decision of the Commissioner or Sectional Appeals Committee and/or Board of Directors on the part of either principal signing the contract within ten days shall subject the school of which he/she is principal to a penalty not to exceed expulsion from this Association.

The “Contract for Interscholastic Athletic Contests” is Form AT1 on FHSAA.org.

9.4.2 No contract may be entered into by member schools which purports to bind those schools for interscholastic athletic competition longer than three years from the date on which the contract was signed.

9.4.3 Details of contracts must be specific. Definite dates, sites, financial arrangements, arrangements regarding the selection of officials, and other items of interest to both parties should be specified. Indefinite terms, such as “corresponding dates”, are not binding on either party.

9.4.4 Non-contract games, under any conditions, are strictly prohibited.

9.4.5 It is not necessary for a member school to enter into contracts with other member schools for tournaments, meets or contests which have been sanctioned by the Commissioner or which are held as part of any state championship series conducted by this Association.

9.4.6 Contracts between member schools shall be subject to cancellation, whenever either party to the contract shall propose to use, or shall propose to allow to be used, as a member of a competing team any student whose eligibility has not been approved by the Commissioner, or the Sectional Appeals Committee and/or Board of Directors upon appeal to it from the Commissioner’s ruling. Schools which are members of this Association are prohibited from competing with schools which propose to use such ineligible students on their teams.

9.4.7 When a member school is placed on suspension probation or expelled from membership, all contracts which the principal has signed shall be null and void. However, other principals who are parties to such contracts may hold open the dates for games contracted and renew the contracts when the penalized school’s period of suspension probation has ended or the expelled school has been reinstated.

9.4.8 Any school which does not fulfill the terms of any valid contract or which allows itself to be bracketed in an invitational tournament in any sport and fails to compete until eliminated shall be subjected to a financial penalty as determined by the Commissioner.
9.5  CATEGORIZATION OF SPORTS

The Board of Directors shall categorize sports which are played by member schools as “recognized” and “sanctioned”. Recognized sports shall require participants to abide by Association bylaws, policies, rules and contest regulations with regard to student eligibility and sportsmanship in interscholastic contests. Sanctioned sports, which may be eligible for state championship series status pursuant to Article 9.8.1, may require participants to adhere to a greater degree of regulation subject to terms and conditions established by the Board of Directors. All sports which are not recognized or sanctioned by the Board of Directors shall be considered club sports and shall not be under the jurisdiction of this Association.


9.6  PARTICIPATION BY GIRLS ON BOYS TEAMS AND VICE VERSA

Girls may participate on a boys interscholastic athletic team in a sport if the school does not sponsor a girls interscholastic athletic team in that sport. Girls may not participate on a boys interscholastic athletic team in a sport if the school sponsors a girls interscholastic athletic team in that sport. Boys may not participate on a girls interscholastic athletic team in any sport if the school’s overall boys athletic program equals or exceeds the overall girls athletic program. A school that sponsors an athletic team(s) composed of both girls and boys (a mixed team) shall compete in the boys division in that sport or those sports.

9.7  STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

9.7.1  This Association may conduct state championship series to determine the official state champion(s) in those sports that are sanctioned by the Board of Directors. The privilege to participate in state championship series will be limited only to those senior high schools that are duly elected to full membership in this Association. The Board of Directors will determine the sports in which state championship series are to be conducted and will establish the terms and conditions for each state championship series.

9.7.1.1  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 enrolled in those programs are permitted to represent the school in interscholastic competition; and
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.

Bylaw 9.7.1 amended by 2007 Representative Assembly. Bylaw 9.7.1.1 created by 2007 Representative Assembly.


The terms and conditions for the state championship series in each sport are published in the manual for that sport.

9.7.2 Member schools which host a state championship series competition shall disperse funds in accordance with the terms and conditions established by the Board of Directors for that state championship series. Failure by a member school to disburse funds as required by these terms and conditions shall result in restrictive probation in all sports until proper remuneration is made to all parties.

See Policy 9, “Financial Policies,” on page 107, as well as the manual published for each sport in which the FHSAA conducts a state championship series.

9.8 SEASON LIMITATIONS

9.8.1 The Board of Directors shall adopt season limitations in each sport in which the Association conducts a state championship series. These season limitations shall establish the earliest and latest permissible dates for interscholastic practice and interscholastic competition as well as the maximum number of regular season contests in each respective sport. The season limitations for girls and boys teams in a common sport shall be the same. A member school shall not organize its teams for interscholastic practice or interscholastic competition in a sport outside of the season limitations established for that sport.

9.8.2 The Board of Directors shall establish guidelines to govern the activities of an interaction between member schools and student-athletes during the off-season, which is defined as that period of time outside of the season limitations for a sport but during the school year.

The season limitations for each sport in which the FHSAA conducts a state championship series can be found in Policy 6, “Sports Season Guidelines,” on page 96, as well as in the manuals published for each respective sport.

9.9 USE OF REGISTERED OFFICIALS

9.9.1 All officials for interscholastic contests in the sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, volleyball and wrestling must be registered with this Association in the sport(s) the individual is to officiate. The Board of Directors shall establish the policies and procedures for the registration of officials. All member schools shall use only registered officials who are members of an officials association which is sanctioned by this Association in these sports. The responsibility for contracting for registered officials shall rest upon the principal of the home/host school, and violation of this regulation shall subject the home/host school to a financial penalty. Failure of the sanctioned officials association to provide registered officials as contracted shall subject that association to a financial penalty.

9.9.2 Coaches or other persons connected with competing schools, shall not officiate in contests except with the consent of all competing schools. The consent of the principal, athletic director or team coach is necessary when such persons are used as officials.

The guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures established by the Board of Directors for the FHSAA officials program are published in the FHSAA Officials Guidebook.
BYLAW, ARTICLE 10

Coaches

10.1 QUALIFICATIONS OF COACHES

10.1.1 An individual who serves as a head coach and/or assistant coach at a member school in any sport that is recognized or sanctioned by the Association shall be either:

(a) A full-time or part-time employee of the district school board for a member public school, the governing body for a member nonpublic school, or the cooperative board of directors for a member home school cooperative;

(b) Under contract with, but otherwise not employed by, the district school board for a member public school, the governing body for a member nonpublic school, or the cooperative board of directors for a member home school cooperative to serve as a coach at a member school; or

(c) A volunteer who is approved to serve as a coach by the district school board for a member public school, the governing body for a member nonpublic school, or the cooperative board of directors for a member home school cooperative; provided the individual signs and files with the principal of the member school an agreement to abide by the bylaws, regulations, policies and procedures of the Association.

This provision shall not relieve any public school from its obligations pursuant to Florida Statutes, Department of Education regulations or district school board policy.

See Policy 20, “Non-Faculty Coach Guidelines,” on page 143.

10.1.2 When the head coach is a volunteer and not a full-time or part-time employee, or under contract to serve as a coach, as set forth in Bylaw 10.1.1, the principal shall assign a full-time employee to accompany the team or individual competitors to all interscholastic contests in which it/they participate.

10.2 ATTENDANCE AT RULES CLINICS

Each member school shall be represented by its head coach for the sport at an annual rules clinic sponsored by the Association in each sport in which it sponsors a program, provided rules clinics are conducted in that sport. Failure to comply with this requirement may be penalized by the Board of Directors.

The financial penalty for failure of a head coach to attend a mandatory FHSAA rules clinic is $50. See Policy 44, “Penalty Code,” on page 190.
BYLAW, ARTICLE 11

Eligibility

A student in grades 6 through 12 shall be eligible to participate on athletic teams in interscholastic athletic contests as a representative of a member school provided:

11.1 ATTENDANCE

11.1.1 In order to represent a school in any branch of athletics, a student must be a bona fide student of that school – bona fide meaning one who is regularly enrolled and in regular attendance – who meets, in addition, the requirements as set forth in other sections of this Article. In order to practice with a school in any branch of athletics, a player must be a bona fide student of that school.

11.1.1.1 A student may participate in athletic activities sponsored by or affiliated with a school during the summer period immediately preceding attendance in that school if the student has been assigned to or accepted by the school and no longer attends his/her previous school. The student, pursuant to Bylaw 11.3.1, however, will be considered to have established residence in that school and will not be eligible to participate in interscholastic practice or competition at any other member school during that school year.

11.1.2 The student must enroll within ten school days of the beginning of a semester during which he/she wishes to represent his/her school in any branch of athletics. A student who fails to enroll within ten days of the beginning of a semester must make up the school work he/she has missed. The principal shall submit to the Commissioner written statements from the student’s teachers that he/she has completed the school work he/she missed and is maintaining at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average. The student must have been in school a minimum of one day for each day missed due to late enrollment before becoming eligible.

11.1.3 An individual home education student is eligible to participate at any one of the following member schools:

(a) the public school to which the student would be assigned according to district school attendance area policies;

(b) the public school to which the student could choose to attend pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment provisions; or

(c) a nonpublic school, provided the nonpublic school will permit the student to participate at that school.
In order for the individual home education student to participate at a member school, the following conditions must be met:

(d) the student, within 30 days of his/her withdrawal from a traditional school program, properly registers with the district school board as being enrolled in a home education program in accordance with Section 1002.41(1)(a) of the Florida Statutes;

(e) the student’s parents at the conclusion of each semester certify to the principal of the school on a form to be provided by this Association’s office that the student meets the minimum grade point average standards which are required of all students;

(f) the student meets the same standards of acceptance, behavior and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities;

(g) the student registers with the school his/her intent to participate in interscholastic athletic competition as a representative of the school prior to the beginning date of the season for the sport in which he/she wishes to participate;

(h) the student complies with all regulations of this Association, including eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility, and local school regulations during the time of participation;

(i) the student meets the same admission and residency requirements as other students in the school at which he/she participates;

(j) the student provides proof of basic medical insurance coverage and both independently secured catastrophic insurance coverage and liability insurance coverage which names this Association as an insured party in the event the school’s insurance provider does not extend coverage to students enrolled in home education programs; and

(k) the student provides to school authorities all required forms and provisions.

11.1.3.1 A student who withdraws from a regular school program to enroll in a home education program who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the regular school program due to his/her failure to meet academic or behavioral eligibility standards shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic activities until the student has successfully completed one semester in home education. In determining the academic eligibility of a student who withdraws from a regular school program prior to the normal conclusion of the current semester and subsequently enrolls in a home education program, the grades as posted in each subject for that student on the date of his/her withdrawal from the regular school program shall be used.

The “Registration Form for Home Education Student to Participate in Interscholastic Athletics” is Form EL7 on FHSAA.org.

The “Home Education Student Academic Progress Report” is Form EL8 on FHSAA.org.
11.1.4 An individual student who attends a charter school that does not sponsor interscholastic athletics shall be eligible to participate at any one of the following member schools:

(a) the public school to which the student would be assigned according to district school board attendance area policies; or

(b) the public school the student could choose to attend pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment provisions.

11.1.4.1 In order for the individual charter school student to participate at a member school, the following conditions must be met:

(a) the student must meet the requirements of the charter school education program as determined by the charter school governing board;

(b) the student must meet the minimum grade point average standards that are required of all students;

(c) the student must meet the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he/she participates;

(d) the student must meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior and performance that are required of other students in interscholastic athletics; and

(e) the student must register with the school his/her intent to participate in interscholastic athletics as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the season for the sport in which he/she wishes to participate.

11.1.4.2 A student who transfers his/her attendance from a charter school program to a traditional public or private school before or during the first semester of a school year shall be academically eligible during the first semester provided the student meets the minimum grade point average standards that are required of all students through the completion of the previous school year.

11.1.4.3 A student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility at any public school or private school shall not be academically eligible to participate as a charter school student until the student has completed one semester of attendance in the charter school and has satisfied the necessary minimum grade point average standards required of all students.

11.1.5 A student enrolled in grades 6 through 8 who attends a public school that is not a member of this Association and has no athletic program due to low student population may represent in interscholastic athletic competition a member public school that is part of that same school district provided such participation is at the junior high/middle school level only. This student must meet all other provisions of 11.2.14.

11.2 ACADEMIC STANDING

11.2.1 A student must have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.0
or above on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, in all courses taken that are required by s.1003.43(1), Florida Statutes, at the conclusion of each semester to be eligible during the following semester. A student whose cumulative high school grade point average is below a 2.0 on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, in all courses taken that are required by s.1003.43(1), Florida Statutes, at the conclusion of a semester shall not be eligible during the following semester.

11.2.1.1 A student shall be eligible during the first semester of his/her ninth-grade year provided that it is the student’s first entry into the ninth grade and he/she was regularly promoted from the eighth grade the immediate preceding year.

11.2.1.2 A student who is ineligible during the second semester of his/her ninth-grade year or during the first semester of his/her 10th grade year because the student’s cumulative high school grade point average was below a 2.0 at the conclusion of the previous semester and continues to be below a 2.0 at the conclusion of the semester of ineligibility may regain his/her eligibility for the following semester provided:

(a) the student signs an academic performance contract with his/her school at the beginning of the semester in which he/she is ineligible that states, at a minimum, that the student will attend summer school, or its graded equivalent, AND

(b) earns a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, in all courses taken during the semester of ineligibility.

11.2.1.3 Once a student enters the 11th grade, and thereafter, he/she must have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, in all courses taken that are required by s.1003.43(1), Florida Statutes, at the conclusion of each semester to be eligible during the following semester.

The minimum 2.0 grade point average is established in Florida Statutes and cannot be waived by this Association.

See Policy 16, “Criteria for Determining Academic Eligibility of Students Enrolled in Schools with Block Scheduling, Special Schools, Special Programs, Home Education Programs and Charter Schools,” on page 132.

A sample “Academic Performance Contract for Athletic Eligibility” is Form EL5 on FHSAA.org.

11.2.2 All courses taken for high school credit by a student, including those taken prior to his/her ninth-grade year, shall be included in the computation of the student’s cumulative high school grade point average.

11.2.3 In determining grade point average for athletic eligibility purposes, all
member schools must comply with the grading scale as mandated in s. 1003.437, Florida Statutes: Grade “A” is 90 to 100 percent and has a GPA value of 4; Grade “B” is 80 to 89 percent and has a GPA value of 3; Grade “C” is 70 to 79 percent and has a GPA value of 2; Grade “D” is 60 to 69 percent and has a GPA value of 1; and Grade “F” is 0 to 59 percent and has a GPA value of 0. Any student attending a member school after the eighth grade shall provide evidence to the member school of the grades he/she has achieved since entry into the ninth grade, together with evidence sufficient for the member school to calculate the student’s GPA based on the grading scale of the schools previously attended. Until such evidence, satisfactory to the member school, is provided, the student shall not be eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics.

11.2.4 The student shall not have graduated from any high school or its equivalent.

11.2.5 A student’s grade point average may be raised or lowered by attending a regularly organized summer school under the direction of the District School Board or the governing board of a nonpublic school provided all courses taken during the summer school are completed before the first day of the fall semester. All courses in which a student received a grade (A, B, C, D, F or I) for the school year and the following summer school must be used to calculate the cumulative grade point average. However, when repeating a subject failed on first impulse or repeating a subject passed, the higher of the two grades shall be used to calculate the grade point average. An incomplete grade is considered a failure. A class conducted by a private, certified tutor is not acceptable for removing an eligibility deficiency. s. 1003.43(5)(e), Florida Statutes, provides that forgiveness policies for required courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of “D” or “F” with a grade of “C” or higher earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. Forgiveness policies for elective courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of “D” or “F” with a grade of “C” or higher earned subsequently by retaking the same or comparable course or another course. These provisions on forgiveness apply only to students entering the ninth grade in the 2000-01 school year and thereafter.

11.2.6 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). This definition is applicable to all schools regardless of the type of class scheduling format (i.e. block, traditional, etc.) utilized.

The definition of a grading period as being one semester is established in Florida Statutes and cannot be waived by this Association.

11.2.7 A student who transfers from a home education program to a member school prior to or during a semester shall be academically eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition during that semester provided the student...
has a successful evaluation as stipulated in Article 11.2.1. The student’s academic eligibility for each succeeding semester shall then depend upon his/her maintaining a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0.

The “Registration Form for Home Education Student to Participate in Interscholastic Athletics” is Form EL7 on FHSAA.org.

11.2.8 All work required for credit must be completed before the last day of the semester, without any extension of time. Should the last day of the semester coincide with the last day of school for the winter holidays, the time period for all work required for credit will be extended through the winter holidays. The only exceptions to this rule are for courses such as agriculture which have projects that cannot be completed until late summer.

11.2.9 A student transferring into a member school under extenuating circumstances which prohibit securing a transcript from the previous school or country shall be ineligible to represent that member school until he/she has been enrolled in and established grades for one FULL semester. The details of each situation must be reported in writing to the Commissioner for approval, including student’s name, date of entry and inclusive dates of previous semester.


11.2.10 A student who is eligible or ineligible based upon the previous cumulative grade point average will become eligible or ineligible on the seventh calendar day after the last day of the previous semester. Should the last day of the semester coincide with the last day of school for the winter holidays, the seventh calendar day count will begin with the first day the students return to school after the winter holidays. In order to be declared eligible for the succeeding semester, the student must have been enrolled in, been in regular attendance at, and received grades for all courses taken during the previous two consecutive semesters.

11.2.11 The Commissioner shall be contacted in writing concerning the status of senior students who are participating in dual enrollment programs or early admission programs. These students must maintain the required grade point average.

See Policy 16, “Criteria for Determining Academic Eligibility of Students Enrolled in Schools with Block Scheduling, Special Schools, Special Programs, Home Education Programs and Charter Schools,” on page 132.

11.2.12 A student who was eligible at the beginning of a semester because of his/her academic record shall be eligible during the semester except for lack of attendance, improper conduct, or other valid reasons which may cause his/her principal
to declare him/her ineligible before the end of the semester. His/her eligibility for each succeeding semester shall depend upon his/her academic record through, and including, the preceding semester.

11.2.13 It shall be the duty of the principal to have each student’s record checked at the end of each semester and to declare the student eligible or ineligible for the following semester based upon the cumulative grade point average attained by the student, including the grades originally reported by the student’s teachers on the last day of the semester. A student who was eligible or ineligible based upon the previous cumulative grade point average will become eligible or ineligible on the seventh calendar day after the last day of the previous semester. Should the last day of the semester coincide with the last day of school for the winter holidays, the seventh calendar day count will begin with the first day the students return to school after the winter holidays. “Originally reported” means the completion of school work necessary to earn a passing grade by the end of the semester. A grade of “incomplete” originally reported by a teacher, at the end of a semester, is considered a failing grade. If a student is ill or out of school, based on an excused absence, on conclusion of the semester, he/she must be withheld from competition until the school work has been made up if the failure recorded for the “incomplete” grade results in the student’s inability to comply with the minimum grade point average as required by statute. The Commissioner shall be notified in writing in such cases by the principal of the member school.

11.2.14 A sixth-grade, seventh-grade and eighth-grade student in an independent middle school, a middle-junior high school or a high school must meet the following academic requirements to be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition:

(a) He/she must be regularly promoted from the previous grade the immediate preceding year;
(b) He/she must be in regular attendance; and
(c) He/she must be carrying a normal class load and doing satisfactory classroom work, with a satisfactory conduct record as determined by the principal of the school and the standards of this Association.

A student who fails his/her work and must repeat the sixth, seventh or eighth grade may become eligible at the beginning of the second semester he/she is in one of these grades, if he/she passed the required work during the first semester of the second year and he/she did not participate the first year in that grade.

11.3 RESIDENCE
11.3.1 A student shall be eligible in the school in which he or she first enrolls each school year, or makes himself or herself a candidate for an athletic team by engaging in a practice prior to enrolling in any member school. The student shall be eligible in that school so long as he or she remains enrolled in that school and meets all other eligibility requirements.
11.3.1.1 A student who, pursuant to Bylaw 11.1.1.1, participates in athletic activities sponsored by or affiliated with a school during the summer period following assignment to or acceptance by the school but preceding attendance in the school will be considered to have established residence in that school and will not be eligible to participate in interscholastic practice or competition at any other member school during that school year. A student who is assigned to and/or accepted by more than one school will be considered to have established residence in the school he/she first attends or participates in summer athletic programs or interscholastic practice prior to attendance, whichever first occurs.

Bylaw 11.3.1.1 created by 2007 Representative Assembly.

See Policy 37, “Policy on Boarding Schools,” on page 163.

11.3.2 The student referred to in 11.3.1 will remain eligible at that school even though a change of residence occurs so long as he/she remains enrolled in that school and meets all other eligibility requirements.

11.3.3 A student who, after initially enrolling in, or engaging in an athletic practice at, any school during a school year, moves into a school community with his/her parent(s) or other individual with whom he/she has lived continuously for a full calendar year and subsequently enrolls in a new school as the result of that move, shall be eligible the following week so far as residence is concerned. The student shall be eligible on the sixth day following his/her enrollment.

11.3.4 A student who, after initially enrolling in, or engaging in an athletic practice during a school year, moves into a different school community to live with his/her parent(s) or other individual with whom he/she has not lived continuously for a full calendar year and enrolls in a new school as a result of the move, shall be ineligible so far as residence is concerned.

11.3.5 The fact that guardianship papers have been issued, placing a student under the control of a person or persons other than his/her parent(s), does not establish eligibility. Residence with and support by any individual or individuals for a period of one calendar year does establish the residence of that individual or individuals as the residence of a student.

See Policy 17, “Guidelines for the Enforcement of Bylaws Relative to Transfer Students,” on page 136.

11.4 TRANSFERS

11.4.1 A student who initially enrolls in, or engages in an athletic practice at, one member school in a school year and transfers attendance to another member school during that same school year shall be considered to be a transfer student and
therefore subject to the bylaws related to students who transfer from one school to another.

11.4.2 A student who enrolls in a member school following his/her initial enrollment in, or engagement in an athletic practice at, another school for that school year shall be ineligible to represent the new school he/she is attending for the duration of the school year. This rule shall not apply if the change of attendance from one school to another is accompanied by a corresponding change in residence on the part of the student’s parent(s) or other individual with whom the student has lived continuously for a full calendar year, which makes it necessary for him/her to attend a different school.

11.4.3 The provisions of Article 11.4.2 may be waived if the benefit of athletic eligibility is requested in writing by the principal of the school to which he/she transfers and the principal of the school from which he/she transfers consents to such waiver in writing on a form to be furnished by the Commissioner. To be effective as a waiver of the provisions of Article 11.4.2, the properly executed original form must be filed in the office of this Association together with the annual eligibility report for the requesting school. Such waiver is not effective until both the annual eligibility report and the original application for waiver of the transfer rule are received in the office of this Association. A principal should consider not approving an application for waiver of the transfer rule when he/she has evidence that reasonably leads him/her to believe that:
(a) the student is being recruited;
(b) the student is transferring in whole or in part for athletic reasons; or
(c) the student is transferring because of disciplinary reasons and/or misconduct.

HOWEVER, a student who transfers to a member school without a corresponding change of residence on the part of the student’s parent(s) or other individual with whom the student has lived continuously for a full calendar year, which makes it necessary for him/her to attend a different school, on or after the beginning of any sports season (first day of practice) shall not be eligible to compete in that sport for the duration of that school year.

The “Application for Waiver of the Transfer Rule” is Form EL6 on FHSAA.org.

11.4.4 A student who has participated as a member of a senior high school in interscholastic athletic competition during a school year prior to his/her application for membership in a home education cooperative shall be ineligible to represent that cooperative in interscholastic athletic competition for the duration of that school year unless a properly executed “Application for Waiver of the Transfer Rule” is obtained from the principal of the senior high school, and vice versa. A student who withdraws from a regular school program to enroll in a home education program and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the regular school program due to his/her failure to meet academic or behavioral eligibility standards shall be
ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition as a home education
student until he/she has successfully completed one semester in home education.

11.4.5 If a student who has transferred from one school to another after his/her
initial enrollment in a member school for that school year without a corresponding
change of residence which made it necessary for him/her to change schools and
has secured an application for waiver of the transfer rule then elects to transfer to
a third school without a corresponding change of residence which would make it
necessary for him/her to secure applications for waiver of the transfer rule from all
schools previously attended within that school year.

11.4.6 A student who transfers from a non-member school to a member school
without a corresponding change of residence shall not be eligible to compete
during a sports season unless his/her transfer occurred prior to the first day of prac-
tice for that sport.

11.4.7 A transfer student may represent the school to which he/she transfers on
the sixth day following the date of his/her entry into that school, provided his/her
transfer record has been received by the principal of the school to which he/she
has transferred and provided he/she meets all eligibility requirements. A transfer
record is an official written transcript signed by the principal or his/her authorized
representative of the school from which the student transferred.

11.4.8 The principal of a member school shall verify the eligibility status of a
student who has transferred to another member school when requested to do so by
the principal of the receiving school.

11.4.9 A student who represents a school in a state championship series spon-
sored by this Association in a sport during the current school year may not transfer
to another school and represent the school to which he/she transfers in the remain-
der of the state championship series in that sport.

11.4.10 A student who is ineligible, at the time of transfer from one school to
another school, because of disciplinary action or because of unsatisfactory con-
duct, shall not be considered for eligibility at the school to which he/she transfers
until he/she has been enrolled in that school for a full semester. Enrolling in a new
school at the beginning of the school year does not decrease or eliminate the period
of ineligibility.

11.4.11 A student who transfers to a member school from a school in another state
or country who has been declared ineligible to participate in interscholastic athlet-
ics by the school from which he/she is transferring or by a governing association
of which that school is a member shall not be eligible to participate at the member
school until he/she has been enrolled in that school for a full semester.

11.4.12 Participation by a student in non-school athletics (i.e. AAU, American
Legion, club settings, etc.) on a team that is affiliated with any school other than
the school which the student attends, or attended the prior year, followed by
enrollment by that student in the affiliated school shall be considered prima facie
evidence of recruiting by the school to which that student enrolled, or that the

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11.4.13 A student who transfers to a new school within one calendar year of the relocation of his/her coach to that school without a corresponding change in residence shall be considered to have transferred for athletic reasons and shall not be eligible to participate in the sport(s) coached by that coach for one calendar year from the date of enrollment in the new school.

11.4.14 A student who marries and sets up residence in a different school community may represent the school which serves that community, provided the change in residence is immediate and he/she meets all eligibility requirements.

11.4.15 The assignment or reassignment of a student by the District School Board to a school other than that school in which he/she initially enrolled or at which he/she engaged in an athletic practice for that school year shall not bestow upon the student athletic eligibility in the new school unless benefit of eligibility is requested upon a form to be furnished by the Commissioner. This form must bear the signature of the District School Board Chairman, the District School Superintendent or the signature of the principal of the school from which the student transferred, and the principal of the school to which the student transferred. To be effective as a waiver of these provisions, the properly executed original form must be filed in the office of this Association together with the annual eligibility report for the requesting school. Such waiver is not effective until both the annual eligibility report and the original application for waiver of the transfer rule are received in the office of this Association. A student who transfers to a member school without a corresponding change of residence on or after the beginning of any sports season (first day of practice) shall not be eligible to compete in that sport for the duration of that school year.

11.4.16 Majority to minority assignments duly made by the District School Board shall not become effective until eligibility is requested on a form to be furnished by the Commissioner. The principal of the sending school should grant the waiver after investigating and determining that the student’s transfer is from his/her racial majority to his/her racial minority school.

11.4.17 A student who is assigned to or otherwise enrolls in an out of district public school, or a nonpublic school, may be assigned to or enroll in the public school which serves his/her district without loss of eligibility, due to the transfer, provided he/she meets all other eligibility requirements. A student who transfers to a member school without a corresponding change of residence on or after the
beginning of any sports season (first day of practice) shall not be eligible to com-
pete in that sport for the duration of that school year.

11.4.18 If the District School Board changes the school to which a student is
assigned to attend, the student shall be declared eligible by the principal of the
school to which he/she has been transferred, provided he/she meets all other eligi-
bility requirements and his/her name has been submitted on an annual eligibility
report.

11.4.19 A student who transfers his/her residence from that of his/her parent(s)
or other individual with whom the student has lived continuously for a full cal-
derand year, to the home of another individual who resides in a different school
community because of a court order committing one or both of those with whom
he/she has been living to a correctional or state medical institution shall be eligible
to represent the school in which he/she first enrolls or at which he/she engages in
an athletic practice following the change in residence. The residence and transfer
regulations do not apply to a student who returns to his/her home after honorable
discharge from a state correctional institution or to a student who returns to his/her
home after serving as a page in the Congress or the State Legislature.

11.4.20 A student who transfers his/her residence from that of his/her parent(s) or
other individual with whom the student has lived continuously for a full calendar
year to the home of another individual who resides in a different school community
because of the death of one or both of his/her parents or other individual shall be
eligible to represent the school in which he/she first enrolls or at which he/she
engages in an athletic practice following the change in residence.

11.4.21 In the event that a student becomes a ward of the State of Florida and is
placed in a foster home, the student will be eligible so far as residence is concerned
so long as he/she is enrolled in that school. Any subsequent transfer of residence
that requires a change of schools shall render the student ineligible.

11.5 LIMIT OF ELIGIBILITY

11.5.1 A student shall be eligible for no more than four (4) consecutive aca-
demic years from the date he or she first enrolls in the ninth (9th) grade. Four
years from the date he or she first enrolls in the ninth (9th) grade, he or she shall
become ineligible for further interscholastic athletic competition. A student who is
withdrawn from school, does not attend school, repeats any grade, is declared ineli-
gible to participate, or otherwise fails to exercise the opportunity to participate for
any reason for any length of time during this four-year period shall not be granted
a waiver of this rule. Original school records shall be submitted to the Commis-
sioner in the event of conflicting information as to the date of first enrollment in the
ninth (9th) grade.

11.5.2 A student whose four (4) consecutive academic years of eligibility expires
during the season of a sport in which the student is participating shall be permitted
to continue participation in that sport through the conclusion of its season provided
the student meets all other eligibility requirements as set forth in these bylaws.
11.5.3 A student may participate as a sixth-grade student one year only, as a seventh-grade student one year only, and as an eighth-grade student one year only.

11.5.4 Participation or non-participation in the sixth, seventh and/or eighth grades shall not affect a student’s eligibility after entering the ninth grade. A student shall have four consecutive years of opportunity for eligibility after his/her first enrollment in the ninth grade.

11.5.5 The eligibility rules of this Association are designed to promote academic achievement and to encourage students to advance with their graduating class. Unless a student exerts every reasonable effort to make up credit not earned, such effort including attendance at summer school or other alternative programs, an undue hardship request seeking a waiver of the limit of eligibility shall not be granted.

11.6 AGE

11.6.1 A student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition until reaching the age of 19 years 9 months, so far as age is concerned. Upon reaching the age of 19 years 9 months the student shall be ineligible for further participation in interscholastic athletic competition.

11.6.1.1 Any student reaching 19 years 9 months during the state championship series of any given sport shall be permitted to compete until the conclusion of that state championship series provided the student meets all other eligibility requires as set forth in these bylaws.

11.6.2 A junior high school student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition until reaching the age of 16 years 9 months, so far as age is concerned. Upon reaching the age of 16 years 9 months the student shall be ineligible for further participation in interscholastic athletic competition. The 16 year 9 month age limit for junior high school students applies only when two junior high schools or the junior high school departments of two combination junior-senior high schools are competing against each other. If a junior high school competes against a senior high school or the varsity team of a combination junior-senior high school, the age limit set for senior high school students shall apply to the students of the junior high school.

11.6.3 A middle school student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition until reaching the age of 15 years 9 months, so far as age is concerned. Upon reaching the age of 15 years 9 months the student shall be ineligible for further participation in interscholastic athletic competition. The 15 year 9 month age limit for middle school students applies only when two middle schools or the middle school departments of two combination junior-senior high schools are competing against each other. If a middle school competes against a senior high school or the varsity team of a combination junior-senior high school, the age limit set for senior high school students shall apply to the students of the middle school.

11.6.4 The first time a student’s name is submitted to the Commissioner on an annual eligibility report, the principal shall certify that he/she, or his/her authorized
representative, has examined and approved a birth certificate, issued by an autho-

rized agency, which shall not be based upon a delayed registration which is less
than five years old, for each student whose name appears on the annual eligibility
report. An authorized agency is:

(a) A state, county or city bureau of vital statistics, or the Department of State in
    Washington, DC;

(b) A hospital; or

(c) A Canadian church record which, under Canadian law, is an official record
    for vital statistics.

A passport from a foreign country or an immigration card for aliens may be
accepted in lieu of a birth certificate. Photostatic or duplicated copies of docu-
ments issued by unauthorized agencies or individuals are not acceptable, even
when a notary public certifies that they are exact copies of the original documents
presented to him/her for such duplication.

11.6.5 When no birth certificate is available, as evidenced by a statement from
the authorities of the state in which the student was born that there is no record of
the date of his/her birth on file, age shall be established by:

(a) The attending physician’s affidavit; or

(b) Submission to the Commissioner of original school records that are at least
    five years old and accompanied by such affidavits as may be required. Original
    records from schools within the same county as the school which the student is
    attending must be submitted to the Commissioner.

A delayed birth certificate must be at least five years old and have cleared through
the bureau of vital statistics to be considered. When conflicting evidence is submi-
ted, the record which establishes the earliest date of birth shall be deemed official.

If the preceding requirements cannot be met, the Commissioner shall be furnished
the following information:

(c) place and date of birth;
(d) name of father and maiden name of mother; and
(e) all schools, elementary and high, previously attended.

The Commissioner shall then proceed to confirm the reported date of birth and bill
the school with the cost of such confirmation.

11.6.6 The Commissioner may extend the time for filing complete information
for establishing date of birth, when in his/her judgment such extension is justified;
and PROVIDED, that the principal submitting the information shall be held strictly
accountable for the accuracy of the date of birth given insofar as it may affect a
student’s eligibility because of age.

11.7 PARENTAL CONSENT

11.7.1 The student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) shall complete, sign
and present to the principal each year before participation in any interscholastic athletic practice or competition a certificate of consent and release. Interscholastic athletic practice shall be considered to include any and all forms of physical conditioning, both aerobic and anaerobic, in which the student is permitted to participate regardless of whether such conditioning occurs in the preseason, offseason, summer season, or during the period of permissible organized practice. The Board of Directors shall adopt language that shall be incorporated into this certificate by each member school. This certificate shall be filed in the principal’s office.

The “Consent and Release from Liability Certificate” is Form EL3 on FHSAA.org.

11.8 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

11.8.1 The student each year shall undergo a physical evaluation and shall be certified as being physically fit for participation in interscholastic athletic practice or competition before being allowed an opportunity for such participation. This annual physical evaluation must be administered either by a licensed physician, a licensed osteopathic physician, a licensed chiropractic physician, a licensed physician assistant or a certified advanced registered nurse practitioner, and shall be valid for a period to exceed on calendar year from the date of the practitioner’s signature. Interscholastic athletic practice shall be considered to include any and all forms of physical conditioning, both aerobic and anaerobic, in which the student is permitted to participate regardless of whether such conditioning occurs in the preseason, offseason, summer season, or during the period of permissible organized practice. The physical evaluation shall include a medical history questionnaire that must be completed and signed by the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s). The Board of Directors shall adopt minimum requirements for the physical evaluation to which each member school shall adhere. The fully executed physical evaluation form signed by the physician or practitioner and the medical history questionnaire signed by the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be filed in the principal’s office.

Bylaw 11.8.1 amended by the 2007 Representative Assembly.

11.8.2 While only one certificate a year is required, subsequent examinations are recommended, and additional examinations should be required by the principal and coach for their own protection, as well as that of the student, immediately upon detection of the slightest indication of undue fatigue or other ill effects during practice or competition.

The “Preparticipation Physical Evaluation” is Form EL2 on FHSAA.org.
11.9 AMATEURISM

11.9.1 A student may not participate in an athletic activity of this Association unless he/she is an amateur. A student who has accepted remuneration, gift, or donation for participation in a sport or participates under an assumed name becomes a professional and is thereafter disqualified for further participation in that sport in high school for a period of one year. Reference to “gift or donation” is not intended to preclude the acceptance of medals, trophies, plaques, keys, pins, or ribbons of small intrinsic value, if presented by the sponsoring organization. Championship rings, sweaters, jackets, or award blankets may be accepted by students provided they are presented by the school which they represent.


11.9.2 No awards of any kind having utilitarian value may be made by members of this Association or by any individual or organization whatsoever to students for participation in interscholastic athletics. Medals, trophies, ribbons, plaques, school letters, school sweaters, school jackets, and school award blankets are hereby declared to be of decorative value rather than utilitarian value, within the meaning of this article, and may be awarded. Championship rings, sweaters, jackets or award blankets may be accepted by students provided they are presented by the school which they represent.

11.9.3 When a student participates in non-school sponsored competition at any time during the calendar year, the student is governed by the amateur rules of the amateur governing body of that sport. If the student violates the amateur rule of the amateur governing body for the sport, the student is ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition in that sport.

11.9.4 A student may not represent his/her school in non-school sponsored athletic competition. Neither may a student wear his/her school uniform while participating in non-school sponsored athletic events. Injuries sustained in non-school sponsored athletic competition are not covered by school insurance.

11.9.5 Violation of the amateur rule in one sport does not make a student ineligible in all other sports.

11.10 ALL-STAR PARTICIPATION

11.10.1 A student who participates in an all-star contest in a sport, prior to completing his/her interscholastic athletic eligibility in that sport, shall be ineligible to represent any member school in that sport for a period of one calendar year from the date of participation in the all-star contest. An all-star contest is one in which the participants have been selected or invited to participate as the result of their performance as a high school athlete.
11.11 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

11.11.1 Students shall adhere to the principles of good sportsmanship and the ethics of competition prior to, during and following all interscholastic athletic contests in which they represent their school. The Board of Directors shall establish penalties for students who violate these principles and ethics which may include barring such students for a period of time from participation in future interscholastic athletic contests.

11.11.2 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. The Commissioner, the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors on appeal, may restore the eligibility of such a student prior to the expiration of the six weeks when in his/her opinion the student has been properly disciplined by the authorities of the school which he/she attends and the student signs a written statement of his/her intention to comply with the provisions of Articles 8.1.1 and 11.11.1 of these Bylaws in the future.

11.11.3 In matters pertaining to personal conduct in which interscholastic athletic competition is not involved, the member school which the student(s) attend shall be the judge as to whether the student(s) may play on its team.

Florida Statutes establish that a school district may adopt a code of conduct by which students must abide to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition. Ineligibility due to violations of such codes of conduct cannot be waived by this Association.

11.11.4 A student who uses anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition until such time
as medical evidence can be presented that the student’s system is free of anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs.


11.12 USE OF ATHLETES

11.12.1 Only students who are currently eligible to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest shall appear at the contest in the uniform of their school. An ineligible student shall not be allowed on the players’ bench, in the team box or on the field of play, in athletic uniform during an athletic contest. 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 uniform) in violation of the regulations of this Association will be held guilty of using an ineligible student and subject to the penalties assessed.

11.12.2 A student who falsifies information to gain eligibility status that causes a member school to violate eligibility rules of this Association shall be declared ineligible to represent any member school for a period of one year from the date of the discovery of the violation.

11.13 ANNUAL ELIGIBILITY REPORT

11.13.1 It shall be the responsibility of the principal of each member school to file an annual eligibility report with the Commissioner concerning the status of each prospective student-athlete. This information shall be reported electronically online through means provided by the Association. The annual eligibility report for each student-athlete shall contain all the information required, including the legal name of the student-athlete written exactly as it appears on his/her birth certificate. A student-athlete shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition on the same day as his/her name is submitted to the Association office. Violations of the provisions relative to date of filing annual eligibility reports shall result in a financial penalty as determined by the Board of Directors.

All schools must file the “Annual Eligibility Report” using the iFHSAA interactive online database system. Paper forms are not provided for this purpose.

11.13.2 Eligibility is not by sports season. When a student-athlete has been reported on an annual eligibility report to the Commissioner for a school year and declared eligible by the principal, the student-athlete may participate in any and all sports during the school year as long as the student-athlete maintains current eligibility requirements.
11.14 OFFICIAL ELIGIBILITY RULINGS

11.14.1 Each member school principal or his/her designee having reasonable cause to believe that a student is ineligible to participate in, or continue to participate in, interscholastic athletic competition under any provision of these Bylaws may request an official ruling on the student’s eligibility from the Commissioner on a form to be provided by this Association, and must do so at the student’s request. A member school which requests an official ruling on a student’s eligibility shall submit in writing on the form a full statement of the facts surrounding the student’s ineligibility. The Commissioner, or his/her designee, within a reasonable amount of time, shall issue a ruling based on the statement of facts which is provided in writing on the form and any other information available to the Commissioner, which additional information shall be included in the official ruling related to the student’s eligibility. In the event the Commissioner later determines that incomplete or inaccurate information has been included in the statement supporting the member schools request for an eligibility ruling, the ruling may be retracted and such penalties as deemed appropriate may be imposed by the Commissioner against the member school requesting the ruling. Only those rulings which are issued in writing and signed by the Commissioner, or his/her designee shall be official. This bylaw does not relieve the principal or his/her designee from his/her responsibility of ensuring the eligibility of all students who are allowed to participate in interscholastic athletic competition on behalf of his/her school, or from any other responsibility as set forth in Bylaw 7.4.1.

The “Request for Eligibility Ruling” is Form EL10 on FHSAA.org.

11.14.2 A student who is determined to be ineligible by a member school principal or his/her designee, or ruled ineligible by the Commissioner, shall be provided with notice of his/her ineligibility either in writing or by delivering said notice in person. The notice shall specify the reason(s) for the ineligibility and identify the individual provision(s) of these Bylaws involved. The student shall also be informed of his/her right to have the school appeal the decision of the principal or his/her designee to the Commissioner, or the Commissioner’s ruling to the Sectional Appeals Committee; or to file a request for undue hardship waiver on his/her behalf, in accordance with the provisions of Article 13 of these Bylaws.
BYLAW. ARTICLE 12

Penalties and Protests

12.1 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING RULES

12.1.1 Any violation of this Association’s Bylaws, as well as the regulations, guidelines, policies and/or procedures established by the Board of Directors in accordance with these Bylaws, shall be reported to the Commissioner, who shall have authority to investigate all alleged violations. The findings of the investigation shall be made known to the school (or schools), person (or persons), alleged to have committed a violation. The Commissioner shall then have full authority to invoke one or more of the following penalties against such school(s) or person(s) found to have committed violations:

(a) REPRIMAND – An official letter of censure to the individual and/or school concerned in regard to the offense committed and warning against further acts of a detrimental nature which are contrary to the aims of this Association. This letter of reprimand becomes a part of the file of the individual and/or school involved.

(b) FINE – A monetary payment.

(c) FORFEIT – The forfeiture of an interscholastic athletic contest.

(d) PROBATION – Types of probation that may be imposed on a school are as follows:

(1) Administrative Probation – The school is reprimanded, fined and served notice that it is in a period of warning for one or more calendar years and additional violations during this period may result in an extension of the probationary period, or in the school being placed on restrictive or suspension probation, or in the school being expelled from membership in this Association.

(2) Restrictive Probation – The school is reprimanded, fined and restricted in some manner for one or more calendar years, including restriction from participation in championship competition in one or more sports. The school is further served notice that it is in a period of warning for one or more calendar years and additional violations during this period may result in an extension of the probationary period, or in the school being placed on suspension probation, or in the school being expelled from membership in this Association.

(3) Suspension Probation – The school is fined, reprimanded and suspended from participating in interscholastic athletic competition in a particular sport or sports, or all sports, for one or more calendar years. The school is further served notice that it is in a period of warning for one or more calendar years and additional violations during this period may result in an extension of the probationary period, or in the school being expelled from membership in this Association.
(e) **SUSPENSION** – A temporary revocation of all membership privileges.

(f) **EXPULSION** – Involuntary termination of a school’s membership in the Association for a period of one or more calendar years. No member school of this association shall engage in any interscholastic athletic competition with the expelled school during the period of expulsion. Any member school which participates in any interscholastic athletic competition with an expelled school may subject itself to expulsion from the Association for one calendar year.

12.1.1.1 **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.

Bylaw 12.1.1 amended by 2007 Representative Assembly. Bylaw 12.1.1.1 created by 2007 Representative Assembly.


12.1.2 A member school which is found to have violated the bylaws, policies or other rules of this Association following investigation by the Commissioner shall pay to this Association all expenses incurred by this Association related to such violations including, but not limited to, the cost of the investigation, attorney’s fees and legal costs, and all other related costs.

12.1.3 If a member school or student, while in violation of or noncompliance with any provision(s) of this Association’s rules, participates in interscholastic competition contrary to such rules but in accordance with the terms of a court restraining order or injunction against his/her school and/or this Association, and that injunction or restraining order is subsequently voluntarily vacated (by dismissal of the case or otherwise), stayed, reversed or a final determination is made by the courts that injunctive relief is not or was not justified or if the injunction or restraining order expires without further judicial determination, the actions required by Article 12.1.1 shall be taken.

12.2 **FORFEITURE OF CONTEST**

12.2.1 If an ineligible student is accidentally or intentionally permitted to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest, forfeiture of the game and honors shall be automatic and mandatory. The principal of the school shall notify the Commissioner that an ineligible student has been allowed to participate in one or more athletic contests, furnishing the date(s) of the competition. In team sports, the contest and honors shall be forfeited. In individual sports, the points won by the ineligible student, individually or as a member of a relay team, shall be forfeited. The principal of the school represented by the ineligible student shall forfeit the contest(s) or points. Copies of the letters of forfeiture must be sent to the Commis-
sioner. The Commissioner shall have full authority to invoke additional penalties against a member school which, in his/her determination, intentionally permitted an ineligible student to participate.

12.2.2 If a student is ineligible according to this Association’s rules but is permitted to participate in interscholastic athletic competition contrary to such rules but in accordance with the terms of a court restraining order or injunction against his/her school and/or this Association, and that injunction or restraining order is subsequently voluntarily vacated (by dismissal of the case or otherwise), stayed, reversed or a final determination is made by the courts that injunctive relief is not or was not justified or if the injunction or restraining order expires without further judicial determination, the actions required by Article 12.2.1 shall be taken.

12.3 PROTESTS

12.3.1 Any member school filing a protest over the eligibility of a student(s) or actions of a member school shall submit in writing a full statement of the facts over the signature of its principal to the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall transmit a copy of the statement to the principal of the school against which a protest has been made or to the principal, parent or guardian if such protest pertains to an individual. The Commissioner shall determine if alleged violations of this Association’s regulations, which are purported to have occurred during the student(s) limit of eligibility, shall be investigated.

12.3.2 The decisions of contest officials shall be final. Protests against the decision of a contest official(s) shall not be reviewed by the Commissioner, Sectional Appeals Committees or the Board of Directors. Member schools, however, should file with the Commissioner reports of unsatisfactory performance on the part of contest officials, which may be due to alleged lack of knowledge of the rules, errors in judgment or improper conduct.
BYLAW, ARTICLE 13

Due Process

13.1 ELIGIBILITY APPEALS AND REQUESTS FOR UNDUE HARDSHIP WAIVERS

13.1.1 When a student is determined to be ineligible by a member school principal and/or is ruled ineligible by the Commissioner based upon any provision of these Bylaws, the member school principal may appeal the ruling of the Commissioner if he/she or the student takes issue with it; or, in individual cases, the member school principal may file a request for undue hardship waiver on behalf of the student when, in his/her opinion, enforcement of the provision(s) which render(s) the student ineligible would work an undue hardship upon the student. The principal is required to file either at the student’s request. Such eligibility appeals or requests for undue hardship waivers shall be considered by the Sectional Appeals Committee which serves the administrative section in which the petitioning school is located only at a regularly scheduled meeting. The following procedures shall apply:

(a) An eligibility appeal or request for undue hardship waiver must be filed with the Commissioner on the form(s) provided by this Association and must be accompanied by all necessary documentation. The appeal or request must be signed by the principal and mailed so that it is received in the office of this Association not later than 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the filing dates established by the Board of Directors and printed in the FHSAA Activities Planning Calendar. Appeals and requests received after the deadline date will not be considered at that Sectional Appeals Committee meeting, but will be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting. No exceptions will be made. To be complete, all appeals and requests must include all necessary documentation at the time of filing. Those appeals and requests which are filed by the deadline but which do not include all necessary documentation will be returned to the school unprocessed. The school will be notified of the documentation necessary and the appeal or request will be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting pending receipt of the necessary documentation. Only that documentation which is relevant to the appeal or request should be included. Character references or other testimonials filed on behalf of the student are not relevant and will not be presented to the Sectional Appeals Committee.

(b) An appearance by the student and a school representative before the Sectional Appeals Committee is mandatory for an appeal or request for undue hardship waiver involving age, limit of participation and unsportsmanlike conduct provisions. An appearance by the student and a school representative before the Sectional Appeals Committee is optional for an appeal or request for undue hardship waiver involving attendance, residence, transfer and academic eligibility provisions. A student who is required, or chooses, to appear before the Sectional
Appeals Committee must be accompanied by a school representative and may be accompanied by his/her parent(s) or other individual with whom he/she lives. The school representative who is required to accompany the student must be a full-time employee of the school and must be identified on the form at the time of filing. A student who is required, or who chooses, to appear before the committee will be assigned a time for the appearance. A twenty (20) minute block will be allotted for each case involving an appearance. A student who is not required, but chooses, to appear before the Sectional Appeals Committee must indicate his/her decision to appear before the Sectional Appeals Committee on the form at the time of filing. Otherwise, the student may attend the meeting but will not be permitted to address the Sectional Appeals Committee. A student may be represented at the hearing by an attorney of his/her choice, but such representation shall not excuse the appearance of a student who is required to appear before the Sectional Appeals Committee as set forth herein.

(c) The Sectional Appeals Committee is empowered to consider a request from member schools seeking exceptions to Bylaws and regulations, to hear undue hardship eligibility cases filed by member schools on behalf of student athletes, and to hear appeals filed by member schools.

The “Request for Undue Hardship Hearing” is Form EL11 on FHSAA.org.

13.1.2 An unfavorable decision by the Sectional Appeals Committee on an eligibility appeal or request for undue hardship waiver may be appealed to the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting by the member school principal on behalf of the student if he/she or the student takes issue with it, and must file such an appeal at the student’s request. The effects of the Sectional Appeals Committee decision, however, shall be final until a disposition of the case by the Board of Directors. The request for an appeal hearing before the Board of Directors must be made in writing to the Commissioner, must be signed by the member school principal or his/her designee, and must be received in the office of this Association within five (5) business days following the date of the Sectional Appeals Committee meeting. Failure to file a request for an appeal hearing before the Board of Directors so that it is received in the office of this Association within the five (5) business days following the date of the Sectional Appeals Committee meeting shall be deemed a waiver of the right of an appeal as granted herein. An appearance by the student before the Board of Directors in all cases is optional. If, however, the student chooses to appear before the Board of Directors such appearance shall be subject to the same provisions as set forth in Article 13.1.1(b). The Board of Directors is empowered to sustain, modify or overturn the decision of the Sectional Appeals Committee and/or the Commissioner in each case which comes before it. The decision of the Board of Directors in each case shall be by majority vote and shall be final.

13.1.2.1 The Commissioner may refer to the Board of Directors for review a decision of a sectional appeals committee that directly conflicts with deci-
sions of other sectional appeals committees or of the Board of Directors on
the same question or rule; or that, in the opinion of the Commissioner, is
rendered in conflict with the rules of the Association or will have a great
effect on the proper administration of the interscholastic athletic program
throughout the Association. The Commissioner will notify a member school
in writing when a decision granting eligibility to one of its students will be
referred to the Board of Directors for review. The school will be advised of
the student’s right to appear before the Board of Directors during the review
in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 13.1.1(b).

13.1.2.2 A school that allows a student to participate in accordance with a
sectional appeals committee decision that is later reversed by the Board of
Directors will not be subject to the penalties normally assessed a school that
allows participation by an ineligible student.

Bylaws 13.1.2.1 and 13.1.2.2 created by 2007 Representative Assembly.

The Board of Directors has determined that it will not hear any evidence that
was not presented to the Sectional Appeals Committee when considering an
appeal of the committee’s decision. Any such new evidence must be resubmit
ted to the Sectional Appeals Committee. Once the Board of Directors issues a
decision on an appeal, that case is concluded so far as the Association is con-
cerned and may not be resubmitted to either the Commissioner, the Sectional
Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors.

13.1.3 By seeking an undue hardship waiver, the student and the member school
accept the fact that the student is ineligible under the FHSAA Bylaws but are
asking for a grant of waiver of those Bylaws. For the purpose of determining
whether to grant or deny an undue hardship waiver pursuant to these Bylaws, the
Sectional Appeals Committees and the Board of Directors shall be guided by the
following criteria, other criteria contained in these Bylaws and FHSAA Policies,
and their respective experience related to high school athletics. The fact that a stu-
dent is retained in a lower grade because he/she fails to pass the required number
of courses, is voluntarily withdrawn from school or repeats a lower grade shall not be
sufficient grounds for granting an undue hardship waiver. Likewise, the fact that a
student, who is otherwise eligible for promotion to the next grade, repeats a grade
because he/she is among the smaller students in the class and/or to gain social and/
or emotional maturity shall not be sufficient grounds for granting an undue hard-
ship waiver. The fact that a student misses school for a prolonged period of time
because of events that are/were beyond the control of the student and/or his/her
parent or guardian, which events cause him/her to repeat a grade may be grounds
for granting an undue hardship waiver request. A hardship waiver request based
on time missed from school because of a serious injury or prolonged illness shall
not be granted unless supported by a physician’s record which establishes that the
absence from school was directly and solely related to such injury or illness. The
fact that a student is unable to participate in interscholastic athletics shall not, in
and of itself, be grounds for granting an undue hardship waiver request.

13.1.4 The burden of showing error in the determination of a student’s ineligibility or in showing why an undue hardship waiver should be granted is on the student, his/her parent(s) or guardian(s), and the principal or his/her designee of the member school filing the appeal of the eligibility ruling or request for undue hardship waiver on the student’s behalf. The member school principal or his/her designee shall file with the appeal or request for undue hardship waiver a detailed statement made on his/her best knowledge and belief giving the reason(s) why the appeal or request for undue hardship waiver should be granted. Such statement shall include as a minimum a brief statement of the facts involved, the specific bylaw(s) or policy(s) involved and argument in support of the relief requested. This statement shall be supported by any relevant documentary evidence available.

13.1.5 The member school seeking an appeal of the Commissioner’s decision or an undue hardship waiver for a student from a Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors must ensure that the information submitted to support such appeal or request is complete and accurate. In the event it is determined after the Sectional Appeals Committee or Board of Directors has approved an appeal or a hardship waiver that the information provided to the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors was either incomplete or inaccurate, the decision of the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors shall be withdrawn and the sanctions provided by Bylaws 11.12.1, 11.12.2, 12.2.1 and 12.1.1 shall apply.

13.1.6 Neither the Sectional Appeals Committee nor the Board of Directors have the authority to waive a provision of Florida Statutes.

Examples of Florida Statutes that cannot be waived include, but are not limited to, the mandatory grade point average requirements; the definition of a grading period as being one semester; the mandatory grading scale; and the authority of school districts to establish codes of conduct by which students must abide to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition.

13.2 APPEALS OF COMMISSIONER’S FINDINGS AND REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS

13.2.1 The principal of a member school or his/her designee, or any other individual, who is found to be in violation of the rules of this Association by the Commissioner, whether or not such finding results in the imposition of penalty, may appeal the finding of the Commissioner if he/she takes issue with it, or may appeal the penalty imposed, if any, if he/she, while not disagreeing with the finding, believes the penalty to be too severe. The appeal must be filed so that it is received in the office of this Association within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the Commissioner’s finding and/or notification of the imposition of penalty. Failure to file an appeal so that it is received in the office of this Association within the ten (10) business days allowed shall be deemed a waiver of the right to appeal as granted herein. The cost of the appeal, including the Association’s attorney fees,
shall be borne by the appellant if the finding of the Commissioner or the penalty as imposed is upheld. Appeals shall be considered by the Sectional Appeals Committee, which serves the administrative section in which the petitioning school is located, only at a regularly scheduled meeting. If, however, the finding of the Commissioner arises from a situation involving or affecting member schools in more than one administrative section, or the finding results in the imposition of a penalty of restrictive probation, suspension probation or expulsion against a member school, an appeal of that finding shall be forwarded directly to the Board of Directors.

13.2.2 The principal of a member school or his/her designee, or any other individual, may request a waiver of any Bylaw or other regulation, guideline, policy or procedure of this Association not directly related to student eligibility when special circumstances arise that, in the principal or his/her designee’s opinion, or in the opinion of the individual, call for relief from, or a modification of the effects of the rule. Such requests for waiver shall be considered by the Sectional Appeals Committee which serves the administrative section in which the petitioning schools is located only at a regularly scheduled meeting, unless the effect of the waiver requested would affect member schools in more than the one administrative section, in which case the request for waiver shall be forwarded directly to the Board of Directors.

13.2.3 When filing an appeal of a finding by the Commissioner or the imposition of a penalty, or when filing a request for waiver of any rule of this Association, the following procedures shall apply:

(a) The appeal or request for waiver must be filed with the Commissioner in writing and must be accompanied by all necessary documentation. The appeal or request must be signed by the principal or his/her designee, or other individual, and filed so that it is received in the office of this Association not later than 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the filing dates established by the Board of Directors and printed in the FHSAA Activities Planning Calendar. Appeals and requests received after the deadline date will not be considered at that Sectional Appeals Committee meeting, but will be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting. No exceptions will be made. Only that documentation which is relevant to the appeal or request should be included.

(b) An appearance by the principal or his/her designee, or other individual, before the Sectional Appeals Committee is optional for any appeal or request directed to that body. If the principal or his/her designee, or other individual, choose to appear before the Sectional Appeals Committee he/she must notify the Commissioner of his/her intent to do so at the time the request for appeal or waiver is filed and a time for the appearance will be assigned. Otherwise, the principal or his/her designee, or other individual, may attend the meeting but will not be permitted to address the Sectional Appeals Committee. A twenty (20) minute block will be allotted for each case involving an appearance. A member school or other individual may be represented at the hearing by an attorney of its/his/her choice.

(c) The Sectional Appeals Committee is empowered to consider a request from
member schools seeking exceptions to Bylaws and regulations, to hear undue hardship eligibility cases filed by member schools on behalf of student athletes, and to hear appeals filed by member schools.

13.2.4 An unfavorable decision by the Sectional Appeals Committee on an appeal or request for waiver may be appealed to the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting by the member school principal, or other individual, if he/she takes issue with it. The effects of the Sectional Appeals Committee decision, however, shall be final until a disposition of the case by the Board of Directors. The request for an appeal hearing before the Board of Directors must be made in writing to the Commissioner, must be signed by the member school principal or his/her designee, or other individual, and must be received in the office of this Association within five (5) business days following the date of the Sectional Appeals Committee meeting. Failure to file a request for an appeal hearing before the Board of Directors within the five (5) business days following the date of the Sectional Appeals Committee meeting shall be deemed a waiver of the right of an appeal as granted herein. An appearance by the principal or his/her designee, or other individual, before the Board of Directors in such cases is optional. If, however, the principal or his/her designee, or other individual, chooses to appear before the Board of Directors such appearance shall be subject to the same provisions as set forth in Article 13.2.3(a). The Board of Directors is empowered to sustain, modify or overturn the decision of the Sectional Appeals Committee and/or the Commissioner in each case which comes before it. The decision of the Board of Directors in each case shall be by majority vote and shall be final.

13.2.4.1 The Commissioner may refer to the Board of Directors for review a decision of a sectional appeals committee that directly conflicts with decisions of other sectional appeals committees or of the Board of Directors on the same question or rule; or that, in the opinion of the Commissioner, is rendered in conflict with the rules of the Association or will have a great effect on the proper administration of the interscholastic athletic program throughout the Association. The Commissioner will provide written notice to a member school when he/she decides to refer to the Board of Directors for review a decision that was favorable to that school. The school will be advised of its right to appear before the Board of Directors during the review in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 13.2.3(b).

Bylaw 13.2.4.1 created by 2007 Representative Assembly.

The Board of Directors has determined that it will not hear any evidence that was not presented to the Sectional Appeals Committee when considering an appeal of the committee’s decision. Any such new evidence must be resubmitted to the Sectional Appeals Committee. Once the Board of Directors issues a decision on an appeal, that case is concluded so far as the Association is concerned and may not be resubmitted to either the Commissioner, the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors.
13.2.5 Appeals of a finding by the Commissioner which arises from a situation involving or affecting member schools in more than the one administrative section, or a finding which results in the imposition of a penalty of restrictive probation, suspension probation or expulsion against a member school, an appeal of that finding shall be forwarded directly to the Board of Directors. Requests for waiver of a rule of this Association that, if granted, would affect member schools in more than the one administrative section shall be forwarded directly to the Board of Directors. An appearance by the member school principal or his/her designee before the Board of Directors shall be mandatory for any appeal of a finding by the Commissioner which results in the imposition of a penalty of restrictive probation, suspension probation or expulsion against the member school. An appearance by the member school principal or his/her designee in all other cases shall be optional. The Commissioner shall be notified as to the names of the individual(s) who will appear before the Board of Directors at the time the appeal is filed. Otherwise, the principal or his/her designee may attend the meeting but will not be permitted to address the Board of Directors. A twenty (20) minute block will be allotted for each case involving an appearance. A member school may be represented at the hearing by an attorney of its choice, but such representation shall not excuse the appearance of a member school principal or his/her designee who is required to appear before the Board of Directors as set forth herein. The Board of Directors is empowered to sustain, modify or overturn the decision of the Commissioner in each case which comes before it. The decision of the Board of Directors in each case shall be by majority vote and shall be final.

13.2.6 The member school seeking an appeal of the Commissioner’s decision or an undue hardship waiver for a student from a Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors must ensure that the information submitted to support such appeal or request is complete and accurate. In the event it is determined after the Sectional Appeals Committee or Board of Directors has approved an appeal or a hardship waiver that the information provided to the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors was either incomplete or inaccurate, the decision of the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors shall be withdrawn and the sanctions provided by Bylaws 11.12.1, 11.12.2, 12.2.1 and 12.1.1 shall apply.

13.3 FINDINGS ARISING FROM DISPUTES BETWEEN MEMBER SCHOOLS

13.3.1 A member school principal or his/her designee may appeal a finding by the Commissioner which arises from a dispute between his/her school and one or more other member schools. The appeal must be filed so that it is received in the office of this Association within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the Commissioner’s finding. Failure to file an appeal so that it is received in the office of this Association within the ten (10) business days allowed shall be deemed a waiver of the right to appeal as granted herein. The cost of the appeal, including the Association’s attorney fees, shall be borne by the appellant if the finding of the Commissioner is upheld. If all member schools which are parties to the dispute
are located within the same administrative section, the appeal shall be heard by the Sectional Appeals Committee in that administration section. If, however, one or more of the member schools which are parties to the dispute is/are located in different administrative sections, the appeal must be heard by the Board of Directors. A decision by the Sectional Appeals Committee, which shall be by majority vote, may be appealed to the Board of Directors pursuant to the provisions of Article 13.2.4. An appearance by the principal or his/her designee of one or all of the member schools which are parties to the dispute before the Sectional Appeals Committee and/or the Board of Directors may be required. Such an appearance, in all cases, shall be permissible if the principal(s) or his/her/their designees request an appearance. The Board of Directors is empowered to sustain, modify or overturn the decision of the Commissioner in each case which comes before it. The decision of the Board of Directors in each case shall be by majority vote and shall be final.

13.4 PROCEDURE IN CASES OF EXPULSION

13.4.1 When the Commissioner believes that his/her findings in any investigation into any violation of any rule of this Association warrants the expulsion of a member school or a restriction of its membership privileges, the following procedure must be followed:

(a) The Commissioner will notify in writing the principal of the school of the date, time and site of the Board of Directors meeting at which a hearing on the school's membership status will be conducted. The notice must state the findings of the Commissioner and must advise the principal of his/her obligation to represent his/her school at the hearing. This notice must be received by the principal of the school not less than 10 business days in advance of the date of the hearing.

(b) During the hearing before the Board of Directors, the school may have an attorney present, may present witnesses, testimony, and any other relevant evidence or information for consideration by the Board of Directors. The Commissioner may also may present witnesses, testimony, and any other relevant evidence or information for consideration by the Board of Directors.

(c) Following the presentation of evidence and arguments, the Board of Directors will render its decision by majority vote. The Board of Directors is empowered to sustain, modify or reject the findings and recommendation of the Commissioner. The decision of the Board of Director will be final.

13.4.2 A school that has been expelled or has had its membership privileges restricted for a period of one or more calendar years may apply for readmission or reinstatement of its membership privileges after a period of one calendar year and then yearly thereafter. The principal of the school must notify the Commissioner in writing that he/she intends to apply for readmission or reinstatement and request to be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. The principal will make a verbal appeal for readmission or reinstatement before the Board of Directors at that meeting. A school that has been expelled or has had its membership privileges restricted may be readmitted or have its memb-
bership privileges reinstated only upon approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Bylaw 13.4 amended by 2007 Representative Assembly.

13.5 COMPLIANCE WITH DECISIONS

13.5.1 The administrative decisions of the Board of Directors, Sectional Appeals Committee and Commissioner shall be accepted in good faith by all member schools. The principal of any member school who, by any act or attitude, shall refuse to accept, or shall hold in contempt or derision, or shall permit or acquiesce in such contempt or derision on the part of any group or individual associated with his/her school, shall subject his/her school to expulsion from this Association. These provisions are not to be construed as preventing the principal of a member school from exercising his/her school’s right to due process by appealing decisions of the Commissioner to the Sectional Appeals Committee and/or the Board of Directors.
Amendments

14.1 SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENTS

14.1.1 Each member school representative, the Board of Directors acting as a whole or as members acting individually, any advisory committee acting as a whole to be established by the Association, and the Association’s Commissioner are empowered to propose amendments to the Bylaws. Any other individual may propose an amendment by securing the sponsorship of any of the aforementioned individuals or bodies. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be submitted to the Commissioner not less than sixty (60) days prior to consideration by the Representative Assembly. All proposed amendments received by the deadline shall be submitted by the Commissioner directly to the Representative Assembly for its consideration.

Proposals to amend these Bylaws must be received in the FHSAA Office not later than 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, 2007 to be submitted to the Representative Assembly for its consideration. The “Proposal to Amend Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association” form is Form GA4 on FHSAA.org.

14.2 ACTION BY REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

14.2.1 The Representative Assembly shall consider, adopt, or reject any proposed amendments to these Bylaws. The Representative Assembly, while empowered to adopt, reject, or revise proposed amendments, may not, in and of itself, as a body be allowed to propose any amendment for its own consideration. Any revision to a proposed amendment by the Representative Assembly shall require the written authorization of its original sponsor(s). Such revisions shall require a majority of the votes cast of delegates to the Assembly.

The 2008 FHSAA Representative Assembly will meet for the purpose of considering proposals to amend these Bylaws on Jan. 14-15, 2008 at the Robert W. Hughes FHSAA Building, 1801 NW 80th Boulevard, Gainesville, Florida.

14.2.2 A two-thirds majority of the votes cast by delegates present is required for passage of any proposal. A vote on the final passage of any proposal shall be by roll call or signed ballot with the vote cast by each delegate reported to the member schools.
14.3 EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENTS

14.3.1 An amendment shall become effective on the first day of July following its adoption unless otherwise specified.

14.4 COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES

14.4.1 The Board of Directors and Commissioner are authorized to make necessary adjustments in these Bylaws to be consistent with Florida Statutes.
Administrative Guidelines, Regulations, Policies and Procedures of the Florida High School Athletic Association, Inc.

Pursuant to the authority granted it in Article 4.1.4 of the FHSAA Bylaws, the FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following guidelines, policies and procedures, to govern the Association’s interscholastic athletic programs. In the case of any conflict, whether actual or believed, with the Bylaws of the FHSAA, the Bylaws shall control. Any understanding, misunderstanding, opinion or belief by an individual as a result of reading these policies shall not be binding on the FHSAA. Official rulings shall be requested in writing only by the principal or designated official representative of a member school and shall be provided in writing by the Commissioner or his/her designee. Only a formal ruling by the Commissioner is binding on the FHSAA. Substantive changes for the 2007-08 school year are shaded.
Revisions to Policies for 2007-08 School Year

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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>“Categorization of Sports” policy amended to include competitive cheerleading as a recognized sport.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>“General Policies on Interscholastic Contests” amended to strongly recommend the presence and availability of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) at the site of every preseason and regular season interscholastic athletic contests in which member schools participate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>“Sports Season Guidelines” amended to revise bowling, cross country, football, golf, fall soccer, swimming &amp; diving, girls volleyball, season limitations; to add competitive cheerleading season limitations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>“Member School Insurance Requirements” amended to stipulate that the requirements also apply to schools granted approved nonmember school status.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>“Financial Policies” amended to reflect 10-percent across-the-board increase in membership dues; to establish that dues for first-time members will be based on Fall 2007 population; to establish new August 31 deadline for payment of dues by continuing members and first-time middle school members; to establish new December 31 deadline for payment of dues by first-time senior high school members; to establish $150 application fee for schools applying for first-time membership or approved nonmember school status; to establish second late fee equal to 50 percent of annuals dues for missing second deadline for submission of application for continuing membership; to add competitive cheerleading and lacrosse to the list of recognized sports that must pay state series entry fees; to increase the admission to FHSAA Finals in cross country, girls soccer, boys soccer, softball, swimming &amp; diving, boys volleyball, girls weightlifting, boys weightlifting and wrestling to $8; to establish that the FHSAA no longer receives a percentage of receipts from district tournaments and FHSAA Finals play-in games in invitational state series; to increase base payments to schools participating in the FHSAA Finals in sanctioned team sports other than football by $500; and to establish that FHSAA Finals compensation will be paid in full regardless of the financial success of the event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>“State Series Commitment Form Policy and Procedures” amended to establish that a school participating in the state series in a sport must play not less than 60 percent of its regular season contests against FHSAA member schools and must not take more than one trip beyond the neighboring states of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi; and to reflect requirements of the new membership bylaw prohibiting schools in provisional membership phase from participating in the state series.</td>
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## Revisions to Policies for 2007-08 School Year

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<td>18</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>“Policy on the Eligibility of Foreign Exchange and Other International Students” amended to include provisions for immigrant students.</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>“Guidelines for Practices and Scrimmages” amended to clarify that spring football practice is a continuing of the fall football season; to clarify that students who transfer after the start of the fall football season are not eligible to participate in spring football jamborees or spring classic games; and to clarify that only those students who are enrolled in and attend a school may participate in spring football practice at that school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>“Guidelines for Advisory Committees” amended to establish new Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>“Guidelines for Participation by Student-Athletes in Coaching Schools, Camps, Clinics, Workshops” amended to clarify that students may not accept transportation to such events by an employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of any school other than the school the student attends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>“Policy on Athletic Recruiting” renamed, reorganized and comprehensively revised; replacing references to “undue influence” with “improper contact” and “special inducement” with “improper benefit;” narrowing scope of scope of school’s responsibility from “anyone associated with the school” to “school employees, athletic department staff members, and representatives of the school’s athletic interests;” defining “representatives of the school’s athletic interests;” eliminates specific prohibition on athletic department staff members participating in academic recruitment programs; adding two companies to list of approved financial needs assessment companies; acknowledges forms of outside financial assistance that may be received by students; eliminates ability of private donor to earmark contributions to be directed to a specific student-athlete; adds president of athletic booster club to list of individuals who must sign the annual certification of compliance form; and creates new affidavit of compliance that must be signed before a notary public by any student who changes schools after beginning the ninth grade and the student’s parents/legal guardians, as well as the principal, athletic director and head coach at the receiving school, affirming that the student was not athletically recruited to attend that school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>“Penalty Code” amended to add suspension and restricted membership to the list of forms of penalties; to create new $500 fine for storming a playing field, court or pool following an interscholastic contest; adding new application fees and late fees relating to membership.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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POLICY 1
Policy on the Apportionment of Administrative Sections

Bylaw 3.7.1 charges the Board of Directors with the responsibility of dividing 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 on the Association’s Board of Directors, Representative Assembly and Sectional Appeals Committees.

To this end, the Board of Directors has established the following policy with regard to the apportionment of administrative sections.

1. The Commissioner, in the final year of each six-year election cycle of the Association, shall be directed to undertake and prepare for review by the Board of Directors an evaluation of the existing apportionment of the administrative sections. This evaluation shall be presented to the Board of Directors as an informational item not later than its September meeting.

2. Should the Board of Directors determine that a reapportionment of the administrative sections is needed, it shall direct the Commissioner to develop one or more reapportionment plans for its consideration. The reapportionment plans will be advertised on the FHSAA web site and placed on the agenda for action by the Board of Directors at its November meeting.

3. The reapportionment of administrative sections shall be effective with the annual election of the Association that begins in February of that school year to seat member school representatives of the Board of Directors, Representative Assembly and Sectional Appeals Committees in the following school year.

4. Pursuant to this policy, the next review of the apportionment of administrative sections by the Board of Directors shall be conducted in Fall 2008. Any reapportionment resulting from this review shall be in effect for the elections to be conducted beginning in February 2009.

POLICY 2
Policy on Diversity in Leadership

The Florida High School Athletic Association recognizes the diversity of its membership and believes that it is best served by a diverse leadership. Accordingly, the Association shall promote diversity of representation within its governance structure (Board of Directors, Representative Assembly, Sectional Appeals Committees) and substructures (advisory and other committees) as follows:

1. The Commissioner shall actively solicit and encourage eligible individuals from under-represented groups to seek election to available member school positions within the Association governance structure.

2. The Commissioner shall actively seek out and recommend to the Board of Directors eligible individuals from under-represented groups for appointment to fill vacancies in member school positions within the Association governance structure.
3. The Commissioner shall encourage the Commissioner of Education, the Florida School Boards Association and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents to seek out eligible individuals from under-represented groups when appointing and/or electing their respective representatives to positions in the Association governance structure.

4. The Commissioner and staff shall actively seek out and appoint eligible individuals from under-represented groups to fill vacancies on the various advisory committees whenever such vacancies occur.

5. All written materials for nominations and elections prepared by the Association will include the following statement: ‘The FHSAA values and seeks a diverse leadership.’

6. Barriers that may inhibit eligible individuals from under-represented groups from seeking or attaining leadership positions will be identified and addressed.

7. On an annual basis, the Board of Directors will evaluate the Association’s progress toward diversity and determine what, if any, additional steps need to be taken to advance such progress.

POLICY 3
Adoption and Enforcement of Athletic Regulations

A. Regular Season
1. The Board of Directors will adopt regulations for all interscholastic athletic contests. These regulations will be printed in the appropriate sports manuals published by this Association.

2. All FHSAA Sports Seasons will be determined by dates established in accordance with the standardized calendar developed by the National Federation of State High School Associations. This calendar will number the weeks of the year, with Week One (1) being the first full week of July (Sunday through Saturday). Hereinafter, this calendar will be referred to as the FHSAA Standardized Calendar.

3. The Board of Directors will determine the percentage of receipts from invitational tournaments and meets, preseason classics and jamborees to be paid to the Association.

4. Directors of tournaments, meets, matches and games held during the regular season, through the host schools, are responsible for the enforcement of FHSAA Bylaws, policies and regulations, for filing reports, for making payment of profit shares, if agreed upon, to participating schools and for remitting the Association’s share of the receipts, if required, to the FHSAA Office.

B. FHSAA State Series
1. The Board of Directors will establish and develop terms and conditions, including school classifications, to govern FHSAA State Series to determine the official FHSAA State Champion in those sports which qualify under Article 9.8.1 of the FHSAA Bylaws. These terms and conditions will be printed in the appro
priate sports manuals published by this Association. FHSAA State Series will be
conducted in addition to and following the conclusion of the regular season. There
will be a maximum of three successive levels of competition in FHSAA State
Series. These levels, in order of competition, will be known as the district level,
regional level and state level. The maximum number of contests in any FHSAA
State Series, exclusive of competition on the district level, in which a member
school may be required to compete will not exceed five.

2. All contests in FHSAA State Series will be conducted on dates estab-
lished in accordance with the FHSAA Standardized Calendar.

3. The Board of Directors will determine the formula for distribution of
receipts from contests in FHSAA State Series, including the percentage of receipts
to the Association.

4. Directors of tournaments, meets, matches and games in FHSAA State
Series, through the host schools, shall be responsible for the enforcement of this
Association’s rules, for filing reports, for the division and payment of receipts to
participating schools as determined by the FHSAA Board of Directors and for
remitting this Association’s share of the receipts to the FHSAA Office.

5. A student who represents any school in any FHSAA state champion-
ship series competition in any sport in a school year may not represent any other
member school in state series competition in that same sport and school year.

POLICY 4

Categorization of Interscholastic Sports

The following guidelines shall govern the categorization of interscholastic
sports programs sponsored by member schools, as well as the implementation of
state championship series competitions in those sports. These guidelines establish
the thresholds (minimum standards) that sports must meet for categorization and
state championship series implementation. These guidelines are not to be con-
strued as requiring action by the Board of Directors.

A. Club Sports

Any sport that is not categorized as either a recognized sport or a sanctioned
sport by the Board of Directors as stipulated herein shall be considered to be a club
sport and shall not be under the jurisdiction of this Association. No Association
bylaw, policy, rule or contest regulation shall apply to competition in a club sport.
Public member schools, however, shall be required to abide by the academic eligi-
Bility requirements as set forth in Florida Statutes.

B. Recognized Sports

1. A recognized sport is a sport that is recognized by the Board of Directors
as being played on an interscholastic basis by member senior high schools. Bylaw
9.5.1 states that recognized sports shall require participants to abide by Association
bylaws, policies, rules and contest regulations with regard to student eligibility and
sportsmanship in interscholastic contests. The Board of Directors shall not estab-
lish season limitations of any kind in a sports program that holds only recognition
status, except as outlined in paragraph 3[b] of this section.
2. The Board of Directors may extend recognition to a sport, effective with the beginning of the next school year, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner, when a minimum of 32 member senior high schools that are geographically situated in at least two (2) of the four (4) administrative sections submit letters of petition requesting recognition status for the sport on their respective schools’ official stationeries. Not more than three-fourths of these schools may be located in the same one administrative section. Each school submitting a letter of petition must have sponsored a program in the sport for a minimum of two (2) years in which it actively engaged in competition in the sport with other schools. The letters of petition must be submitted by the requisite number of member senior high schools within the same school year, and shall become invalid at the conclusion of that school year.

3. The Board of Directors may authorize the conduct of an invitational state championship series in a sport which has been recognized for at least one (1) school year, effective with the following school year, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner, under the following conditions:
   (a) A minimum of 48 member senior high schools must have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the recognized sport for a minimum of one (1) year.
   (b) The Board of Directors shall establish season limitations to which those member senior high schools volunteering to participate in the invitational state championship series shall agree to adhere. These season limitations shall include beginning and ending dates for practice and competition, as well as a maximum number of regular season contests that participating schools shall not exceed. The Board of Directors shall also establish terms and conditions according to which the invitational state championship series shall be conducted. These terms and conditions shall set forth the format and financial arrangements for the invitational state championship series.
   (c) When the Board of Directors authorizes an invitational state championship series in a recognized sport, the FHSAA Office shall mail to all member senior high schools a form on which to record its intention with regard to participation in that invitational state championship series. A minimum of 48 member senior high schools, of which not more than three-fourths may be geographically located within the same one administrative section, must respond in the affirmative on the commitment form for an invitational state championship series to be implemented. These schools must have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of one (1) year since the sport was given recognition status. It is not necessary that all member senior high schools that commit to participate in the invitational state championship series have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of one (1) year since the sport was given recognition status. It is only necessary that at least 48 of the member senior high schools that commit to participate in the invitational state championship series have done so.
   In committing to participate in the invitational state championship series, schools shall agree to abide by all season limitations, as well as all terms and conditions for the invitational state championship series, as established by the Board of Directors. If the requisite number of member senior high schools does not commit to participate in the invitational state championship series under these conditions, the
invitational state championship series shall not be implemented at that time.

(d) Member senior high schools that sponsor a program in the sport but do not commit to participate in the invitational state championship series shall not be required to abide by the season limitations, or terms and conditions for the invitational state championship series, as established by the Board of Directors.

4. Sports that hold recognition status only are girls bowling, boys bowling, competitive cheerleading, girls flag football, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, boys fall soccer, boys volleyball, girls water polo, boys water polo and girls weightlifting.

C. Sanctioned Sports

1. A sanctioned sport is a recognized sport in which, in the determination of the Board of Directors, a representative number of member senior high schools has engaged in interscholastic competition for a sufficient period of time to warrant sanction of the sport as being eligible for official state championship series competition. Bylaw 9.5.1 states that sanctioned sports, in which an official state championship series competition is implemented, may require participants to adhere to a greater degree of regulation subject to terms and conditions established by the Board of Directors.

2. The Board of Directors may sanction a recognized sport as being eligible for official state championship series competition, effective with the beginning of the following school year, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner, when a minimum of 10 percent of the total member senior high schools, which are geographically situated in at least two (2) of the four (4) administrative sections, have sponsored a program in, and competed in, a recognized sport for a minimum of two years. Not more than three-fourths of these schools may be located in the same one administrative section.

3. When a sport is sanctioned by the Board of Directors as being eligible for official state championship series competition, the FHSAA Office shall mail to all member senior high schools a form on which to record its intention with regard to participation in an official state championship series in the sport. A minimum of 10 percent of the total member senior high schools, of which not more than three-fourths may be geographically located within the same one administrative section, must respond in the affirmative on the commitment form for an official state championship series to be implemented in a single classification in the following school year. These schools must have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of two (2) years since the sport was given recognition status. It is not necessary that all member senior high schools that commit to participate in the official state championship series have sponsored a program in, and competed in, the sport for a minimum of two (2) years since the sport was given recognition status. It is only necessary that at least 10 percent of the member senior high schools that commit to participate in the official state championship series have done so. Otherwise, the official state championship series shall not be implemented at that time. Any invitational state championship series that has been implemented and is being conducted in the sport, however, shall be continued.

4. A sanctioned sport, in which an official state championship series is implemented, shall be fully supervised and regulated by the Association. All Association bylaws, policies, rules and contest regulations shall apply to the sport.
and to the member schools that sponsor programs in the sport, regardless of the schools’ intent with regard to participation in an official state championship series in the sport. The Board of Directors shall establish season limitations to which all member schools sponsoring a program in the sport shall adhere. These season limitations shall include, but not be limited to, beginning and ending dates for practice and competition, as well as a maximum number of regular season contests that schools shall not exceed.

5. The Board of Directors shall establish terms and conditions according to which the official state championship series in the sanctioned sport shall be conducted. These terms and conditions shall set forth the format and financial arrangements for the official state championship series. Policies governing commitments to participate; assignments to classifications, districts and regions; and district tournament seeding; if applicable, shall also apply.

6. Sports that currently are sanctioned by the Board of Directors are boys baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, girls cross country, boys cross country, boys 11-man football, girls golf, boys golf, girls soccer, boys soccer, girls fast-pitch softball, girls swimming & diving, boys swimming & diving, girls tennis, boys tennis, girls track & field, boys track & field, girls volleyball, boys weightlifting and boys wrestling.

D. Revocation of Categorization Status

The Board of Directors may revoke the status given any sport, and suspend or discontinue the invitational state championship series or official state championship series in any sport, upon recommendation of the Commissioner, when:

(a) The requisite number of member senior high schools no longer sponsor a program in the sport;

(b) Two-thirds of the member senior high schools that sponsor a program in the sport submit letters of petition on their respective official stationeries requesting that the status of the sport be revoked and/or the invitational state championship series or official state championship series in the sport be suspended or discontinued;

(c) It is determined that it is no longer financially feasible for the Association and its member schools to supervise and regulate the sport, and/or conduct an invitational state championship series or official state championship series in the sport; and/or

(d) The number and nature of acts of unsportsmanlike conduct, or other acts of a flagrant and malicious nature, that are committed by student-athletes and coaches during competition in the sport, reach such a level as to make it no longer in the best interests of the Association or its member schools to recognize and/or sanction competition in the sport.

POLICY 5

General Policies on Interscholastic Contests

The following policy shall govern the conduct of practices and interscholastic contests in sports recognized by this Association:
A. Interscholastic Contests

1. FHSAA Bylaw 9.1.1 defines an interscholastic contest as “any competition between organized teams of different schools in a sport recognized by this Association.” All such contests are subject to FHSAA Bylaws as well as the guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors for that sport and in general.

2. Practice games, exhibition games, non-contract games and scrimmage games with other schools, groups, alumni or league teams are strictly prohibited. All such games or sessions shall be on an intra-squad basis. Non-squad members may not participate in any team practice, game or contest.

3. No more than one school day or part of one school day may be missed in a week for traveling to, traveling from and participating in an athletic contest(s).

4. No interscholastic athletic contest may be held on a Sunday except under emergency conditions in tournaments or meets which are approved by the Commissioner or the Board of Directors. The conduct of practice sessions of any kind on a Sunday is prohibited.

5. The following regulations shall apply to invitational tournaments and meets:
   (a) Tournaments in the sports of baseball, basketball, flag football, soccer, softball, volleyball and water polo shall be limited to a maximum field of 16 teams. Single elimination, double elimination, round robin and pool play formats are permissible. There is no limit on the number of contests a member school team may be guaranteed of playing in a tournament other than the maximum contest limitations established for that sport. Each and every contest played by the team in a tournament, however, shall count toward that maximum contest limitation. A tournament in which a member school team participates must be completed in the same one week (Monday through Saturday) unless held during a holiday period.
   (b) Tournaments in the sport of wrestling shall be limited to a maximum field of 32 teams, and must be completed in one (1) day unless the second day of the tournament is not a school day.
   (c) Tournaments/meets in the sports of bowling, golf, swimming & diving, tennis and track & field must be completed in one (1) day unless the second day of the tournament/meet is not a school day.

6. A student who participates in an interscholastic contest in baseball, basketball, flag football, soccer, softball, volleyball or water polo as a member of the varsity team may not participate as a member of a junior varsity, junior high or other sub-varsity team, or vice versa, in that same sport until the day following such participation.

7. It is strongly recommended that an automated external defibrillator (AED) be present and available for use if needed at the site of every preseason and regular season interscholastic athletic contests in which member schools participate. The presence and availability of an automated external defibrillator (AED) shall be mandatory at the site of every FHSAA state championship series contest on the district, regional, sectional and state levels.

B. Outcome of Interscholastic Contests

1. The outcome (i.e. winners and losers) of all interscholastic contests are
final, and cannot be reversed, except where the rules of the sport permit or in the case where a winner must forfeit its victory or points.

2. Individuals or teams that are eliminated from FHSAA State Series competition by defeat by individuals or teams that later are ordered to forfeit their victory, place and/or points, or are vacated from the bracket, are not reinstated and do not advance in the FHSAA State Series competition from which they were eliminated by defeat.

3. If championships or other placements in FHSAA State Series competitions are ordered vacated by individuals or teams, other individuals or teams neither advance to those placements nor receive awards for those placements.

POLICY 6

Sports Seasons Guidelines

The following guidelines shall govern season limitations, contest limitations and individual student limitations for all member schools participating in FHSAA-sponsored sports.

Contest limitations are for regular season contests only and are not inclusive of permissible preseason or postseason contests.

A member school shall not organize its teams for interscholastic practice or interscholastic competition in a sport outside of the dates listed for that sport.

An individual student shall not exceed the established contest limitations during any school year, regardless of whether the student transfers attendance to a different school during the season or moves back and/or forth between varsity and sub-varsity levels.

Note: The FHSAA utilizes a standardized calendar in which the weeks of the year are numbered. This ensures consistent dates from year to year. Week 1 begins with the first Sunday in July. Thanksgiving always falls in Week 21.

A. Baseball

1. Season Limitations.
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 29.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 33.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 42 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
   (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
   (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.
B. Girls Basketball
   1. Season Limitations.
      (a) First practice – Monday of Week 17.
      (b) First contest – Monday of Week 20.
      (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 30 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.
   2. Contest Limitations.
      (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   3. Individual Student Limitations.
      (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
      (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

C. Boys Basketball
   1. Season Limitations.
      (a) First practice – Monday of Week 18.
      (b) First contest – Monday of Week 21.
      (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 31 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.
   2. Contest Limitations.
      (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   3. Individual Student Limitations.
      (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
      (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

D. Bowling
   1. Season Limitations.
      (a) First practice – Monday of Week 7.
      (b) First contest – Monday of Week 9.
      (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 17 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.
   2. Contest Limitations.
      (a) Season – 18 matches or tournaments (each tournament counts as 2 matches).
      (b) School Week – 3 matches, or 1 match and 1 tournament.
   3. Individual Student Limitations.
      (a) Season – 18 matches or tournaments (each tournament played counts as 2 matches).
      (b) School Week – 3 matches, or 1 match and 1 tournament.
E. Competitive Cheerleading
1. Season Limitations.
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 6.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 9.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 35 or the date of elimination from state championship competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
   (a) Season – no limit.
   (b) School Week – no limit.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
   (a) Season – no limit.
   (b) School Week – no limit.

F. Cross Country
1. Season Limitations.
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 7.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 11.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 17 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

G. Flag Football
1. Season Limitations.
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 34.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 37.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 42 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
   (a) Season – 12 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
   (a) Season – 12 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

H. Football
1. Season Limitations.
   (a) First practice (non-contact) – Monday of Week 6 (first 3 days of practice restricted to conditioning drills; helmets and dental guards only; deliberate body contact as well as contact with sleds during the 3-day period is prohibited).
(b) First practice (with contact) – Thursday of Week 6 (earliest possible date on which full uniforms may be issued and body contact engaged).

(c) First contest – Monday of Week 9.

(d) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 19 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
   (a) Season – 10 games, high school varsity level; 8 games, all other levels.
   (b) School Week – 1 game.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
   (a) Practice – First 3 days in shorts restricted to conditioning drills (equipment limited to helmet and dental guard).
      (a) Season – 10 games, inclusive of all games played.
      (b) School Week – 1 game; cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams in same 5-day period.

4. Spring Practice
   (a) Maximum of 20 sessions conducted exclusively during month of May.
   (b) First 3 days of practice for team and each individual student restricted to conditioning drills; helmets and dental guards only; deliberate body contact as well as contact with sleds during the 3-day period is prohibited.
   (c) Team and each individual student may compete in 1 jamboree or 1 spring classic game during final week, which must be counted as one of the 20 sessions.

I. Golf

1. Season Limitations.
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 6.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 9.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 15 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
   (a) Season – 14 matches or tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 matches or tournaments.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
   (a) Season – 14 matches or tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 matches or tournaments.

J. Lacrosse

Note: These season guidelines for lacrosse will not become effective until the Board of Directors authorizes the implementation of an invitational state championship series in the sport.

1. Season Limitations.
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 30.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 33.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 40 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
   (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
3. **Individual Student Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

K. **Girls Soccer**
   1. **Season Limitations.**
      (a) First practice – Monday of Week 15.
      (b) First contest – Monday of Week 18.
      (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 28 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.
   2. **Contest Limitations.**
      (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   3. **Individual Student Limitations.**
      (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
      (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

L. **Boys Soccer**
   1. **Fall Season Limitations.**
      (a) First practice – Monday of Week 6.
      (b) First contest – Monday of Week 9.
      (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 15 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.
   2. **Winter Season Limitations.**
      (a) First practice – Monday of Week 15.
      (b) First contest – Monday of Week 18.
      (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 28 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.
   3. **Contest Limitations.**
      (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   4. **Individual Student Limitations.**
      (a) Season – 25 games in a school year inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
      (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
      (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

M. **Softball**
   1. **Season Limitations.**
(a) First practice – Monday of Week 28.
(b) First contest – Monday of Week 32.
(c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
(a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
(b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament provided the total number of games does not exceed 4.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
(a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
(b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games does not exceed 4.
(c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

N. Swimming & Diving
1. Season Limitations.
(a) First practice – Monday of Week 6.
(b) First contest – Monday of Week 8 (will become Week 9 in 2008-09 school year).
(c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 15 (will become Week 16 in 2008-09 school year) or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
(a) Season – 13 meets.
(b) School Week – 3 meets.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
(a) Season – 13 meets.
(b) School Week – 3 meets.

O. Tennis
1. Season Limitations.
(a) First practice – Monday of Week 31.
(b) First contest – Monday of Week 33.
(c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
(a) Season – 18 matches or tournaments (each tournament counts as 2 matches).
(b) School Week – 3 matches or 1 match and 1 tournament.

3. Individual Student Limitations.
(a) Season – 18 matches or tournaments.
(b) School Week – 3 matches or 1 match and 1 tournament.

P. Track & Field
1. Season Limitations (Classes 1A & 2A).
(a) First practice – Monday of Week 30.
(b) First contest – Monday of Week 34.
(c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 40 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.
from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. **Season Limitations (Classes 3A & 4A).**
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 31.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 35.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

3. **Contest Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

4. **Individual Student Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

**Q. Girls Volleyball**

1. **Season Limitations.**
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 6.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 9.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 16 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. **Contest Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 4 dual-team matches, or 2 tri-matches, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tri-match, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tournament, provided total number of matches in week does not exceed 7.

3. **Individual Student Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 4 dual-team matches, or 2 tri-matches, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tri-match, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tournament, provided total number of matches in week does not exceed 7.
   (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

**R. Boys Volleyball**

1. **Season Limitations.**
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 33.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 36.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 43 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. **Contest Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 4 dual-team matches, or 2 tri-matches, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tri-match, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tournament, provided total number of matches in week does not exceed 7.

3. **Individual Student Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 4 dual-team matches, or 2 tri-matches, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tri-match, or 2 dual-team matches and 1 tournament, provided total number of matches in week does not exceed 7.
(c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

**S. Water Polo**

1. **Season Limitations.**
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 31.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 34.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. **Contest Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

3. **Individual Student Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   (b) School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   (c) Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

**T. Girls Weightlifting**

1. **Season Limitations.**
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 20.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 23.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 31 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. **Contest Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

3. **Individual Student Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

**U. Boys Weightlifting**

1. **Season Limitations.**
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 32.
   (b) First contest – Monday of Week 35.
   (c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. **Contest Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

3. **Individual Student Limitations.**
   (a) Season – 13 meets.
   (b) School Week – 3 meets.

**V. Wrestling**

1. **Season Limitations.**
   (a) First practice – Monday of Week 17 (must be a minimum of 10 practice sessions on 10 separate days prior to first meet).
(b) First contest – Monday of Week 20.
(c) Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 30 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

2. Contest Limitations.
(a) Season – 18 meets or tournaments.
(b) School Week – 3 meets, or 2 meets and 1 tournament (each tournament counts as 2 meets).

3. Individual Student Limitations.
(a) Practice – Must participate in minimum of 10 practice sessions on 10 separate days prior to first competition (Exception: student who participates in a fall sport may compete after participating in 5 practice sessions on 5 separate days.)
(b) Season – 18 meets or tournaments.
(c) School Week – 3 meets or tournaments.

POLICY 7
Policy Governing Approval of Multi-School Athletic Events

The Board of Directors has established the following policy for the approval of interscholastic multi-team athletic events:

1. Multi-Team Events: (a) Any athletic event hosted by an FHSAA member senior high school which involves three or more schools such as an invitational tournament or meet; preseason classic tournament; preseason jamboree; spring football jamboree; or any tournament or meet which is held to determine the champion of a city, county, conference or league; must be approved by the FHSAA Office. Approval is not required for regular season contests involving three or more schools, such as tri-meets and quad-meets, in the sports of cross country, golf, swimming & diving, track & field, girls volleyball and weightlifting, or for any event hosted by a member middle school or junior high school. The host member school is responsible for making application for approval on the forms entitled “Application for Approval of Athletic Event:” Form AT2 in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, girls volleyball and wrestling, and Form AT3 in the sports of cross country, football, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field and weightlifting. The application for approval must be submitted to the FHSAA Office with a postmark bearing a date not later than 30 days prior to the first day of the event to avoid, in addition to the standard administrative fee, the following late processing fees:
   • Less than 30 days prior to the first day of the event: $50.00;
   • Less than 10 days prior to the first day of the event: $100.00; and
   • After the first day of the event: $200.00.
(b) An administrative fee shall be assessed each school making an application for approval in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer and softball as follows:
The administrative fee in the sport of girls volleyball shall be as follows:

- Preseason classic tournaments: $75.00;
- Invitational tournaments – 8 or less teams: $100.00; and
- Invitational tournaments – 9 to 16 teams: $150.00.

The administrative fee in the sport of wrestling shall be as follows:

- Preseason classic tournaments: $75.00;
- Invitational tournaments – 8 or less teams: $100.00; and
- Invitational tournaments – 9 to 17 teams: $150.00; and
- Invitational tournaments – 17 to 32 teams: $250.00.

The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from these events, and it will not be necessary for host schools of these events to file a financial report form with the FHSAA Office.

(c) It is strongly recommended that host schools and invited schools exchange letters of commitment to participate in invitational tournaments and meets, preseason classic tournaments, preseason jamborees and spring football jamborees.

(d) Independent middle schools and/or junior high schools shall not be permitted to enter teams into tournaments or meets in which senior high school teams participate.

2. **Interstate Sanctions:** A member school which hosts a multi-school athletic event in which an out-of-state school(s) is invited to participate may be required to submit to the FHSAA Office an “Application to NFHS for Sanction of Interstate Athletic Event” in addition to the FHSAA form entitled “Application for Approval of Athletic Event” (Forms AT2 or AT3). NFHS procedures regarding application for sanction of interstate athletic events are available on FHSAA.org.

3. **International Sanctions:** A member school which hosts any multi-school athletic event or single athletic contest involving a team from another country – with the exception of two (2) and three (3) school competitions with a school or schools from Canada or Mexico and/or which necessitates a round trip of less than 600 miles – must submit a request to the National Federation for international sanction, and notice to and sanction by the appropriate National Governing Body. NFHS procedures regarding application for sanction of international athletic events are available on FHSAA.org.

4. **Participation by Member School in Out-of-State Event or Contest:** A member school which is invited to participate in a multi-team athletic event or single athletic contest which is to be conducted outside the state of Florida is not required to submit an application for sanction for this event or contest to the FHSAA Office. Such application must be submitted by the host school through its state association to the National Federation of State High School Associations and approved by the FHSAA Office. No member school may participate in any event or contest in which any school that is not a member of an association which regulates interscholastic athletic competition within its state is scheduled to partici-
6. **Participation in Unsanctioned Events or Contests:** Member schools are prohibited from hosting or otherwise participating in multi-team athletic events or single athletic contests on an intrastate, interstate or international basis which are not sanctioned or approved by the FHSAA and the National Federation of State High School Associations.

7. **Penalty for Violation of Sanction Policy:** A minimum financial penalty of $100.00 will be assessed against any member school which violates any provision of this Sanction Policy.

**POLICY 8**

**Member School Insurance Requirements**

The Board of Directors has established the following requirements with regard to insurance coverage for member schools, as well as schools granted approved nonmember school status:

1. **Athletic Medical Base Plan:** Up to $25,000 limit for medical expenses for each participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged by the school is required. The member school principal will be allowed to accept certification from parents that the coverage is in place for the student-athlete on a family plan that meets this requirement. If the student-athlete is not covered under his/her parents’ family plan, then the school must provide a plan for the student that will satisfy these requirements. The student may purchase this plan individually or the school may purchase a blanket plan for all members of its athletic teams. The principal must certify on the membership application that each student has the minimum coverage.

2. **Athletic Catastrophic Accident Medical Plan:** Minimum limits of $1,000,000 for medical expenses for each participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged in by the school is required. This coverage is to be in excess of the athletics base plan medical policy limits or the policy can include the base plan medical coverage within the policy. The policy must provide no fault coverage.

3. **Athletic Catastrophic Disability:** Minimum limits of $500,000 for total disability of any participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged in by the school is required. Structured pay-out benefits may vary. Coverage must also include some limited benefits for partial disability. The policy must provide no fault coverage.

4. **General Liability:** A general liability plan with minimum limits of $1,000,000 is required.

Member school principals of public schools are advised to contact their county risk management department in order to ensure proper coverage. Member school principals of nonpublic schools are advised to contact their agencies or brokers to ensure proper coverage.

All member school principals must certify on the membership application that all of the coverages referenced above have been obtained and must also provide a
certificate of coverage from their insurance carrier or broker for the catastrophic accident medical, catastrophic disability and general liability coverages.

POLICY 9

Financial Policies

The following policies shall govern the finances of the Association:

A. Definitions

1. Gross receipts: All revenue derived from gate receipts and entry fees charged in conjunction with an athletic event. Gross receipts do not include revenue derived from food and beverage concessions, souvenir merchandise sales (except as stipulated in the FHSAA Licensing Policy), parking fees, corporate support or other contributions, or any other form of revenue.

2. Gate receipts: All revenue derived from the sale of all forms of tickets (including advanced, reserved, general admission, etc.), passes or other forms of special admissions (i.e. day passes, event passes, tournament, etc.), and any and all other forms of paid admission to an athletic event.

3. Entry fees: All revenue derived from any fees or other charges paid by any school and/or individual to participate in an athletic event.

B. Membership Dues and Fees

1. Membership Dues.

(a) Continuing senior high school members. Dues for the 2007-08 school year are 55 cents per student in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades as reported by the school to the FHSAA Office in October 2006. Minimum dues are $330 and maximum dues are $1,100. Dues will be billed on or before July 1. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by August 31.

(b) First-time senior high school members. Dues for the 2007-08 school year are 55 cents per student enrolled in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades as reported by the school to the FHSAA Office in October 2007. Minimum dues are $330 and maximum dues are $1,100. Dues will be billed after the Fall 2007 Student Population Report is received. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by December 31.

(c) Middle/junior high schools. Dues for the 2007-08 school year, regardless of school size, are $220. Dues will be billed on or before July 1. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by August 31.

2. Membership Fees.

(a) Application fee for first-time members. A school applying for first-time membership must pay a non-refundable $150 application fee. The fee will be credited toward the school’s first-year membership dues if the school is admitted to membership.

(b) Application fee for approved nonmember school status. A school applying for approved nonmember school status must pay a nonrefundable $150 application fee.

(c) Late application fee for continuing members. A continuing member school that submits its application after the first deadline of April 30 will be
assessed a $50 late fee. A continuing member that submits its application after the second deadline of May 31 will be assessed a late fee equal to 50 percent of its annual dues.

(d) Fee for late payment of membership dues. A school that fails to pay its membership dues by the established deadline will be assessed a $50 late fee.

D. Legal Fees

1. Senior High Schools (full members): (a) Renewing members: The legal fee assessment for a senior high school renewing its full membership for the 2007-08 school year shall be determined by taking the total legal expense incurred by the FHSAA during the 2006-07 school year, subtracting the total flat fee assessed junior high school and middle school members, and dividing the balance equally by the total number of senior high school members at the close of the 2006-07 school year. The total legal expense includes all attorney’s fees, court costs, settlements and judgments.

   (b) New members: A senior high school joining the Association effective with the 2007-08 school year will not be assessed a legal fee in its initial year of membership.

2. Junior High Schools: The legal fee assessment for a renewing junior high school member for the 2007-08 school year shall be $25.

3. Middle Schools: The legal fee assessment for a renewing middle school member for the 2007-08 school year shall be $25.

4. Approved Nonmember School: An school granted approved nonmember school status will not be assessed a legal fee.

D. Invitational State Series Entry Fees

A $50 entry fee will be assessed each school entering a team into the invitational state championship series in the sports of girls bowling, boys bowling, competitive cheerleading, flag football, girls lacrosse (if held), boys lacrosse (if held), boys fall soccer, boys volleyball, girls water polo, boys water polo and girls weightlifting.

E. Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Dues

Junior, middle and senior high schools which are full members of the FHSAA shall be required to hold membership in the Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (FIAAA). Annual dues are $25 regardless of school size. A school joining the Association effective with the 2007-08 school year will not be assessed the FIAAA dues in its initial year of membership. An approved nonmember school will not be assessed FIAAA dues.

F. Admission to Regular Season Events

1. Preseason and Spring Jamborees: The admission price to a preseason or spring jamboree in all sports shall be determined by the host school.

2. Preseason and Spring Classics: The admission price to preseason and spring classic tournaments in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, girls volleyball and wrestling shall be determined by the host school. The admission to preseason and spring classic football games shall be $4. However, the host school may request that it be allowed to increase the admission charge to the amount it charges for a regular season game.
3. **Invitational Tournaments and Meets:** The admission price to an invitational tournament and meet in all sports shall be determined by the host school.

4. **Postseason Football Bowl Games:** The admission price to a postseason football bowl game shall be determined by the host school.

**G. Admission to State Series Events**

The following admission prices shall be charged by the host school/organization for all FHSAA State Series contests unless waived in writing by the Senior Director of Athletic Operations in advance of the event:

1. **Baseball, Cross Country, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field, Girls & Boys Volleyball and Wrestling:** The admission price to tournament sessions in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: District Tournaments/Meets, $5; Regional Tournaments/Meets, $6; FHSAA Finals, $8.

2. **Girls and Boys Basketball:** The admission price to tournament sessions in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: District Tournaments, $5; Regional Tournaments, $6; FHSAA Finals, $9.

3. **Football:** The admission price to games in the FHSAA State Football Series shall be as follows: District Shootouts, $6; Regional Tournament Games, $7 general admission, $8 reserved seating; State Semifinal Games, $8 general admission, $9 reserved seating; FHSAA Finals, $10.

4. **Girls Weightlifting and Boys Weightlifting:** The admission price to meets in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: FHSAA Finals, $8.

5. **Bowling, Flag Football, Lacrosse (if held) and Water Polo:** The admission price to tournament sessions in the FHSAA State Series shall be as follows: District Tournaments/Meets, $5; Regional Tournaments/Meets, $6; FHSAA Finals, $7.

6. **Golf and Tennis:** No admission shall be charged to FHSAA State Series events in these sports.

**H. Ticket Policy for State Series Events**

Host school/organizations for all FHSAA State Series contests shall adhere to the following guidelines with regard to the sale of tickets at such contests:

1. Numbered tickets shall be sold at each FHSAA State Series game, tournament or meet at which admission is required to be charged.

2. Each ticket must be torn in half by ticket takers so that they cannot be resold.

3. All tickets sold must be accounted for in the ticket manifest section of the financial report form.

**I. Division of Regular Season Event Receipts**

1. **Preseason and Spring Jamborees:** The FHSAA shall receive eight (8) percent of the gross receipts of preseason and spring football jamborees only. The balance of gross receipts shall be divided among the participating schools in accordance with the agreement between them.

2. **Preseason and Spring Classics:** In the sport of football only, the host school shall receive 45 percent, the visiting school 35 percent and the FHSAA 20 percent of the gross receipts of all preseason football classic games, as well as spring football classic games.

3. **Invitational Tournaments and Meets:** The FHSAA shall receive eight
(8) percent of the gross receipts of all invitational meets in the sports of cross country, swimming & diving, track & field and boys weightlifting only. The balance of gross receipts shall be divided among the participating schools in accordance with the agreement between them. The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from invitational tournaments in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, girls volleyball and wrestling, and it will not be necessary for host schools of invitational tournaments in these sports to file a financial report form with the FHSAA Office.

4. **Postseason Football Bowl Games:** The FHSAA shall receive eight (8) percent of the gross receipts of all postseason football bowl games. The balance of gross receipts shall be divided between the participating schools in accordance with the agreement between them.

J. **Division of State Series Games, Tournaments & Meets Receipts**

1. **Football:** Each District Shootout, Regional Tournament game and State Semifinal Game shall be financially independent. The total gate receipts of each District Shootout, Regional Tournament game and State Semifinal Game shall be divided as follows: 45 percent to the host school; 30 percent to the visiting school(s); 25 percent to the FHSAA. If, however, a District Shootout, Regional Tournament game or State Semifinal Game shows a net profit of $250 or less, the host school shall retain the net profit and no percentage shall be paid to the visiting school(s) or the FHSAA. The net profit is determined by subtracting total expenditures from the total gate receipts on the financial report form. If a District Shootout, Regional Tournament game or State Semifinal Game shows a net loss on the financial report form, the FHSAA shall compensate the host school up to $350 for the loss, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 below.

2. **Baseball, Basketball, Flag Football, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball and Water Polo:** Each District Tournament and Regional Tournament game/match shall be financially independent. The total gate receipts of each District Tournament and each Regional Tournament game/match shall be divided as follows: 55 percent to the host school; 30 percent to the visiting school(s); 15 percent to the FHSAA. If, however, a District Tournament or Regional Tournament game/match shows a net profit of $250 or less, the host school shall retain the net profit and no percentage shall be paid to the visiting school(s) or the FHSAA. The net profit is determined by subtracting total expenditures from the total gate receipts on the financial report form. With the exception of flag football, boys volleyball and water polo, if a District Tournament or Regional Tournament game/match shows a net loss on the financial report form, the FHSAA shall compensate the host school up to $350 for the loss, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 below.

3. **Bowling, Cross Country, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field and Wrestling:** Each District Tournament/Meet and Regional Tournament/Meet shall be financially independent. The total gate receipts of each District Tournament/Meet and each Regional Tournament/Meet shall be divided as follows: 85 percent to the host school; 15 percent to the FHSAA. If, however, a District Tournament/Meet or Regional Tournament/Meet shows a net profit of $250 or less, the host school shall retain the net profit and no percentage shall be paid to the FHSAA. The net profit is determined by subtracting total expenditures from the total gate receipts on the financial report form, the FHSAA shall compensate the host school up to $350 for the loss, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 below.
receipts on the financial report form. With the exception of bowling, if a District Tournament/Meet or Regional Tournament/Meet shows a net loss on the financial report form, the FHSAA shall compensate the host school up to $350 for the loss, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 below.

4. To be eligible to receive the $350 maximum compensation for a net loss shown on the financial report form, a host school must:
   (a) Charge the full admission price established in Section F;
   (b) Sell numbered tickets and account for all tickets sold in the ticket manifest section of the financial report form, as stipulated in Section G;
   (c) File a financial report form for the meet within 21 calendar days of the completion of the meet as stipulated in Section J;
   (d) Submit with the financial report form the FHSAA State Series Contest Pass Gate Sign-In Form(s) as stipulated in the “Policy on Passes Honored at FHSAA State Series Contests”;
   (e) Be in compliance with all policies for the event.

K. Financial Reports and Payments of Revenue Shares

1. Football Jamborees, Football Classics, Invitational Meets, Postseason Football Bowl Games: A complete financial report must be submitted to, so that it is received by, the FHSAA Office, as well as the participating/visiting school(s), within 21 calendar days of the completion of a preseason or spring football jamboree; preseason or spring football classic; invitational cross country, swimming & diving, track & field or boys weightlifting meet or postseason football bowl game by the host school using the forms provided by the FHSAA. Payment of profit shares due participating schools and the FHSAA must be included with the report. If the completed financial report and payment of profit shares is not submitted to, so that it is received by, the FHSAA Office, as well as the participating/visiting school(s), within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event, a late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 30 to 60 days late, $50; 60 to 90 days late, $75; more than 90 days late, $100.

The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from preseason jamborees, preseason classic tournaments or invitational tournaments in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, girls volleyball and wrestling, and it will not be necessary for host schools of invitational tournaments in these sports to file a financial report form with the FHSAA Office.

2. State Series Games, Tournaments, Meets: A complete financial report must be submitted to, so that it is received by, the FHSAA Office, as well as to the participating/visiting school(s), within 21 calendar days of the completion of district football shootout; district tournament or meet; regional game, tournament or meet; and state semifinal football game by the host school using the forms provided by the FHSAA. Payment of profit shares due participating schools and the FHSAA must be included with the report. If the completed financial report and payment of profit shares is not submitted to, so that it is received by, the FHSAA Office, as well as the participating/visiting school(s), within this 21-day period, the host school shall forfeit any compensation for a net loss realized from the event to which it might be entitled. If the completed financial report and payment of profit shares is not submitted to, so that it is received by, the FHSAA Office, as well as
the participating/visiting school(s), with 30 calendar days, a late filing fee of $50 shall be assessed as follows: 30 to 60 days late, $50; 60 to 90 days late, $75; more than 90 days late, $100.

The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from district tournaments or meets or FHSAA Finals first- and second-round play-in games in the sports of bowling, flag football, lacrosse (if held), boys volleyball, water polo and girls weightlifting. Therefore, it will not be necessary for host schools of district tournaments or FHSAA Finals play-in games in these sports to file a financial report with the FHSAA Office.

**L. Compensation to Schools Participating in FHSAA Finals State Championship Events**

1. **Football:** When net profits, after expenses allow, the FHSAA shall pay to each school an amount based upon its mileage from the site of the FHSAA Finals as follows: 0-300 miles round trip, $4,250 plus $2 per mile; 301-600 miles round trip, $5,000 plus $2 per mile; 601-over miles round trip, $5,750 plus $2 per mile. Neither the FHSAA nor the host organization shall assume responsibility for any other team expenses of any kind except for those expenses specified above. When net profits after expenses do not allow for the payment of this schedule, participating teams shall divide 100 percent of the net profit in mileage. In such cases, the FHSAA will not retain any share of the net profit. At no time shall participating schools be paid reimbursement for expenses when the FHSAA Finals do not show a net profit after expenses.

2. **Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Girls Volleyball:** When net profits, after expenses allow, the FHSAA shall pay to each school an amount based upon its mileage from the site of the FHSAA Finals as follows: 0-300 miles round trip, $1,500 plus $1 per mile; 301-600 miles round trip, $2,000 plus $1 per mile; 601-over miles round trip, $2,500 plus $1 per mile. Neither the FHSAA nor the host organization shall assume responsibility for any other team expenses of any kind except for those expenses specified above.

3. **Cross Country, Golf, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, Weightlifting and Wrestling:** No reimbursement of any kind shall be paid to schools which qualify teams and/or individual contestants to the FHSAA Finals. Neither the FHSAA nor the host school or organization shall assume responsibility for any participating school or individual contestant expenses of any kind.

**M. Athletic Events Not Held Due to Unusual Circumstances, Including Inclement Weather**

1. If severe weather occurs in the area prior to the start of, or during any, scheduled outdoor game, tournament or meet and the event is delayed, postponed, suspended or cancelled, special rules apply. If for other unforeseen reasons, a game, tournament or meet is delayed, postponed, suspended or cancelled, special rules apply.

2. If tickets have been sold for the event and any revenue related to the event is retained by the school, then the regular financial reporting process must be completed with payments to the FHSAA and to the participating school(s). If free entry is given for a future event, the revenue received and retained should be reported for the event. If money is refunded and not retained then it should not be included as
revenue reported for the event. If tickets were presold for the event and the event was cancelled before it was to begin, then the revenue received and retained (not refunded) from the presold tickets should be reported on the financial report.

3. If a financial hardship results from the inclement weather and the related loss of playing time, the host school should submit a written request for waiver of financial share payments. Requests should be submitted to the Associate Commissioner for Athletic Operations. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

M. Invoices Charged to Member Schools’ Accounts

1. The FHSAA Office each month shall mail to each member school an invoice stating the administrative fees and fines owed by the school to the Association. Invoices charged to the school’s account with the FHSAA are due and payable within 30 days of the invoice date. The only exception to this rule is the annual membership dues invoice payment that must be postmarked no later than Sept. 30 of each year.

2. Request for waiver of a fine must be received in the FHSAA Office no later than 30 days from the date of the invoice. Request for a waiver of a fine must be submitted, in writing, to the FHSAA Office, along with any related documentation supporting the request. The FHSAA Office will notify the school of the decision on the waiver request. The school’s account will be adjusted if the waiver is approved. If a school receives a waiver on a fine that previously has been paid, a reimbursement will be sent to the school.

POLICY 10

State Series Commitment Form Policy and Procedures

The following policy and procedures shall govern Commitments to Participate in the FHSAA State Series:

A. Eligibility for Participation in State Series

1. Team Participation. (A) Participation in the FHSAA State Series in each sport by a school is voluntary. It, however, is the preference of the Board of Directors that every eligible school that can and should participate, do so.

A school for legitimate reasons may exercise the option of independence. Such reasons include, but are not limited to: a newly opening school; a school establishing a new program in a sport; a school that has consistently been unable to compete in the classification to which it is assigned; a school that is geographically isolated and chooses not to participate for financial reasons; a school whose educational philosophies prohibit such extended athletic participation; or a school that does not or cannot compete for religious reasons. The option of independence is not intended for use by one or more schools organizing in protest of the Association's policies and/or to establish a postseason championship competition separate from the FHSAA state championship series.

To this end, any such effort by a group of member schools to declare indepen-
dence in a sport and organize a conference or league with the intent of conducting any form of playoff to determine a champion(s) after the conclusion of FHSAA-approved regular season competition is prohibited unless approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors.

All competitions to determine a champion(s) that are conducted by conferences or leagues whose members also are members of the FHSAA must be conducted as part of the FHSAA-approved regular season.

(B) Participation in the FHSAA State Series is limited only to those full member senior high schools that are members of the Association. Compensation for expenses of schools competing in a State Series is not guaranteed.

(C) To be eligible for participation in the FHSAA State Series in any sport:

1. A school shall engage in a minimum of four (4) interscholastic contests (games, matches or meets) or the required number of district contests as determined in the district meeting, whichever is greater, in the sport. To count as a contest, the school’s team actually shall participate in and complete the contest. Scheduled contests that are canceled or not completed (in accordance with the playing rules of the sport in question) may not be counted.

2. Effective with the 2008-09 school year, a school must play not less than 60 percent of its regular season contests in the sport against FHSAA member schools.

3. Effective with the 2008-09 school year, a school must not take more than one trip per school year in the sport beyond the neighboring states of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi.

(D) A school may enter only one team in the FHSAA State Series in a sport.

(E) A first-time member senior high school shall not be eligible to enter a team into the FHSAA State Series in any sport in its two years of provisional membership, unless the school is created from the consolidation or division of existing member high schools and remains under the control of the same governing board.

(F) A continuing member senior high school that is starting a program in a team sport for the first time or resuming a program in a team sport that was previously discontinued be eligible to enter a team into the FHSAA State Series in that sport until the school has fielded a team in that sport and participated in a representative schedule against other member schools for a minimum of one school year. A representative schedule in a sport is defined in paragraph 1(C).

2. Individual Participation. (A) To be eligible for participation in the FHSAA State Series in a sport, an individual student-athlete shall participate in a minimum of four (4) varsity interscholastic contests in that sport for the current season. A student-athlete who is academically ineligible at the beginning of a sports season and who regains his/her eligibility during that sports season, but is unable to participate in the minimum of four (4) varsity interscholastic contests in that sport shall be exempted from this provision.

(B) In an individual sport, to be eligible for individual honors on the regional and state levels, a student-athlete shall compete for individual honors on the district level. To be eligible for individual honors on the state level, a student-athlete shall compete for individual honors on the district and regional levels.
(C) Boys may not participate on a girls team or in the girls division in the FHSAA State Series in any sport. In a team sport, a girl may participate on a boys team in the FHSAA State Series only if the school does not sponsor a girls team in that sport. In an individual sport, a girls may not participate in the boys division in the FHSAA State Series if competition is conducted in a girls division in that sport.

B. Commitment to Participate Form for Team Sports

1. Each member school that elects to participate in a State Series competition in a team sport must notify the FHSAA Office of its intent to do so on the “Commitment to Participate in FHSAA State Series” form. The FHSAA issues commitment forms on a quadrennial basis. A commitment made using this form is for the following four school years.

2. A commitment form, to be valid, must bear the signature of the member school principal.

3. A properly executed commitment form is a binding agreement between the member school and the Association. A school that elects to withdraw from its commitment in a team sport shall notify the FHSAA Office of its decision using the form provided for that purpose. Upon approval of the FHSAA Office, the school shall be assessed a mandatory $250.00 administrative fee. If, however, the school fails to notify in writing, and secure the approval of, the FHSAA Office of its decision to withdraw from its commitment in a sport prior to the deadline for filing the Official Entry List in the sport, that school shall be assessed an additional $250.00 fine ($500 total) and its program in that sport placed on administrative probation.

4. A school that does not commit to participate in the FHSAA State Series in a team sport by the commitment deadline, and later submits a request in writing to the FHSAA Office to participate to the FHSAA Office in that sport shall be assigned to the appropriate classification and district and shall be assessed a mandatory, non-refundable $100.00 administrative fee. It shall be the responsibility of the school to schedule the necessary contest(s) with every other school in the district to which it is assigned. If, however, the school is unable to secure the necessary contest(s) with every other school in the district, the school shall not be eligible to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport.

No school, however, under any circumstance, shall be assigned to a classification and district in the FHSAA State Series in a team sport if its request for such assignment is received in the FHSAA Office on or after the date of the District Tournament Planning/Scheduling Meeting.

5. By committing to participate in an FHSAA State Series, a member school agrees to participate in accordance with and abide by all the procedures, guidelines, policies and regulations for that FHSAA State Series as approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors in accordance with the Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

C. Notice of Intent to Participate Form for Individual Sports

1. Each member school that elects to participate in a State Series competition in an individual sport must notify the FHSAA Office of its intent to do so on the “Declaration of Intent to Participate in FHSAA State Series” form. The FHSAA issues intent forms on a quadrennial basis. A commitment made using this
form is for the following four school years.

2. An intent form, to be valid, must bear the signature of the member school principal.

3. A properly executed intent form is non-binding on the member school. A school that elects to withdraw from its intent to participate in an individual sport may do so without penalty, prior to the deadline for filing the Official Entry List in the sport, by notifying the FHSAA Office of its decision using the form provided for that purpose. If, however, the school fails to notify in writing the FHSAA Office of its decision to withdraw from its intent to participate in an individual sport prior to the deadline for filing the Official Entry List in the sport, that school shall be assessed a $250.00 fine and its program in that sport placed on administrative probation.

4. A school that does not file notice of its intent to participate in the FHSAA State Series in an individual sport by the deadline, and later submits a request in writing to the FHSAA Office to participate in that sport shall be assigned to the appropriate classification and district and shall be assessed a mandatory, non-refundable $100.00 administrative fee.

No school, however, under any circumstance, shall be assigned to a classification and district in the FHSAA State Series in an individual sport if its request for such assignment is received in the FHSAA Office on or after the date of the District Tournament/Meet Planning Meeting.

5. By filing notice of intent to participate in an FHSAA State Series, a member school agrees to participate in accordance with and abide by all the procedures, guidelines, policies and regulations for that FHSAA State Series as approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors in accordance with the Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

POLICY 11

Official Entry List Policy and Procedures

The following policy and procedures shall govern Official Entry Lists for the FHSAA State Series:

1. Each member school that commits to participate in State Series competition in a sport must submit directly by facsimile (fax) transmission to the Manager (host school) of the District Tournament/Meet to which the school is assigned an Official State Series Entry List generated through the iFHSAA interactive on-line database. This official entry list must contain the names of those student-athletes who will represent the member school in State Series competition in that sport.

2. The Official Entry List must contain only the names of those student-athletes who have been previously reported to the FHSAA Office on an Annual Eligibility List electronically by use of the iFHSAA interactive on-line database system. Only those student-athletes who are enrolled in, and in attendance at, your school prior to:

   (a) The last permissible date for a district contest in team sports (i.e. baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball); or
(b) The Saturday that is immediately prior to the Monday on which the Official Entry List is due to be filed with the District Tournament/Meet Manager in individual sports (i.e. cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, weightlifting, wrestling).

All student-athletes must be eligible in accordance with all FHSAA rules and regulations before they participate.

3. The number of student-athletes whose names may be placed on an Official Entry List in a given sport by a member school shall be limited to the following:

(a) Baseball – 20 student-athletes;
(b) Basketball – 15 student-athletes;
(c) Bowling – Eight (8) student-athletes;
(d) Cross Country – 15 student-athletes;
(e) Flag Football – no limit;
(f) Golf – 10 student-athletes of which any five (5) may participate on a given level of the State Series;
(g) Soccer – 22 student-athletes;
(h) Softball – 20 student-athletes;
(i) Swimming & Diving – no limit;
(j) Tennis – 12 student-athletes;
(k) Track & Field – no limit;
(l) Volleyball – 15 student-athletes;
(m) Water Polo – 18 student-athletes;
(n) Weightlifting – three (3) student-athletes in each weight class.
(o) Wrestling – no limit.

The terms & conditions governing the state championship series in each respective sport shall stipulate the number of student-athletes who may actually dress in uniform and participate in a state series contest.

4. To be valid, the Official Entry List must bear the signatures of the principal, the official FHSAA representative or the athletic director, and the head coach of the school’s team in that sport. The District Tournament/Meet Manager must not accept an Official Entry List that does not bear all three required signatures.

5. To avoid penalty, the Official Entry List must be sent by facsimile (fax) transmission to the District Tournament/Meet Manager not later than 5 p.m. local time on the Monday of the week immediately prior to the week during which the District Tournament/Meet is to be held. A late filing fee of $50.00 will be assessed a member school that does not submit its official entry list by this deadline. The late filing fee will increase to $100.00 if the Official Entry List is not faxed to the District Tournament/Meet Manager by 5 p.m. local time on the Friday of the week immediately prior to the week during which the District Tournament/Meet is to be held. A school that fails to submit its Official Entry List to the District Tournament/Meet Manager prior to the scheduled starting time of the first competition (i.e. game, match or event) in the District Tournament/Meet that directly involves the school’s team or individual representative may be permitted to participate in competition only with the approval of the FHSAA Office. That school, however, will be assessed a minimum financial penalty of $250. This penalty will increase if it is later determined that any student-athlete(s) representing the school in uniform
was ineligible to do so. Under no circumstances shall the Manager of a District Tournament/Meet permit a team for which he/she has no Official Entry List to participate in the District Tournament/Meet without the approval of the FHSAA Office.

6. A member school may add previously unlisted student-athletes to, or change or replace existing student-athletes on its Official Entry List according to the following procedure:

   (a) For team sports (i.e. baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball), the addition or change must be requested prior to the scheduled starting time of the school’s game/match in the District Tournament, Regional Tournament or State Tournament. No change may be made to an Official Entry List for a game/match once that game/match begins.

   (b) For individual sports (i.e. cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, weightlifting, wrestling), the addition or change must be requested prior to the time agreed to in the District Tournament/Meet Planning Meeting for submitting to the District Tournament/Meet Manager the times, marks, records, etc. for the seeding of individual competitors into flights, heats, matches, etc. No change may be made to an Official Entry List after this deadline, with the exception of swimming & diving and track & field in which changes may be made only for members of relay teams that qualify from the District Meets to the Regional/State Meets and from the Regional Meets to the State Meets.

   (c) The request for the addition or change must be submitted in writing directly to the Event Manager on the form furnished by the FHSAA Office. The coach must certify that the student-athlete has been reported to the FHSAA Office on an annual eligibility list via iFHSAA and has met minimum regular season participation requirements.

   (d) The member school will be assessed an administrative fee of $50 for each addition or change made to its Official Entry List. This penalty will increase if it is later determined that the student-athlete(s) added to the school’s Official Entry List was ineligible.

7. The Event Manager must forward to the FHSAA office all Official Entry List addition/change forms submitted by participating schools within 10 working days following the conclusion of the event.

8. A student-athlete who qualifies in an individual event in a State Series tournament or meet is expected to compete in that event on successive levels of the State Series unless ill, injured, suspended due to disciplinary action or for any other reason acceptable to the Commissioner. If the student-athlete does not compete on a successive level, the student-athlete will not be permitted to compete in any other event in the State Series in that sport. Personnel on relay teams in the sports of swimming & diving and track & field may be changed in accordance with the rules governing those sports.
The Board of Directors has approved the following system for classifying member senior high schools for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years:

A. General
1. Membership classifications will be applied for administrative and FHSAA State Series purposes. A member school may not participate in a classification above or below that to which it is assigned on the basis of its student population, except as provided herein.
2. Only senior high schools shall be classified.
3. Schools shall be classified on a quadrennial basis for the following four school years.
4. Each sport shall be classified according to the guidelines and criteria herein.

B. Student Populations of Schools
1. An existing full member senior high school shall be classified for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years on the basis of the school’s student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades combined as reported to the FHSAA during the week in October 2004 designated by the Florida Department of Education for the fall semester FTE survey of public schools. Each member school shall be responsible for reporting to the FHSAA its student population as required. The FHSAA may spot check and/or audit the student population report submitted by any member school. Student populations for schools that enroll girls only or boys only (i.e. one gender comprises greater than 90 percent of the student body) shall be doubled for classification purposes.
2. A senior high school applying for new full membership in the Association shall be classified in its initial year of membership on the basis of the school’s student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades combined at the conclusion of the previous school year as reported to the FHSAA on the school’s application for membership.
3. A newly opening senior high school applying for new full membership in the Association shall be classified in its initial year of membership on the basis of the school’s projected student population in the grades with which the school will open. This projected student population must be submitted by the District Superintendent for a public school or the senior administrator for a private school, and must be certified with their respective signatures. If the actual student population reported for the school in October 2005 of the school year would place it into a classification lower than that of its projected student population, the school shall be required to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the higher classification. If, however, the school’s actual student population would place it into a classification higher than that of its projected student population, the school shall not be eligible to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the lower classification. An error margin of 10 percent will be allowed for discrepancies between the projected student population and actual student population of a school that is so classified. If the school’s actual student population is greater than 10 percent of its projected student
population, the school shall immediately be reclassified on the basis of its actual student population.

4. An existing full member senior high school that expects to incur a significant increase or decrease in student population the following school year due to the opening of a new school or to the redrawing of attendance zone boundaries by the district school board may request to be classified on the basis of the school’s projected student population for the following school year rather than the school’s actual student population reported in the current school year. This projected student population must be submitted by the District Superintendent for a public school or the senior administrator for a private school, and must be certified with their respective signatures. If a school requesting to be classified on such a projection reports an actual student population in October of the following school year that would place it into a classification lower than that of its projected student population, the school shall be required to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the higher classification. If, however, the school’s actual student population would place it into a classification higher than that of its projected student population, the school shall not be eligible to compete in the FHSAA State Series in the lower classification.

5. In the event an existing member senior high school does not have each of the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades, its student population for classification purposes shall be adjusted as follows:

(a) For a three-year senior high school (grades 10, 11 and 12 only) that does not have a 9th grade, the percentage of the total membership’s student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades that is constituted by the 9th grade shall be added to the school’s student population in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades.

(b) For a senior high school in its initial year of existence that opens with the 9th, 10th and 11th grades only or in its second or third year of existence with the 9th, 10th and 11th grades only, the percentage of the total membership’s student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades that is constituted by the 12th grade shall be added to the school’s student population in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades.

(c) For a senior high school in its initial year of existence that opens with the 9th and 10th grades only, the percentage of the total membership’s student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades that is constituted by the 11th and 12th grades shall be added to the school’s student population in the 9th and 10th grades.

(d) For a senior high school in its initial year of existence that opens with a 9th grade only, the percentage of the total membership’s student population in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades that is constituted by the 10th and 11th grades shall be added to the school’s student population in the 9th grade.

6. The Commissioner, at his/her discretion, may administratively assign a school to the next classification lower than the classification to which it would otherwise be assigned if the school is geographically isolated from other schools in the classification to which it would be assigned and the school has a student population that is within 10 percent of the dividing line between the classification to which it would be assigned and the next lower classification.
7. A school that is geographically isolated from other schools in the classification to which it is assigned may submit in writing to the Commissioner a request that it be administratively reassigned to the next higher classification. The Commissioner may honor such a request if, in his/her opinion, there are other schools in the higher classification that are in closer geographic proximity to the school submitting the request for reassignment.

8. A school may be reassigned in classification for the third and fourth years of the four-year classification term under the following circumstances:
   (a) A school that reports in the second year of the four-year term an increase in student population that equals or exceeds 20 percent of the student population number that was used to assign the school to its current classification shall be reassigned to a higher classification if: (1) the higher student population would place the school into a higher classification; and (2) every other school in the current classification that has not experienced an equal or greater percentage increase in student population has a student population that is less than the higher student population of the school in question.
   (b) A school that will experience an increase in student population in the third and/or fourth year (whichever is a greater increase) of the four-year term due to the addition of one or more grades shall be assigned to a higher classification if: (1) the higher student population computed in accordance with this policy would place the school into a higher classification; and (2) every other school in the current classification that is not similarly adding one or more grades has a student population that is less than that of the school in question.
   (c) A school that reports in the second year of the four-year term a decrease in student population that equals or exceeds 20 percent of the student population number that was used to assign the school to its current classification shall be reassigned to a lower classification if: (1) the lower student population would place the school into a lower classification; and (2) every other school in the current classification that has not experienced an equal or greater percentage decrease in student population has a student population that is more than the lower student population of the school in question.
   (d) A school that will experience a decrease in student population in the third and/or fourth year (whichever is a lesser decrease) of the four-year term due to the opening of a new school or the redrawing of school attendance boundaries shall be assigned to a lower classification if: (1) the lower student population projected by the district school board office would place the school into a lower classification; and (2) every other school in the current classification that is not similarly decreasing in student population because of these reasons has a student population that is more than that of the school in question.

C. Football

1. Number of Classifications: The FHSAA State Football Series in the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years shall be conducted in eight (8) classifications. The eight classifications are 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A, 2B, 1A and 1B.

2. Division of Classifications: (a) The total number of existing member schools that committed to participate in the FHSAA State Football Series for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years shall be ranked in order of student popula-
tion and evenly divided across the six basic classifications (6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A). The schools assigned to Class 2A shall be further evenly sub-divided into Class 2A and Class 2B, and the schools assigned to Class 1A shall be further evenly sub-divided into Class 1A and Class 1B. Any remainder shall be evenly distributed among the basic classifications and/or sub-classifications beginning with the lowest classification or sub-classification and working up. The student population of the smallest school in each classification shall form the dividing line between that classification and the next lowest classification. Schools that have the same student population as a school whose student population forms the dividing line between classifications shall be placed with that school into the higher classification. The requisite number of schools then shall be assigned to each successive classification. Once the dividing lines between classifications for a four-year term are determined, they shall not be changed during that four-year term.

(b) The dividing lines between the classifications for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years are as follows:

- Class 6A – schools with 2,584 or more students;
- Class 5A – schools with 2,055 to 2,583 students;
- Class 4A – schools with 1,708 to 2,054 students;
- Class 3A – schools with 1,067 to 1,706 students;
- Class 2A – schools with 617 to 1,066 students;
- Class 2B – schools with 411 to 616 students;
- Class 1A – schools with 233 to 410 students; and
- Class 1B – schools with 232 or less students.

(c) A new member school that requests to participate in the FHSAA State Football Series at the time of joining, and is eligible to do so, shall be assigned to the appropriate classification according to its student population or projected student population beginning with the next two-year scheduling cycle.

3. Assignment to Districts: Schools in each classification shall be assigned to districts on a geographic basis with an effort to balance the number of schools in the districts when possible.

D. Baseball, Girls & Boys Basketball, Softball, Girls Volleyball

1. Number of Classifications: The FHSAA State Series in the sports of baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, softball and girls volleyball for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years shall be conducted in six (6) classifications. The six classifications are 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A.

2. Division of Classifications: (a) The total number of existing member senior high schools – regardless of the sports in which they sponsor programs – shall be ranked in order of student population and shall be assigned to basic classifications as follows: the 108 largest schools shall be assigned to Class 6A; the next 108 largest schools shall be assigned to Class 5A; the next 108 largest schools shall be assigned to Class 4A; the next 80 largest schools shall be assigned to Class 3A; the next 80 largest schools shall be assigned to Class 2A; and all remaining schools shall be assigned to Class A. The student population of the smallest school assigned to each classification shall form the dividing line between that classification and the next lowest classification. Schools that have the same student population as a school whose student population forms the dividing line between
classifications shall be placed with that school into the higher classification. The requisite number of schools then shall be assigned to each successive classification. Once the dividing lines between classifications for a four-year term are determined, they shall not be changed during that four-year term.

(b) The dividing lines between the basic classifications for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years are as follows:

- Class 6A – schools with 2,345 or more students;
- Class 5A – schools with 1,783 to 2,344 students;
- Class 4A – schools with 1,309 to 1,782 students;
- Class 3A – schools with 454 to 1,038 students;
- Class 2A – schools with 194 to 453 students; and
- Class 1A – schools with 193 or less students.

(c) A new member school that requests to participate in the FHSAA State Series in the sports of baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, softball and girls volleyball at the time of joining, and is eligible to do so, shall be assigned to the appropriate classification according to its student population or projected student population.

3. **Assignment to Districts:** Schools in each classification – regardless of the sports in which they sponsor programs – shall be assigned to basic districts on a geographic basis. The actual competitive districts in each sport then shall be determined by deleting from each basic district the schools that do not commit to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport.

E. **Girls & Boys Soccer**

1. **Number of Classifications:** The FHSAA State Series in the sports of girls soccer and boys soccer for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years shall be conducted in five (5) classifications. The five classifications are 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A and 2A.

2. **Division of Classifications:** (a) The basic classifications as developed for baseball, girls & boys basketball, softball and girls volleyball in paragraph D2 above shall be utilized. Schools assigned to Class 1A in those sports shall be assigned to Class 2A in girls & boys soccer.

(c) A new member school that requests to participate in the FHSAA State Series in the sports of girls soccer and/or boys soccer at the time of joining, and is eligible to do so, shall be assigned to the appropriate classification according to its student population or projected student population.

3. **Assignment to Districts:** Schools in each classification – regardless of the sports in which they sponsor programs – shall be assigned to districts on a geographic basis. The actual competitive districts in each sport then shall be determined by deleting from each basic district the schools that do not commit to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport.

F. **Cross Country, Golf, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, Boys Weightlifting, Wrestling**

1. **Number of Classifications:** (a) The maximum number of classifications in any individual sport shall not exceed four (4).

(b) The number of classifications in the FHSAA State Series in the sports of cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, weightlifting and
wrestling for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years shall be determined by the number of member senior high schools sponsoring varsity interscholastic programs in those sports. If 200 or more of the member senior high schools sponsor a varsity interscholastic program in a sport, there may be two (2) classifications; if 300 or more of the member senior high schools sponsor a varsity interscholastic program in a sport, there may be three (3) classifications; and if 400 or more of the member senior high schools sponsor a varsity interscholastic program in a sport, there may be four (4) classifications. The number of classifications in a sport shall not be changed except in the first year of a four-year term.

(c) Sports shall be classified together without regard to gender.

(d) The number of classifications in each sport for the 2005-06 through 2008-09 school years are as follows: cross country, four classifications (4A, 3A, 2A, 1A); golf, two classifications (2A, 1A); swimming & diving, three classifications (3A, 2A, 1A); tennis, four classifications (4A, 3A, 2A, 1A); track & field, four classifications (4A, 3A, 2A, 1A); weightlifting, two classifications (2A, A); wrestling, three classifications (3A, 2A, 1A).

2. Division of Classifications: (a) Once the total number of classifications in a sport is determined according to the criteria above, the total number of schools that commit to participate in the State Series in the sport shall be ranked in order of student population and evenly divided across the total number of classifications determined for that sport. Any remainder shall be evenly distributed among the classifications beginning with the lowest classification and working up. The student population of the smallest school assigned to each classification shall form the dividing line between that classification and the next lowest classification. Schools that have the same student population as a school whose student population forms the dividing line between classifications shall be placed with that school into the higher classification. The requisite number of schools then shall be assigned to each successive classification. Once the dividing lines between classifications for a four-year period are determined, they shall not be changed during that term.

(b) A new member school that requests to participate in the FHSAA State Series in the sports of cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, weightlifting or wrestling at the time of joining, and is eligible to do so, shall be assigned to the appropriate classification according to its student population or projected student population.

3. Assignment to Districts: Schools in each classification shall be assigned to districts on a geographic basis with an effort to balance the number of schools in the districts when possible.

G. Bowling, Flag Football, Boys Volleyball, Water Polo, Girls Weightlifting

1. Number of Classifications: There shall be a single classification in the sports of bowling, flag football, boys volleyball, water polo and girls weightlifting. The sports of girls & boys bowling and girls & boys water polo shall be classified together without regard to gender.

2. Assignment to Districts: Schools shall be assigned to districts on a geographic basis with an effort to balance the number of schools in the districts when possible.
POLICY 13

District Tournament Seeding Policy

The following policy shall govern the seeding for district tournaments in the sports of baseball, basketball, flag football, soccer, softball and volleyball and water polo:

A. District Assignments

Schools that commit to participate in the State Series in a sport shall be assigned on a geographical basis to a district in the appropriate classification. A tournament shall be conducted in each district following the conclusion of the regular season on the dates set by the Board of Directors to determine the two schools that shall represent that district in the remainder of the FHSAA State Series.

B. District Scheduling/Tournament Planning

1. Each school assigned to a district shall be required to schedule one or two regular season games/matches with every other school in that district to be eligible to participate in the District Tournament. A school, however, shall not schedule a district game/match to be played later than Saturday two weeks prior to the week in which the District Tournament is scheduled to be played. Any school that does not comply with this requirement shall not be permitted to participate in the District Tournament.

2. A district scheduling/tournament planning meeting shall be conducted in each sport to determine the number of district games/matches to be played by district members, to schedule those necessary district games/matches and to make arrangements for the district tournament for the following season, according to the following basic guidelines:

   (a) The meeting in each district shall be conducted by the FHSAA representative of the member school that is designated the coordinator for that district on a date to be determined by the FHSAA Office. The site and time of the meeting shall be determined by the District Coordinator, except that the time of the meeting should cause no loss of time from school for any attendee. The District Coordinator shall give written notice to the FHSAA representative, athletic director and appropriate head coach of each school in his/her district as to the date, time and site of the meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of the date of the meeting. If, however, the FHSAA representative, athletic director and appropriate head coach at a given school has not received written notification from the District Coordinator as to the date, time and site of the meeting, it is his/her responsibility to contact the District Coordinator for the arrangements.

   (b) Each school in the district shall be required to send a representative to attend the meeting and vote on behalf of the school on all matters pertaining to plans for the district tournament. A school that is not represented at the meeting shall be assessed a $100 penalty. If a school wishes to submit an invitation to host the district tournament at the meeting and its representative present is not the principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director, the representative must have in his/her possession a letter of invitation signed by one or more of the principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director. [Note: A District Coordinator may request of the Senior Director of Athletic Operations permission to conduct a dis-
trict scheduling/tournament meeting by teleconference if his/her district is spread over a large geographic area.]

(c) No regular season games/matches for the following season may be scheduled in advance of the district scheduling meeting. Agreements or contracts to play a game/match that are entered into in advance of the meeting are null and void.

(d) The decision to play a one game/match district schedule, rather than two, shall be by majority vote of representatives present at the meeting. In the event of a tie vote, a two game/match district schedule shall be mandatory. If a district votes to play a one game/match schedule, but two or more district members opt to schedule and play each other more than once during the regular season, then only the results of the first game/match played between district opponents shall be counted for seeding purposes. The decision to play a one game/match district schedule shall be for both years of a scheduling cycle and home schools must be flipped in the second year.

3. If a scheduled district game/match is postponed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen and unavoidable situations and can only be played after the deadline, the Commissioner may grant permission for the game/match to be played after the deadline and counted. This exception, however, will be granted only if the game/match was originally scheduled to be played prior to the deadline.

4. The manner in which any two schools within a district satisfy these requirements is at the discretion of the two schools provided the games/matches are part of the regular season schedule of both schools and not games/matches played between the two schools as part of an invitational tournament. It is not necessary that the two games/matches be played on a home-and-home basis. It is acceptable for the two schools to play either or both games/matches at a neutral site or both games/matches at either school’s facility. If, however, two schools in a district cannot agree to any alternative arrangement, then they must play each other on a home-and-home basis.

C. Seeding and Bracketing

1. Each school in a district shall be seeded and placed on the bracket for its District Tournament according to the following provisions:

   (a) In the sports of baseball, basketball, flag football, softball and volleyball and water polo, each school shall be seeded based on its win-loss record in the games/matches played against all district opponents during the regular season. The school with the best district record shall be seeded No. 1; the school with the second-best district record shall be seeded No. 2; etc.

   (b) In the sport of soccer, each school shall be seeded based on the district points it accumulates in the games played against all district opponents during the regular season. Three (3) points shall be awarded for each victory over a district opponent. One (1) point shall be awarded for each time with a district opponent. The school with the most district points shall be seeded No. 1; the school with the second-most district points shall be seeded No. 2; etc.

   (c) In the event two or more schools within the district are unable to play the required district games/matches due to inclement weather or other unforeseen and unavoidable situations which are deemed acceptable by the Commissioner, all
schools within that district shall be seeded according to the percentage of district
games/matches won (average of points accumulated in soccer). The school with
the highest percentage of district games/matches won (average points in soccer)
shall be seeded No. 1; the school with the second-highest percentage of district
games/matches won (average points in soccer) shall be seeded No. 2, etc.

2. Two-Schools Tied: When two schools are tied for a seed, the following
procedure shall be used (in the following order until the tie is broken):
   (a) Won-loss results of head-to-head competition between the two schools;
   (b) Won-loss record (points in soccer) of the two schools versus the highest-
       seeded school (and proceeding through the lowest seeded school, if necessary);
   (c) Number of victories (points in soccer) on the road in district games/
       matches;
   (d) Number of victories (points in soccer) at home in district games/
       matches;
   (e) Overall winning percentage (this step not used in basketball or soccer);
   and
   (f) Coin toss by the District Coordinator.

3. Three (or more)-Schools Tied: When three or more schools are tied for
   a seed, the following procedure shall be used (in the following order until the tie is
   broken):
   (a) Total won-loss record (points in soccer) of games/matches played among
       the tied schools;
   (b) Won-loss record (points in soccer) of the tied schools versus the highest-
       seeded school (and proceeding through the lowest seeded school, if necessary);
   (c) Number of victories (points in soccer) on the road in district games/
       matches;
   (d) Number of victories (points in soccer) at home in district games/
       matches;
   (e) Overall winning percentage (this step not used in basketball or soccer);
   and
   (f) Draw by the District Coordinator.

   Once the three-or-more-way tie has been reduced to two schools, the two-
   school tiebreaker formula shall be used.

4. In the sports of baseball, basketball, girls & boys winter soccer, softball
   and girls volleyball, every district member shall be placed on the tournament
   bracket according to seed. In the sports of flag football, boys fall soccer, boys vol-
   leyball and water polo, the top four seeds only shall be placed on the tournament
   bracket. A single-elimination, standard progression bracket shall be used. the Nos.
   1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 seeds shall be placed in the upper half of the bracket and
   the Nos. 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 15 seeds shall be placed in the lower half of the
   bracket. Byes, if any, shall be awarded to the higher seeded schools. The school
   on the top line of the bracket in each tournament game/match shall be designated
   the home school for that game/match.

5. Each school in the district shall report by phone to the District Coordin-
   ator its final district win-loss record (points in soccer) not later than 10 a.m. Monday
   of the week immediately preceding the week in which the District Tournament is to
be played. The District Coordinator then shall seed the schools, place the schools on the bracket according to their seed, and assign games/matches dates and times in accordance with the provisions herein and the arrangements agreed upon during the District Scheduling/Tournament Planning Meeting. A copy of the finalized bracket shall then be faxed by the District Coordinator to all schools in the district as well as to the FHSAA Office.

POLICY 14
Minimum Specifications for Facilities in which State Series Contests are to be Held

The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following minimum specifications for facilities in which FHSAA State Series contests in basketball, football and girls volleyball are to be held. These specifications do not preclude a school with inadequate facilities from hosting a State Series contest in either sport. However, the school will be required, at its own expense, to host the contest in a neutral facility which does meet the necessary specifications. If a school in line to host a contest has inadequate facilities and chooses not to host the contest at another site, the visiting school will be given the opportunity to host the event in its facilities, if adequate, or at an adequate neutral site, if not. A basketball district in which no school has a facility that meets these minimum specifications must either play its district tournament at an adequate neutral facility or place it at the district school whose facility is closest to these minimum specifications. Only those schools that have filed the necessary facility specifications reports with the FHSAA Office will be eligible to host a State Series contest in the sports of basketball, football and girls volleyball. Counties that cannot meet the specifications can appeal to the Board of Directors for relief.

A. Basketball
1. The facility must be adequately constructed to control the entry and exit of spectators for the purpose of charging admission.
2. The facility must have a minimum of two restrooms (one male and one female) for public use.
3. The facility must have an electronic clock and scoreboard clearly visible to both team bench areas and spectators.
4. The facility must have a public address system.
5. The facility must have separate dressing rooms for both home and visiting teams, preferably with access to restroom and shower facilities.
6. The facility must have a separate dressing area for officials, preferably with access to restroom and shower facilities.
7. The facility must have a playing surface which is not less than 84 feet from end line to end line and not less than 50 feet from sideline to sideline. The court must be properly marked according to National Federation rules, including the proper markings for both teams’ coaching boxes.
8. The facility must have a minimum of three feet of unobstructed space
from sidelines to seating, walls or other obstacles and a minimum of six feet of unobstructed space from end lines to seating, walls or other obstacles.

9. It is recommended, but not required, that the facility have spectator seating on both sides of the court. In any case, however, the facility must meet the following minimum seating capacities:
   (a) Class 6A – 1,300 seats
   (b) Class 5A – 1,100 seats
   (c) Class 4A – 900 seats
   (d) Class 3A – 700 seats
   (e) Class 2A – 500 seats
   (f) Class A – 300 seats

B. Football
1. The facility must be adequately constructed to control the entry and exit of spectators for the purpose of charging admission.
2. The facility must have a minimum of two restrooms (one male and one female) for public use.
3. The facility must have adequate artificial lighting to accommodate night games.
4. The facility must have an electronic clock and scoreboard clearly visible to both team bench areas and spectators.
5. The facility must have a public address system.
6. The facility must have separate dressing rooms for both home and visiting teams, preferably with access to restroom and shower facilities.
7. The facility must have a separate dressing area for officials, preferably with access to restroom and shower facilities.
8. The facility should have a minimum of five yards of unobstructed space outside the playing field along each sideline and end line.
9. The facility must have restraining cables, fences, walls, etc. from goal line to goal line to separate spectators from each team box along the sideline.
10. The facility must have bleachers having masonry or metal understructure with footboards and seating properly maintained for both visitor and home fans.
11. It is recommended, but not required, that the facility have spectator seating on both sides of the field. In any case, however, the facility must meet the following minimum seating capacities:
   (a) Class 6A – 2,500 seats
   (b) Class 5A – 2,000 seats
   (c) Class 4A – 1,500 seats
   (d) Class 3A – 1,000 seats
   (e) Class 2A – 750 seats
   (f) Class A – 500
   A facility with seating capacities less than these minimums may set up portable seating at its own expense in order to satisfy these minimum requirements.

C. Girls Volleyball
1. The facility must have a minimum seating capacity of 300 seats.
POLICY 15
Pass Policy for FHSAA State Series Events

The Board of Directors has adopted the following policy relative to those passes that will be honored at State Series contests:

A. District, Regional Levels. The following individuals only may be admitted to the facility without charge:
   1. Student-athletes who are members of the team, coaches, managers, etc.;
   2. Cheerleaders in uniform and their sponsor(s);
   3. In football only, band members and drill-team members and their chaperons;
   4. Working news media with appropriate identification;
   5. Broadcast crews from radio and television outlets whose broadcasts have been approved by the FHSAA Office upon payment of the appropriate broadcast rights fees;
   6. Visiting school administrators (i.e., principal, FHSAA representative, assistant principals and athletic director) who are required by their principal to attend the event for supervisory purposes upon presentation of a photo I.D., provided the visiting school submits their names to the event manager by fax in writing on school stationery not less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the event;
   7. Uniformed police or security;
   8. Individuals holding FHSAA Lifetime Passes issued by the Commissioner; and
   9. Member school personnel and registered contest officials with FHSAA State Series Passes upon presentation of a photo I.D.

B. State Level. The following individuals only may be admitted to the facility without charge:
   1. Student-athletes who are members of the team, coaches, managers, etc. with appropriate passes as issued by the FHSAA Office according to the athletic regulations governing the particular sport;
   2. Cheerleaders in uniform and their sponsor(s);
   3. In football only, band members and drill-team members and their chaperons (1 chaperon per 10 students);
   4. Working news media with appropriate credentials as issued by the FHSAA Office according to the Media Credentials Policy;
   5. Broadcast crews from radio and television outlets whose broadcasts have been approved by the FHSAA Office upon payment of the appropriate broadcast rights fees;
   6. Uniformed police or security;
   7. Individuals holding FHSAA Lifetime Passes issued by the Commissioner; and
   8. Member school personnel and registered contest officials with FHSAA State Series Passes upon presentation of a photo I.D.

C. FHSAA Identification Card. FHSAA Identification Cards are provided to the principal of each member school each year in bulk quantity to distribute to
members of his/her administrative staff and faculty who are directly or indirectly affiliated with the school’s activities and athletic programs. This card is intended to serve only as a means of identifying the bearer as an employee of a member school and, in and of itself, is not considered to be a pass of any kind. Member schools, however, may at their discretion honor these cards for complimentary admission to activities events and regular season athletic events. Under no circumstances are these cards to be honored for complimentary admission to any FHSAA State Series contest on the district, regional or state level.

D. FHSAA State Series Pass. State series passes may be used at district, regional and FHSAA Finals state championship events. Each member school receives two complimentary passes each school year for use by the principal and the FHSAA representative issued in their names. If the principal also is the FHSAA representative only one complimentary pass is issued. Each school has the option to purchase additional passes up to a maximum of 21 as follows:

1. 1 pass purchased – must be issued in the name of a specific individual;
2. 2-9 passes purchased – one (1) pass may be issued in the school’s name (generic), the other passes must be issued in the names of specific individuals;
3. 10-14 passes purchased – three (3) passes may be issued in the school’s name (generic), the other passes must be issued in the names of specific individuals;
4. 15-19 passes purchased – four (4) passes may be issued in the school’s name (generic), the other passes must be issued in the names of specific individuals; and
5. 20-21 passes purchased – five (5) passes may be issued in the school’s name (generic), the other passes must be issued in the names of specific individuals.

6. Each individual who registers as a contest official with the FHSAA also shall be permitted at this time of his/her registration to purchase one state series pass.

7. The following restrictions shall apply to all state series passes regardless of whether they are issued in the names of specific individuals or in the names of schools (generic):

(a) The school principal or his/her designee shall determine users of generic passes issued in the school’s name within the parameters set forth hereinunder.

(b) All pass users shall be persons directly connected to the athletic department of the school (i.e. coaches, assistant coaches, athletic directors, athletic secretary, etc.)

(c) All pass users shall be 18 years of age or older.

(d) Passes are not intended for use by students and must not be issued to students.

(e) Each pass will admit only the bearer. Spouses, children and other family members or friends accompanying the bearer of the pass must purchase a ticket of admission to the event.

(f) The bearer of the pass must present a valid government-issued photo ID (i.e. driver’s license) along with the pass to the pass gate attendant. If the bearer is unable to present a valid photo ID at the pass gate, the pass shall not be honored.
(g) The bearer of the pass must make an entry into an “State Series Event Pass Gate Log” when entering the pass gate. The bearer must record his/her name, position with member school, type of pass and state series pass number.

(h) If the manager of a state series event determines the event is sold out, state series passes cannot be honored at that event.

(i) Exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the Commissioner.

(j) Improperly used passes will be confiscated by the event manager and returned to the FHSAA. Once confiscated, the pass or passes will not be valid for the remainder of the school year. Fines will be assessed for misuse and offending schools may be restricted from purchasing passes in future years.

E. FHSAA Lifetime Pass. FHSAA Lifetime Passes are issued by the Commissioner to individuals who serve the Association as members of its Board of Directors; office staff upon their retirement; and inductees into its Hall of Fame. This pass will provide the bearer with complimentary admission to regular season events at the discretion of the host school, and to all FHSAA State Series events on the district, regional and state level. The bearer will be required to show a picture I.D. with the Lifetime Pass and provide a signature on an official FHSAA State Series Contest Pass Log to be provided to each host site by the FHSAA Office.

POLICY 16

Criteria for Determining Eligibility of Students Enrolled in Schools with Block Scheduling, Special Schools, Special Programs, Home Education Programs and Charter Schools

A. Schools with Block Scheduling Formats

1. 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). This definition is applicable to all member schools regardless of the type of scheduling format (i.e. block, traditional, etc.) which they use.

B. Special Schools and Special Programs

1. A student-athlete enrolled in any special school or special program must be evaluated on a semester that is consistent with the semester for all other students enrolled in the member school which the student-athlete represents.

2. The minimum grade point average requirement as stated in s. 1006.15(3)1, Florida Statutes, and the Association’s Bylaws must be maintained each semester by all student-athletes enrolled in special schools or special programs regardless of the nature of the special school or special program.

3. Special Schools: A student-athlete who is enrolled in an alternative school, a school for gifted students, a non-member magnet school with no athletic program or a vocational-technical school may be eligible to represent in interscholastic athletic competition the public school in whose zone the student-athlete
resides provided the special school is under the supervision and jurisdiction of the District School Superintendent, and the District School Superintendent submits a written request to the FHSAA Office for approval of the student-athlete’s participation at his/her home public school.

4. Special Programs: (a) Dual Enrollment Program – A student-athlete who is enrolled in a dual enrollment program operated by a community college or four-year university may be eligible to represent in interscholastic athletic competition the regular school which the student attends provided: 1) the principal of the school which the student-athlete will represent submits a written request to the FHSAA Office for approval of such participation on the part of the student-athlete; 2) the school awards credit toward graduation for the work the student completes at the community college or four-year university; 3) grades must be officially issued by the college or four-year university on the same schedule as the school’s semester; 4) the student must take and complete the minimum number of credits required for graduation; 5) the student-athlete does not represent, in any way, the community college or four-year university in intercollegiate athletic competition; and 6) the student meets all other FHSAA eligibility requirements.

(b) Early Admissions Program – A student-athlete who is enrolled in an early admissions program operated by a community college or four-year university may be eligible to represent in interscholastic athletic competition the regular school which the student attends provided: 1) the District School Superintendent and the principal of the school which the student-athlete will represent submits a written request to the FHSAA Office for approval of such participation on the part of the student-athlete; 2) the school awards credit toward graduation for the work the student completes at the community college or four-year university; 3) grades must be issued by the college or four-year university on the same schedule as the school’s semester; 4) the student must take and complete the minimum number of credits required for graduation; 5) the student-athlete does not represent, in any way, the community college or four-year university in intercollegiate athletic competition; and 6) the student meets all other FHSAA eligibility requirements.

C. Home Education Programs

1. Home Education Student Participation in Athletics at Member Schools: (a) A student enrolled in a home education program is eligible to participate at the public school to which the student would be assigned according to district school attendance area policies; the public school to which the student could choose to attend pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment provisions; or a nonpublic school, provided the nonpublic school will permit the student to participate at that school, provided: (1) the student, within 30 days of his/her withdrawal from a traditional school program, properly registers with the district school board as being enrolled in a home education program in accordance with Section 1002.41(1)(a) of the Florida Statutes; (2) the student’s parents at the conclusion of each semester certify to the principal of the school on a form to be provided by the FHSAA Office that the student meets the minimum grade point average standards which are required of all students; (3) the student meets the same standards of acceptance, behavior and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities; (4) the student registers with the school his/her intent to participate
in interscholastic athletic competition as a representative of the school prior to the beginning date of the season for the sport in which he/she wishes to participate; (5) the student complies with FHSAA regulations, including eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility, and local school regulations during the time of participation; (6) the student meets the same admission and residency requirements as other students in the school in which he/she participates; (7) the student provides proof of basic medical insurance coverage and both independently secured catastrophic insurance coverage and liability insurance coverage which names the FHSAA as an insured party in the event the school’s insurance provider does not extend coverage to students enrolled in home education programs; and (8) the student provides to school authorities all required forms and provisions.

(b) A student who withdraws from a regular school program, which for the purpose of this policy is defined as a member school other than a cooperative of home education programs, to enroll in a home education program and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the regular school program due to his/her failure to meet academic or behavioral eligibility standards shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition as a home education student until he/she has successfully completed one semester in home education. In determining the academic eligibility of a student who withdraws from a regular school program prior to the normal conclusion of the current semester and subsequently enrolls in a home education program, the grades as posted in each subject for that student on the date of his/her withdrawal from the regular school program shall be used.

2. Home Education Student Eligibility Upon Enrollment in Member School: (a) A student who transfers from a home education program to a member school prior to or during the first semester of the school year shall be academically eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition during the first semester provided the student has the necessary 2.0 cumulative grade point average through the second semester of the previous school year as required by Florida Statutes. The student’s academic eligibility for each succeeding semester shall then depend on his/her cumulative grade point average through the conclusion of the the previous semester.

3. Home Education Program Cooperatives: (a) A cooperative of home education programs may become a member of this Association provided: (1) the cooperative establishes a Board of Directors or governing body which appoints a designated representative to the FHSAA so far as the obligations of the cooperative to this Association are concerned; (2) the cooperative pays membership dues and other such fees as established by the FHSAA Board of Directors under the authority of these Bylaws; (3) each participating student has basic medical insurance coverage and has catastrophic insurance coverage provided by the cooperative or independently secured; (4) the cooperative purchases and maintains liability insurance coverage which names the FHSAA as an insured party; (5) the FHSAA representative at the conclusion of each semester certifies to the Commissioner on a form to be provided by the FHSAA Office that each student participating in interscholastic extracurricular activities in the cooperative meets the minimum grade point average standards which are required of all students; and (6) each student
participating in interscholastic athletic competition must comply with FHSAA eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility.

(b) A student who has participated as a member of a senior high school in interscholastic athletic competition during the current school year prior to his/her application for membership in a home education cooperative shall be ineligible to represent that cooperative in interscholastic athletic competition for the duration of that school year unless a properly executed “Application for Waiver of the Transfer Rule” is obtained from the principal of the senior high school, and vice versa. A student who withdraws from a regular school program to enroll in a home education program and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the regular school program due to his/her failure to meet academic or behavioral eligibility standards shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition as a home education student until he/she has successfully completed one semester in home education.

c) Home education cooperatives which become members of this Association may participate in interscholastic athletic competition against any other FHSAA member school; however, such cooperatives shall not be permitted to compete against non-member schools or non-member cooperatives. Home education cooperatives shall be classified for State Series competition based on the total number of students participating in the cooperative in grades 9 through 12.

D. Charter Schools

1. A student enrolled in a charter school that is not a member of this Association or does not sponsor an interscholastic athletic program in a sport(s) in which the student desires to participate is eligible to participate at the public school to which the student would be assigned according to district school attendance area policies; or the public school to which the student could choose to attend pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment provisions; provided: (a) the student meets the requirements of the charter school program; (b) the student demonstrates educational progress as required by s. 1006.20(3)(a); (c) the student meets the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he/she participates; (d) the student meets the same standards of acceptance, behavior and performance that are required of other students participating in interscholastic athletics; and (e) the student must register with the school his/her intent to participate in interscholastic athletics as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the season for the sport in which he/she wishes to participate.

2. A student who transfers from a non-member charter school to a traditional public member school or nonpublic member school before or during the first semester of a school year is academically eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition during the first semester provided the student has the necessary 2.0 cumulative grade point average through the second semester of the previous school year as required by Florida Statutes. The student’s academic eligibility for each succeeding semester shall then depend on his/her cumulative grade point average through the conclusion of the previous semester.

3. A student who withdraws from a regular school program – public or nonpublic – to enroll in a charter school that is not a member of this Association and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the regular school program...
due to his/her failure to meet academic or behavioral eligibility standards shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition as a charter school student until he/she has successfully completed one semester in the charter school program. In determining the academic eligibility of a student who withdraws from a regular school program prior to the normal conclusion of the current semester and subsequently enrolls in a charter school, the grades as posted in each subject for that student on the date of his/her withdrawal from the regular school program shall be used.

**POLICY 17**

**Guidelines for the Enforcement of Bylaws Relative to Transfer Students**

The Commissioner has established the following guidelines for the enforcement of the provisions of Article 11.4.3, which places restrictions on the transfer waiver. This provision states, “A student who transfers to a member school without a corresponding change of residence on or after the beginning of any sports season (first day of practice) shall not be eligible to compete in that sport for the duration of that school year.”

1. A student who transfers on or after the starting date of a sports season without physically changing his or her residence will be ineligible to participate in all sports played during that season at the new school. The starting date of a season is defined as the first day of practice as permitted by the FHSAA standardized calendar. See the FHSAA Planning Calendar for the first day of practice for each sport in a given school year.

2. The FHSAA will consider the effective date of a transfer as the date the student enrolls in the new school. Neither the date of withdrawal from the previous school nor the date on which a blue waiver is initiated will be considered as the effective date of a transfer. For example, if a student withdraws from School A on Wednesday, Aug. 1, and enrolls in School B on Friday, Aug. 3, the student will be eligible to participate in athletics at School B during the fall season upon execution of a properly completed blue waiver. However, if the student withdraws from School A on Wednesday, Aug. 1, but does not enroll in School B until Monday, Aug. 6, or thereafter, the student will be ineligible to participate in all fall sports at School B for that season, even with a properly executed blue waiver. The blue waiver will, however, enable the student to participate in athletics at School B during the winter and spring seasons. Obviously, failure to obtain a blue waiver will render the student ineligible in all sports for the duration of that school year.
POLICY 18

Policy on the Eligibility of Foreign Exchange and Other International Students

The following policy and procedures shall govern the eligibility of students engaged in foreign exchange programs and the eligibility of other international students who enroll in member schools.

A. Students in Foreign Exchange Programs

The FHSAA acknowledges the importance of permitting students visiting Florida through a recognized foreign exchange program to experience the benefits of participation in interscholastic athletic competition. To this end, the FHSAA will permit a foreign exchange student to participate in interscholastic athletic competition under the following conditions:

1. The foreign exchange student must be sponsored and placed with a U.S. host family by a “bona fide” international student exchange program that has been accepted for listing by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) and recognized by the U.S. Department of State. The foreign exchange program must assign students to host families by a method that ensures that no student, school or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. Neither shall the foreign exchange student be selected or placed on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities.

2. A foreign exchange student is considered placed with a host family when:
   (a) the school that the student attends had no input into the selection or assignment of the student;
   (b) no member of the school’s faculty or staff or other individual, paid or voluntary, connected to the school’s athletic program serves as the host family; and
   (c) the host family placement is approved by the national headquarters of the sponsoring organization.

3. The foreign exchange student must possess a J-1 visa issued by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

4. The foreign exchange student must be in attendance at the school within the first 10 days of the school year and must be enrolled in a full-year program, rather than a program of shorter duration such as a six-week, three-month or six-month program, etc.

5. Any subsequent transfer by the student to a different school during the school year must correspond with a change in residence by the foreign exchange student and the host family with whom he/she was placed at the time of enrollment in the original school. If the transfer of schools occurs as a result of a move by the foreign exchange student to another host family, the foreign exchange student will be ineligible at the new school for the remainder of the school year.

6. The foreign exchange student may be eligible for a maximum of one year at any school or combination of schools in this or any other of the United States commencing with his/her initial date of enrollment in a U.S. school.

7. The foreign exchange student must not have completed the 12th grade.
8. The foreign exchange student must meet all other eligibility standards of the FHSAA Bylaws while a student at a member school.

B. Other International Students

An international student who is not sponsored by a bona fide foreign exchange program may be eligible to represent an FHSAA member school in interscholastic athletic competition under the following conditions:

1. The international student must possess an F-1 visa issued by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. An international student visiting this country on a B-2 tourist visa is not eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition.

2. The international student’s complete original and untranslated transcript, from his/her school of first impulse in the eighth grade or its equivalent in the student’s home country to the present, must be received by the member school from the last school that the student attended.

3. The member school must translate, analyze and evaluate the international student’s transcript. This translation, analysis and evaluation may be performed either by:
   (a) individuals employed by the school who are qualified to provide such services; or
   (b) an independent organization approved by the FHSAA to translate and analyze the transcripts of international students.

   Through the translation, analysis and evaluation of the international student’s transcript, the appropriate grade in which the student should be placed in the member school must be determined. It must be demonstrated that the student is on track to receive a high school diploma. It must also provide an explanation or description of the educational system in the student’s home country.

   The cost of this service, if any, must be borne either by the student or the member school.

4. The principal of the member school shall not declare the international student eligible to represent his/her school in interscholastic athletic competition until such time as he/she receives the completed translation, analysis and evaluation of the student’s transcript.

5. The member school shall report to the FHSAA Office on a form provided by the Association each international student declared eligible to represent the school in interscholastic athletic competition by its principal before such participation can occur. This form, at a minimum, will require the following information be provided:
   (a) the international student’s name;
   (b) the student’s birthdate;
   (c) the name, mailing address and physical address of all schools attended by the student since first successful completion of the eighth grade;
   (d) the grades completed by the student since he/she successfully first completed the eighth grade; and
(e) the student’s participation record in organized athletics in his/her home country.

A photocopy of the student’s birth certificate, passport, certificate of health insurance issued by a U.S. provider, immigration documents including the F-1 visa form I-20 A-B, the student’s complete original and untranslated transcript, and the translation and analysis of the student’s transcript must also be included with the form.

6. The international student must be placed in a traditional academic track that leads to a high school diploma by the member school.

7. The international student must not have been recruited to attend the member school for athletic reasons by any individual or agency, whether or not associated with the school’s athletic interest, or selected or placed in the school on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities.

8. No individual or agency associated with the school’s athletic interest may provide financial assistance to the international student in gaining necessary visas, assist in the payment of the student’s transportation to the U.S., or contribute to the student’s living expenses while in the U.S.

9. The international student must not reside with a coach or other individual associated with the school’s athletic program.

10. The international student must not reside in the U.S. with any other individual(s) from his/her home country with whom he/she has not lived continuously for the previous 365 consecutive days.

11. The international student must not have completed the 12th grade (terminal grade) or its equivalent in either the U.S. or his/her home country. International students will not be eligible once they have completed the 12th grade or its equivalent in either the U.S. or their home countries.

12. The international student must meet all other eligibility standards of the FHSAA Bylaws while a student at a member school.

13. Pursuant to Federal law, an international student attending a public school is eligible to remain in the U.S. for a maximum of one year and must reimburse the public school for the cost of his/her U.S. education.

C. Immigrant Students

A foreign national who resides in the U.S. with his/her parent(s) or other individual(s) with whom he/she has been living for at least the previous one calendar year and who does not have F-1 or J-1 visa status is considered an immigrant student rather than an international student, and, therefore, is not subject to the provisions of this policy. Regardless, it is the responsibility of the member school that the immigrant student attends to certify the eligibility status (academic standing, age and limit of eligibility) of the immigrant student before allowing that individual to represent the school in interscholastic athletic competition.

POLICY 19

Guidelines for Practices and Scrimmages

The Board of Directors has adopted the following policy relative to the prac-
ticing and scrimmaging of member school athletic teams:

A. General Practices

1. Only those student-athletes who are bona fide students in a member school, or who are either home education program or charter school program students registered with a member school, may participate in the practice of an athletic team which represents that member school.

2. Practice sessions and/or practice games in which students from two or more schools participate are prohibited.

3. The conduct of practice sessions of any kind on a Sunday is prohibited.

B. Spring Football Practice

1. Spring football practice is a continuation of the regular fall football season. Consequently, a student who transfers schools after the first permissible date of the fall football season is not eligible to participate in a spring jamboree or spring classic game in the new school unless the student secures an application for waiver of the transfer rule from his/her former school (Bylaw 11.4.3).

2. Student-athletes who are seniors may not participate in spring football practice.

3. Students who are not enrolled and in attendance in a school cannot participate in spring football practice at that school.

EXCEPTION: Eighth-grade students may participate in spring football practice at the public high school for which the students are zoned and will attend as ninth-graders in the following school year under the following conditions:

(a) The students may practice on or in the high school facility only if such practice is approved in writing to the FHSAA Office by the District School Superintendent.

(b) The students may be instructed in practice by high school coaches only if such instruction is approved in writing to the FHSAA Office by the School District Superintendent.

(c) The principals of both schools must give their permission in writing to the FHSAA Office for the students to participate in such practice.

(d) The students must have catastrophic insurance coverage for such practice.

(e) The students must have the written permission of their parents or legal guardians to participate in such practice on file in the school office.

(f) The students must have undergone a physical examination within the last calendar year.

(g) The students must not suffer any loss of time from school.

(h) The students may not participate in a spring football jamboree or spring classic game.

(i) The students may not participate in practice or have contact in any manner with student-athletes in the ninth, 10th or 11th grades who are members of the high school team.

C. Considerations for Fall Preseason Practice

1. Intent.

To encourage state high school athletic associations to recommend a preseason acclimatization and recovery model for fall sports that enhances student-athlete
well-being.

These guidelines provide general recommendations for conducting preseason practice for secondary school-age student-athletes. In addition, these guidelines can be applied during the academic year to ensure the athletes arrive with adequate sport-specific conditioning. Actual practice should not be based solely on the information contained in these guidelines, but should be customized to the specific geographic location of the school or practice facility. Each individual using these guidelines is responsible for prudent judgment with respect to each practice, athlete and facility and each athlete is responsible for exercising caution when following these general recommendations.

2. Rationale.

Research has supported the findings, which indicate an increase in heat-related injuries resulting from inadequate preseason acclimatization practices. Similarly, the incidence in stress-related injuries (i.e. stress fractures, tendonitis) has been found to be directly proportional to the work-rest ratio of the athlete. For these reasons, it is the recommendation of the National Federation of High School Association’s (NFHS) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) and the National Athletic Trainers’ Association’s (NATA) Secondary School Committee that fall sports (cross country, fall soccer, football, and swimming and diving) use acclimatization and recovery principles to develop their fall preseason practice schedules for the purpose of enhancing the student-athlete well-being. The primary focus of the preseason period should be to provide an adjustment period to the intensity and duration of exercise and environmental conditions. The guidelines are based on medical literature that differentiates sports with equipment due to the unique stress on the body’s heat dissipation capabilities. Equally important, consideration should be given to the varying levels of fitness in the high school student-athlete.

3. Definitions.

Prior to participation in any preseason practice activities, all student-athletes are required to undergo a Pre-Participation Medical Evaluation (PPE) administered as required by state law.

A practice is defined as the time a participant engages in physical activity. It is recommended that each practice be no more than three hours in length and consist of no more than 90 minutes of intense exercise. Warm-up, stretching, and cool-down activities are to be included as part of the practice time. All conditioning and/or weight room activities shall be considered practice.

The acclimatization period is defined as the first 14 calendar days of the season beginning with the first allowable date of practice in that sport or the first date an athlete begins practice, whichever is later. This period shall begin once equipment is used. Any practices conducted prior to the utilization of any equipment, protective or otherwise, shall not be considered a part of the acclimatization period. All student-athletes, including those who arrive to preseason practice after the first day of practice, are recommended to follow the guidelines of the first days of the acclimatization period. During the acclimatization period, it is recommended that student-athletes not participate in more than six consecutive days of practice.

A walk-through shall be defined as a teaching opportunity with no protective equipment (i.e. helmets, shoulder pads, shin guards) or equipment related to a given
sport (i.e. footballs, blocking sleds, pitching machine, soccer balls, marker cones). It is recommended the time engaged should not be more than one hour in length. This time does not include conditioning or weight room activities.

A recovery period is defined as the time between the end of one practice or walk-through and the beginning of the next practice or walk-through. During this time, it is recommended that no physical activity be permitted (speed, strength, conditioning, agility, or walk-through).

4. During the first seven calendar days, it is recommended that participants not engage in more than one practice per day.

5. If a practice session is interrupted by inclement weather or heat restrictions, it is recommended the session may be divided for the good of the student-athlete’s welfare as long as the total practice time does not exceed three hours for that session.

6. A walk-through is permitted during Days 1 – 6 of the acclimatization period. However, a one-hour recovery period is recommended between the end of practice and the start of the walk-through or vice-versa.

7. During Days 1 – 3, only the goalkeeper in their respective sport shall be permitted to wear all protective equipment deemed necessary to participate in their sport. Football only: The first three full days of practice shall be restricted to conditioning drills. Helmet and dental guards may be issued, but deliberate contact as well as contact with sleds during this three-day period is prohibited.

8. Beginning Day 8, it is recommended that the practice schedule not exceed a 2-1-2-1 format. This means that a day consisting of two practices should be followed by a day with only one practice. One walk-through session would be permitted each day. If a two-practice day were followed by a day off, a two-practice day would be permitted on the following day.

9. On days when two practices are conducted, it is recommended that either practice not exceed three hours in length and student-athletes not participate in more than five total hours of practice activities on these days, excluding walk-through sessions. warm-up, stretching, and cool-down activities are included as part of the practice time. Practices should be separated with at least three continuous hours of recovery time between the end of the first practice and the beginning of the very next practice.

10. On days when a single practice is conducted, it is recommended that practices not exceed three hours in length. A walk-through is permitted and should be separated with at least one hour of continuous recovery time between the end of the first practice and the walk-through, or vice-versa.

11. Cross Country. Individuals must participate in a minimum of 10 practice sessions on 10 separate days prior to the first contest.

12. Frequently Asked Questions and Answers.

**Question:** My school/school district has established a practice policy. Which should I follow?

**Answer:** The intent of this information is to provide guidance for principals, athletic directors, coaches and school districts where there is none.

**Question:** This document recommends only one (1) practice per day during the first seven days of practice. What if my team practices more than once a day
during this time?

**Answer:** The decision to allow practice more than once in a 24-hour period rests with the member school’s principal.

**Question:** My student-athletes have attended a conditioning program prior to the season’s beginning date. Is it still necessary to wait until the fourth day of practice for that student-athlete to engage in physical contact?

**Answer:** Yes, it is necessary for the individual student-athlete to wait until the fourth day of practice before engaging in physical contact. This includes student-athletes who may begin participation and practicing with the team after the first date of practice is allowed.

**C. Scrimmages**

1. Only those student-athletes who are bona fide students in a member school, or who are either home education program or charter school program students registered with a member school, may participate in the scrimmage of an athletic team which represents that member school.

2. Scrimmages and scrimmage games in which students from two or more schools participate are uncontracted interscholastic contests and are prohibited. Such scrimmages and scrimmage games may be on an intra-squad basis only.

3. Scrimmages and scrimmage games involving groups, alumni teams, league teams, etc. comprised in whole or in part of individuals who are not bona fide students of the member school are prohibited. Such scrimmages and scrimmage games may be on an intra-squad basis only.

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**POLICY 20**

**Non-Faculty Coach Guidelines**

The following policy and procedures shall govern member schools that appoint individuals who are not faculty members or other full-time or part-time employees to serve as coaches:

1. An individual who is not a member of the school’s faculty, or otherwise employed by the school on a full-time or part-time basis, may be appointed as either a head coach or assistant coach, in one of the following two ways:
   (a) The individual may be placed under written contract with, but not otherwise employed by, the school to serve as a coach; or
   (b) The individual may be a volunteer and not under written contract with the school. In this case, however, the individual must sign and file with the principal an agreement to abide by the bylaws, regulations, policies and procedures of the FHSAA.

2. When the head coach is a volunteer as defined in 1(b) above and not a full-time or part-time employee of the school, or under written contract with the school, the principal must assign a full-time employee of the school to accompany the team or individual competitors to all contests in which it or they participate.

3. A public school must continue to abide by all obligations under Florida Statutes, Department of Education regulations and district school board policy.
POLICY 21

Guidelines for Advisory Committees

The Board of Directors, subject to the provisions of the Bylaws, has complete authority to organize and conduct such statewide interscholastic activities as may or may not lead to state championships and to establish regulations for these activities. Whenever it is deemed advisable, the Board of Directors shall call upon specialists from the high school field for such technical or other advice and assistance as may seem necessary. In exercising this right, the Board of Directors has established a number of advisory committees comprised of individuals – experts in their field – who work with the various programs of the Association. These advisory committees shall operate according to the following guidelines:

A. Purpose and Authority

1. An advisory committee exists solely for the purpose of evaluating the FHSAA program(s) with which it is charged. In achieving its purpose, the committee shall review FHSAA regulations which govern the program(s); offer to the Board of Directors recommendations for change to such regulations as it deems appropriate; and offer advice and guidance to the Board of Directors and staff.

2. An advisory committee shall have no direct authority to establish guidelines, regulations, policies or procedures; and its decisions and recommendations shall not be final unless adopted by the Board of Directors in general session.

3. An item must pass an advisory committee by simple majority vote to be referred to the Board of Directors. A tie vote among voting members on any item shall defeat the item.

4. An item first passed by an advisory committee shall be publicized for one year until the next regularly scheduled meeting of that advisory committee in the following school year. At this meeting, the advisory committee will reconsider the item for second passage. Upon second passage, the item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board of Directors. The Commissioner, however, may authorize that a recommendation be fast-tracked through the process if he/she determines the recommendation to be essential to the betterment of the program.

5. Five (5) of the voting members of an advisory committee shall constitute a quorum.

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.

7. An advisory committee may introduce a proposed amendment to the FHSAA Bylaws for consideration.

B. Athletic Directors Advisory Committee

1. The Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall be comprised of nine individuals – two member school athletic directors elected by their peers from each of the Association’s four administrative sections as well as the president of the Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (FIAAA) if he/she is not elected to represent a section. No member of any sports advisory committee shall be eligible to also serve as a member of the Athletic Directors Advisory Com-
mittee, or vice versa. Each elected member of the committee shall serve a term of three years and shall not be eligible to succeed himself/herself. A rotation of terms shall be established to ensure that not more than one-half of the elected members’ terms expire concurrently. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

2. The Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall meet three times annually – once following each season’s round of sports advisory committee meetings to review the recommendations brought forward by those committees; and to evaluate the entire FHSAA interscholastic athletic program, making such recommendations of its own as it deems necessary. In reviewing the recommendations brought forward by the various sports advisory committees, the Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall either give its endorsement or withhold its endorsement on each recommendation, but shall not have the authority to defeat any recommendation.

C. Sports Advisory Committees

1. There shall be an advisory committee in each sport in which the FHSAA sanctions a State Series competition. Currently, these sports are baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, volleyball, weightlifting and wrestling.

2. Each sport advisory committee shall be comprised of nine individuals – two member school head coaches elected by their peers from each of the Association’s four administrative sections as well as the Florida Athletic Coaches Association (FACA) state chairperson in that sport if he/she is not elected to represent a section. Each elected member of the committee shall serve a term of three years and shall not be eligible to succeed himself/herself. A rotation of terms shall be established to ensure that not more than one-half of the elected members’ terms expire concurrently. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee. In sports in which schools enter both girls and boys teams, representation on the committee shall be one-half girls team coaches and one-half boys team coaches. The FHSAA staff shall establish a rotation to ensure such equitable gender representation.

3. Each sports advisory committee shall meet once annually following the conclusion of its respective State Series to evaluate the FHSAA program for that sport.

D. Officials Advisory Committee

1. There shall be an Officials Advisory Committee comprised of 28 members: four officials from each of the sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, volleyball and wrestling, one from each of the four administrative sections. All committee members shall be elected by those officials who are registered and in good standing in that sport and who are in attendance at the mandatory FHSAA Rules Clinics. Florida’s representative to the National Federation Officials Association (NFOA), if not elected to serve on the committee, shall be an ex-officio member of the committee and shall have no vote.

2. The Officials Advisory Committee shall meet at least once annually to evaluate the FHSAA officials program.
E. Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

1. There will be a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to provide a voice in the FHSAA governance structure to the Association’s largest constituency – the more than 200,000 participating student-athletes. The committee will focus on the following areas: current issues facing student-athletes, input regarding rules and regulations, input on FHSAA special initiatives (e.g., sportsmanship program), and promoting a positive image of the student-athlete.

2. The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will be comprised of 16 members: two student-athletes from Administrative Section 1 (one from Legislative Divisions 1-4 and one from Legislative Divisions 5-8); four student-athletes from Administrative Section 2 (two from Legislative Divisions 9-12 and two from Legislative Divisions 13-16); four student-athletes from Administrative Section 3 (two from Legislative Divisions 17-20 and four from Legislative Divisions 21-24); and six student-athletes from Administrative Section 4 (two from Legislative Divisions 25-28 and four from Legislative Divisions 29-32).

3. Each member school will be allowed to nominate one male and one female student-athlete for consideration. To be eligible for nomination, the student-athlete must meet the following requirements:
   (a) Must be an active student-athlete participating in at least one FHSAA-sanctioned sport at his/her school;
   (b) Must be a sophomore (rising junior) or junior (rising senior) in good academic and disciplinary standing;
   (c) Must show commitment toward representing the interests of all student-athletes;
   (d) Must display strong character and commitment to sportsmanship and integrity; and
   (e) Must demonstrate leadership in his/her school.

4. Committee members will be selected by the FHSAA staff. The selection process will take into consideration gender, racial and sport diversity to ensure a well-rounded committee.

5. The committee will meet one or twice annually. The FHSAA will provide lodging for each committee member and his/her adult chaperon, as well as reimbursement for travel and meal expenses).

F. Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

1. There shall be a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee comprised of physicians and other specialists from the medical community. In comprising this committee, the Commissioner shall make every effort to secure specialists in the fields of neurological medicine, cardio-pulmonary medicine, orthopedic medicine, dentistry, sports psychology, diet, general medicine and athletic training.

2. The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee shall meet at least once annually to review the interscholastic athletic program and make recommendations on safety and other health-related issues.

G. Public Liaison Advisory Committee

1. Pursuant to s. 1006.20(6), Florida Statutes, the Association shall establish, sustain, fund and provide staff support to a Public Liaison Advisory Committee composed of the following:
(a) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee;
(b) A member public school principal;
(c) A member nonpublic school principal;
(d) A member school principal who is a member of a racial minority;
(e) An active athletic director;
(f) An active coach, who is employed full time by a member school;
(g) A student athlete;
(h) A district school superintendent;
(i) A district school board member;
(j) A member of the Florida House of Representatives;
(k) A member of the Florida Senate;
(l) A parent of a high school student;
(m) A member of a home education association;
(n) A representative of the business community; and
(o) A representative of the news media.

No member of the Board of Directors, a Sectional Appeals Committee or the Representative Assembly is eligible to serve on the Public Liaison Advisory Committee.

The Public Liaison Advisory Committee shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among its members.

2. The authority and duties of the Public Liaison Advisory Committee are as follows:

(a) To act as a conduit through which the general public may have input into the decisionmaking process of the Association and to assist the Association in the development of procedures regarding the receipt of public input and disposition of complaints related to high school athletic and competition programs.

(b) To conduct public hearings annually in each of the four administrative sections during which interested parties may address issues regarding the effectiveness of the rules, operation, and management of the organization.

(c) To conduct an annual evaluation of its findings, organization as a whole and recommendations to the Board of Directors, to the Commissioner of Education, and to the respective education committees of the Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives. The recommendations must delineate policies and procedures that will improve the implementation and oversight of high school athletic programs by the organization.

3. The Public Liaison Advisory Committee shall meet four times annually. Additional meetings may be called by the committee chairperson, the Association president, or the Commissioner.

POLICY 22

Policy on Summer Athletic Participation

The Board of Directors has established the following guidelines relative to athletic participation by member schools during the summer:
A. Policy

1. The FHSAA does not regulate the athletic activities of member schools during the summer as defined herein with the exception of football. The individual member school principal, district school superintendent, district school board or private school governing body are totally responsible for adopting regulations governing the activities of their respective schools during this period of time.

2. A member school shall not permit student-athletes in its football programs to wear helmets or pads or engage in physical contact in any activity sponsored by or under the supervision of the school during the summer. This shall not preclude the school from issuing school-owned equipment to a student-athlete for his/her use at a summer football camp, provided the camp is organized, operated and conducted by a third-party entity.

B. Summer Defined

The summer season is defined as that period of time outside the FHSAA Sports Year. This period for each member school is defined as beginning the day following the school’s last day of classes for the spring semester or the day following the school’s last day of spring athletic activities (including spring football practice), whichever is later, or June 1 for schools whose last day of classes for the spring semester occurs on May 31 or thereafter, and concluding with the Saturday of Week 4 in the FHSAA standardized calendar for the following school year.

C. Rationale for Policy

Over the past several years many outside agencies promoting summer athletic participation opportunities have evolved in various sports such as:

- Baseball – Babe Ruth, American Legion, City/County leagues
- Basketball – AAU, USA, USOC
- Golf – USGA, AJGA
- Soccer – FIFA, Youth leagues
- Softball – ASA, USSSA
- Swimming & Diving – USS, NISCA, ASCA, CSCAA, AAU
- Tennis – FTA, USTA, USOC, ITF
- Volleyball – USVBA, USOC, USA, AVA
- Wrestling – USA, AAU

Depending upon the location and facilities of member schools, the above opportunities are made available to students in varying degrees. However, summer participation opportunities are virtually non-existent in sports such as football, track and field and cross country.

Many member schools adhered to previous FHSAA summer regulations. Others, however, did not. It is unreasonable to assume that the FHSAA has either the resources or personnel to monitor all summer activities participated in by its membership.

D. Intent of Policy

It is not the intent of this policy to deregulate summer activities in order to allow member schools to promote interscholastic athletic competition during the summer. To the contrary, interscholastic athletic competition during the summer is highly discouraged. School involvement may range from a highly developed program to no involvement at all as the district school board, district school super-
The intent of this policy is to allow those directly responsible for the school more flexibility in providing opportunities for students to become involved in activities of their choice under adult supervision.

E. Questions Raised by Summer Athletics

Each district school board or governing body of a private school is encouraged to consider the following questions relative to participation in athletics during the summer by students enrolled in its schools (this list is certainly not all inclusive):

(a) Does the school have on file the parents’ written permission for the student to participate in summer athletics?
(b) Has the student undergone a physical examination within the last calendar year?
(c) Does the student, while participating in summer athletics, have catastrophic insurance coverage?
(d) Should the student be allowed to use school-owned equipment while participating in summer athletics?
(e) Should the student be allowed the use of school facilities for participation while participating in summer athletics?
(f) Should the school or head coach require the student to participate in summer athletics or should such participation be strictly voluntary?
(g) How should conflicts which may arise between various sports programs and head coaches within a school relative to summer participation by students be resolved?
(h) Will pressure to participate in summer athletics encourage students to specialize in a particular sport rather than encourage them to participate in a variety of sports?

POLICY 23

Off-Season Conditioning Guidelines

The Board of Directors has established the following guidelines relative to off-season conditioning programs conducted by member schools:

1. Definitions.
   (a) Off-season. “Off-season” means the period of time during the regular school year but outside the defined sport season for a specific sport.
   (b) Sports Season. “Sports season” means the period of time for a specific school team in each respective sport that begins with the first permissible date of practice in that sport and ends either with (a) the last permissible date for a regular season contest (if not participating in state series competition) in that sport; (b) the date of the team’s elimination from state series competition in that sport; or (c) the state championship game in that sport; whichever first occurs for that team. During a sports season a school may organize its teams in the sport for practice and interscholastic athletic competition within the regulations established to govern that specific sport.
   (c) Conditioning. Weight training is the use of free weights and stationary
apparatus. Cardiovascular conditioning is distance and interval training. Plyometrics is the use of pre-set conditioning programs. Conditioning IS NOT teaching sport specific skills and drills, and DOES NOT involve the use of sport specific equipment (i.e. starting blocks, hurdles, rebounders, ball machines, bats, balls, rackets, etc.).

2. Off-season conditioning programs conducted by a school shall be open to participation by all students enrolled in that school.

3. All preseason and/or postseason conditioning program participants shall file with the school the “FHSAA Consent and Release of Liability Certificate” and the “FHSAA Preparticipation Physical Evaluation” form.

4. Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

5. Supervision by school personnel is required.

6. It is recommended that instruction be part of the off-season conditioning program.

7. It is recommended and strongly encouraged that schools provide information in the following areas:
   (a) Proper use of weightroom equipment
   (b) Proper weight training techniques
   (c) Proper nutrition
   (d) Proper cardiovascular conditioning techniques
   (e) Ergogenics

8. The school administration shall assume the responsibility for ensuring compliance with these guidelines.

9. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following:
   (a) Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.
   (b) Loss of permissible practice time.
   (c) Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement of a minimum of $500 to each affected school and the FHSAA.
   (d) Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.
   (e) Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

**POLICY 24**

**Off-Season Participation Guidelines**

The Board of Directors has established the following guidelines relative to contact by coaches in a given sport with student-athletes who participate in that sport at times during the school year outside that sport’s season as defined in “Sport Seasons Guidelines” contained elsewhere in this handbook:

1. Definitions.
   (a) **Off-Season.** “Off-season” means the period of time during the regular school year but outside the defined sport season for a specific sport.
   (b) **Sports Season.** “Sports season” means the period of time for a specific
school team in each respective sport that begins with the first permissible date of practice in that sport and ends either with (a) the last permissible date for a regular season contest (if not participating in state series competition) in that sport; (b) the date of the team’s elimination from state series competition in that sport; or (c) the state championship game in that sport; whichever first occurs for that team. During a sports season a school may organize its teams in the sport for practice and interscholastic athletic competition within the regulations established to govern that specific sport.

(c) **Coach.** “Coach” means any person, regardless of whether they are employed or volunteer, who instructs, supervises, or otherwise manages student-athletes in conjunction with a practice, tryout, drill, workout, evaluation or competitive activity.

(d) **“Involved In Any Respect.”** “Involved in any respect” means engaged in anything to do with a non-school team, including but not limited to, coaching, scheduling, transporting, officiating and the hiring of officials, training, taping, managing team expenses, purchasing of uniforms and equipment, etc.

2. During the off-season, a coach may have contact with students outside the normal teacher-student classroom environment to make arrangements for and assist in the conduct of physical examinations; explain eligibility regulations; solve insurance problems; review films; build morale; and conduct off-season conditioning as defined in the “Off-Season Conditioning Guidelines” contained elsewhere in this handbook.

3. During the off-season, a coach or prospective coach of any member school may be involved with a non-school team in a sport that he/she coaches provided the non-school team meets the following requirements:

(a) The team must be affiliated with an outside agency promoting athletic participation opportunities such as, but not limited to:

   Baseball – Babe Ruth, American Legion, city/county leagues
   Basketball – AAU, USA, USOC
   Golf – USGA, AJGA
   Soccer – FIFA, Youth leagues
   Softball – ASA, USSSA
   Swimming & Diving – USS, NISCA, ASCA, CSCAA, AAU
   Tennis – FTA, USTA, USOC, ITF
   Track & Field – USA, AAU
   Volleyball – USVBA, USOC, USA, AVA
   Wrestling – USA, AAU

(b) Participation must include a published schedule of competition.

(c) All fees or assessment for participation must be documented.

(d) Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

4. Participation by a student in non-school athletics (i.e. AAU, American Legion, club settings, etc.) that is affiliated with any school other than the school which the student attends, or attended the prior year, followed by enrollment by that student in the affiliated school, shall be considered prima facie evidence of recruiting by the school to which that student enrolled, or that the student enrolled...
in that school in whole or in part for athletic reasons. Unless this prima facie evi-
dence of recruiting or that the student enrolled in the new school in whole or in
part for athletic reasons is disproved by the school and student to the satisfaction of
the Commissioner, the student shall be ineligible to represent that school in inter-
scholastic athletic competition for a period of 365 consecutive days from the date
of his/her enrollment in that school. A team affiliated with a school is one that is
organized by and/or coached by any member of the coaching staff at, or any other
person affiliated with, that school; and/or on which the majority of the members of
the team (participants in practice and/or competition) are students who attend that
school (Bylaw 11.4.12).

5. Member schools may make their gymnasiums and other athletic facilities
available to outside groups or organizations such as USA Wrestling, AAU Bas-
ketball, American Legion Baseball and others as approved by the school district
or governing body for a private school for the conduct of recreational activities
programs without being in violation of FHSAA Bylaws under the following guide-
lines:

(a) The school may not assume responsibility for, nor provide facilities for,
these activities except under the condition that if the school’s facilities are used,
such facilities must be contracted to the group or organization that is responsible
for the program.

(b) The school may not assume liability or insurance responsibility for non-
school recreational activities.

6. The school administration shall assume the responsibility for ensuring
compliance with these guidelines.

7. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of
penalties including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.

(b) Loss of permissible practice time.

(c) Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason
classic with reimbursement of a minimum of $500 to each affected school and the
FHSAA.

(d) Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.

(e) Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

POLICY 25
Open Facilities Program Guidelines

The Board of Directors has established the following guidelines relative to the
conduct of open facilities programs by member schools:

1. Member schools may open their gymnasiums and other athletic facili-
ties to students without being in violation of FHSAA Bylaws under the following
guidelines:

(a) The facility must be open to all students who are bona fide students in that
school as defined in Bylaw 11.1.1. Opening facilities to a select group of students
to practice individual skills for a specific sport is a violation of this policy.
(b) A student may participate in open facility activities only in the school in which he/she is a bona fide student as defined in Bylaw 11.1.1.

(c) A middle school student cannot participate in open facilities activities offered by a senior high school unless the middle school student is a bona fide student in that senior high school as defined in Bylaw 11.1.1.

(d) Supervision by school personnel is required. School personnel, including faculty and non-faculty coaches in attendance, however, shall not provide coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport. Their presence may be in a supervisory capacity only.

(e) Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

(f) No sport specific tasks or drills shall be taught or assigned to students to perform during open facility activities.

(g) Open facility activities in a specific sport (i.e. baseball, girls basketball, boys volleyball, wrestling, etc.) shall be concluded a minimum of two weeks prior to the first permissible date of interscholastic practice in that sport.

(h) The school administration shall assume the responsibility for ensuring compliance with these guidelines.

2. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.

(b) Loss of permissible practice time.

(c) Loss of privilege to participate in a preseason jamboree or preseason classic with reimbursement of a minimum of $500 to each affected school and the FHSAA.

(d) Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.

(e) Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

POLICY 26
Guidelines for Conduct of Coaching Schools, Camps, Clinics, Workshops by Member Schools

Member schools, coaches or other athletic department employees of member schools, and individuals, groups or organizations related to or affiliated with member schools may conduct coaching schools, camps, clinics or workshops provided:

(a) The coaching school, camp, clinic or workshop is approved by the district school superintendent and/or district school board and member school principal if use of school equipment and/or school facilities are to be used.

(b) The event is conducted only during the summer as defined in the Policy on Summer Athletic Participation.

(c) The event is open to any student and is not restricted to certified athletes from any given school or feeder school.

(d) Participation in the event by students is not an actual or implied prerequi-
site to their membership on a high school team.

(e) Fees for the students who participate in the event are not paid by the school, coach or school district.

(f) Discounts on fees or complimentary admission to the event are not granted to any student.

(g) A coach or athletic department employee or other individual related to or affiliated with the school does not transport any student to or from the event.

(h) The event is conducted in such a manner that none of its activities might be construed as an attempt on the part of a member school or a coach or other representative or a member school to unduly influence, offer special inducement or otherwise attempt to solicit the transfer of a prospective student-athlete not already enrolled in the school.

(i) Students may accept a nominal fee for instructing, supervising and/or officiating in an organized youth sports program.

POLICY 27

Guidelines for Participation by Student-Athletes in Coaching Schools, Camps, Clinics, Workshops

The following guidelines govern participation of students of FHSAA member schools in coaching schools, camps, clinics or workshops for an interscholastic sport.

1. Individuals. Students from FHSAA member schools may participate as individuals in coaching schools, camps, clinics or workshops at any time of the year without jeopardizing their interscholastic athletic eligibility, provided:

(a) Students participating in the event do not, in any way, represent their school.

(b) Fees for the students who participate in the event are not paid by the school, coach or school district.

(c) Students provide their own transportation or are provided transportation by their own school. No student may be transported to or from the event by an employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of any school other than the school that the student currently attends.

2. Teams. FHSAA member schools may permit their athletic teams to participate in coaching schools, camps, clinics or workshops without jeopardizing their interscholastic athletic eligibility, provided:

(a) The coaching school, camp, clinic or workshop takes place only during the summer as defined in the Policy on Summer Athletic Participation. Participation by school teams in coaching schools, camps, clinics or workshops held during the school year is strictly prohibited.

(b) Fees for the students or team who participate in the event are not paid by the school, coach or school district.

(c) Participation in the event by students is not an actual or implied prerequisite to their membership on the team.
POLICY 28

Guidelines for Participation by Student-Athletes in All-Star Games

The following guidelines govern participation of students of FHSAA member schools in all-star contests for an interscholastic sport.

1. A high school all-star team is a team comprised of athletes who are selected as team members or invited to participate in a try out for membership on the team as the result of the athletes’ performance as a high school athlete. No student at a member school shall participate on a high school all-star team in a sport as a result of his/her performance as a high school athlete until the student completes his/her interscholastic athletic eligibility in that sport.

2. Students from FHSAA member schools may participate as individuals in all-star games without jeopardizing their interscholastic athletic eligibility, provided:
   (a) The all-star game, or tryouts or practices for the all-star game, may not be conducted prior to the completion of the regular season in the sport in which the all-star game is to be conducted. An all-star game, however, shall not be played on any date on which an FHSAA Series Series contest in that sport is scheduled.
   (b) The student-athlete has exhausted his/her eligibility in the sport in which the all-star contest is to be conducted.
   (c) Fees for the student-athlete who participates in the all-star contest are not paid by the school, coach or school district.

3. A student-athlete who participates in an all-star contest in a sport in which he/she has not exhausted his/her eligibility will be ineligible to represent any FHSAA member school in that sport for a period of one calendar year from the date of participation in the contest.

POLICY 29

Schools’ Responsibilities to FHSAA Officials

The Board of Directors has charged member schools 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.

4. The host school should provide the officials access to private shower facilities with hot water whenever possible.

5. The host school should provide the officials with refreshments (i.e., water and/or sports drinks) during the halftime intermission, following the conclusion of
the contest 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.

9. The host school for state series contests beyond the district level 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 head referee 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.

POLICY 30

Rules of Conduct for FHSAA Officials

The Board of Directors has established the following provisions as 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 the FHSAA Officials Guidebook.

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

4. All FHSAA officials are expected to 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 work 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 hustle at all times.

6. No FHSAA official may officiate a contest involving a school which his/her child currently attends, a relative currently works, or from which the official himself/herself attended or graduated within the last 15 years. Additionally, no FHSAA official who is employed by a member school may officiate a contest involving a team from that school except as provided in Article 9.10.2 of the FHSAA Bylaws which states, “Coaches or other persons connected with competing schools shall not officiate in contests except with the consent of all competing schools.”

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 satisfactory reason.

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 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 the 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.

**POLICY 31**

**Policy on Crowd Control**

The Board of Directors has established the following policy with regard to crowd control at interscholastic athletic contests:

1. The home school administration is responsible for the control of spectators during an athletic contest. The FHSAA recommends that the home school administration secure uniformed security to assist with this responsibility.

2. The visiting school administration is encouraged to assist with the control of its own spectators. Visiting school administrators (i.e., principal, FHSAA representative, assistant principals and athletic director) who are required by their principal to attend the event for supervisory purposes upon presentation of a photo I.D. must be provided complimentary admission to the event, provided the visiting school submits their names to the home school administration by fax in writing on
school stationery not less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the event.

3. The officials assigned to officiate a contest are responsible for the on-the-court or on-the-field conduct of the contest itself. 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.

4. Both the officials assigned to officiate a contest and the home school administration are required to file with the FHSAA Office by fax within 24 hours a written report on any contest that is disrupted or terminated due to interference by a spectator(s).

POLICY 32
Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Article 2.1.1 of the FHSAA Bylaws states that one of the aims of the Association is “to promote the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play in all athletic contests . . .” To this end, the following policy shall govern unsportsmanlike conduct at all interscholastic athletic contests in both the regular season and FHSAA state championship series involving member schools:

A. Sportsmanship and Ethics
Student-athletes, coaches, administrators, spectators and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with a member school, as well as contest officials, shall adhere to the principles of good sportsmanship and the ethics of competition before, during and after all contests in which they participate and/or attend.

B. Disqualification of a Student-Athlete
1. Penalties Assessed the Student-Athlete: (a) A student-athlete who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or a flagrant foul will be ineligible to compete for the remainder of that contest and in any interscholastic athletic contest for the next seven (7) calendar day at the same level, or any level, of participation in which the student-athlete was disqualified (ejected). If less than two (2) contests are scheduled during this seven-day period of time at the same level as disqualification (ejection), the student will be ineligible for the next football game or a minimum of the next two (2) contests in all other sports. If the disqualification (ejection) occurs in the last contest of a season, the student will be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates.

(b) A student-athlete who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest for any
act of gross unsportsmanlike conduct, or a second or subsequent act of general unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest for a period of up to six weeks. Acts constituting gross unsportsmanlike conduct are defined in FHSAA Bylaw 11.11.2.

(c) it is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure this policy is enforced. When an ineligible student is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This policy applies to all regular season and State Series.

Interpretation: For all sports other than football, a student disqualified (ejected) from any contest will be suspended from participation for a minimum period of one week AND a minimum of two contests at the same level as disqualified (ejected).

2. Penalties Assessed the School: (a) In the event that more than three (3) students from the same school are disqualified (ejected) for unsportsmanlike conduct in any one sport, that school – beginning with the fourth disqualification (ejection) – will be immediately placed on administrative probation in that sport for one or more years, and will be assessed a minimum financial penalty of $100 per disqualification (ejection) in that sport for the remainder of that sport’s season.

Example 1: A school has had three players disqualified (ejected) in earlier football games. During a later football game a fourth player is disqualified (ejected). The school’s football program will be placed on administrative probation and the school will be fined a minimum of $100 for the disqualification (ejection) of the fourth football player and each subsequent disqualification (ejection) in football for the remainder of the season.

Example 2: A school has had no disqualifications (ejections) in boys basketball. However, during a boys basketball game, a bench-clearing brawl occurs and six of the school’s players are disqualified (ejected) as a result. The school’s boys basketball program will be placed on administrative probation and the school will be fined a minimum of $100 for each of the fourth, fifth and sixth players disqualified (ejected), for a minimum total of $300. This fine will be in addition to the $100 minimum fine assessed for the bench-clearing brawl. The school also will be fined a minimum of $100 for every other disqualification (ejection) in boys basketball for the remainder of the season.

(b) When the first disqualification (ejection) of a student for “gross unsportsmanlike conduct” as defined in FHSAA Bylaw 11.11.2 occurs in any sport, a written warning shall be issued to the school represented by the offending student that each subsequent disqualification (ejection) of a student for an act of “gross unsportsmanlike conduct” in any sport will subject the school to a minimum financial penalty of $250 per occurrence. Beginning with the next (second) disqualification (ejection) of a student for an act of “gross unsportsmanlike conduct” the minimum financial penalty of $250 will be assessed.

C. Disqualification of a Coach

1. Penalties Assessed the Coach: (a) A coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be suspended from coaching for the remainder of that contest and in any interscholastic athletic contest for the next seven (7) calendar days at the same level, or any level, of participation in which the coach was disqualified (ejected). If less than two (2) contests are scheduled during
this seven-day period of time at the same level as the disqualification (ejection), the coach will be suspended from coaching the next football game or a minimum of the next two (2) contests in all other sports. If the disqualification (ejection) occurs in the last contest of a season, the coach will be suspended for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which he/she coaches.

(b) A coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest for any act of gross unsportsmanlike conduct, or a second or subsequent act of general unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be suspended from coaching in any interscholastic athletic contest for a period of up to six weeks. Acts constituting gross unsportsmanlike conduct are defined in FHSAA Bylaw 11.11.2.

(c) When disqualified (ejected) from a contest, a coach shall immediately leave the premises or facility (i.e. gymnasium in basketball, volleyball and wrestling; stadium in baseball, football, soccer and softball, etc.) to a place where the coach is not visible to either student-athletes, officials, spectators or other coaches; and to where the contest itself is not visible to the coach. A disqualified (ejected) coach shall not have any further contact with or give instruction to athletes or other members of the coaching staff for the remainder of the contest, including halftime intermission, breaks between quarters, periods or innings and post-contest activities.

(d) A coach who has drawn a suspension from the next contest or number of contests after having been disqualified (ejected) from the previous contest shall not attend the contest(s) from which he/she has been suspended in any capacity and shall not be present at the site(s) of such contest(s). A suspended coach also shall be prohibited from accompanying his/her team to the site(s) of such contest(s).

2. **Penalties Assessed the School:** (a) A school whose coach is disqualified (ejected) from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed a minimum financial penalty of $100. Additional minimum fines may be imposed for unsportsmanlike conduct.

(b) It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure this policy is enforced. When a coach is allowed to coach in a contest from which he/she has been suspended, the school shall face additional penalties. This policy applies to all regular season and State Series contests.

**POLICY 33**

**Policy on the Use of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Substances**

The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following policy with regard to the use of alcohol, tobacco and other substances by student-athletes, coaches and officials:

1. The use of alcohol, tobacco or tobacco-like products by student-athletes, coaches and officials is prohibited during the contest and in the vicinity of the playing field or court. A student-athlete in violation of this policy is guilty of gross unsportsmanlike conduct, will be ejected from the contest and will be suspended from subsequent contests for a period of up to six weeks in accordance with the
FHSAA Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct. Additionally, the official must report
any violation of this policy by either 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 penalty or suspension or both.

2. The use of anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs by a
student-athlete is not permissible and is considered to be an act of gross unsports-
manlike conduct. A student-athlete discovered to be using such substances will
be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic contest until such time as medical
evidence can be presented that the student’s system is free of those substances.

POLICY 34

Inclement Weather Policy for Outdoor Contests

The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following policy in the
event of inclement weather which threatens an outdoor contest:

1. If a 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 in the contest to determine if the con-
test should be played as scheduled, delayed, suspended or postponed. If the prin-
cipal 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.

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. Other-
wise, National Federation Rules regarding the resumption of suspended con-
tenst will apply.

POLICY 35

Cheerleading Guidelines

The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following policy with
regard to the activities of cheerleaders:

A. General Regulations

1. Cheerleaders are prohibited from building pyramids higher than two
tiers during any routine in practice or during a performance in conjunction with an
interscholastic contest. Host school principals are responsible for the enforcement
of this regulation during regular season contests. Tournament/Meet managers and
directors will be responsible for the enforcement of the regulation during FHSAA
State Series contests.

2. Prior to a student’s participation in cheerleading tryouts, practice or performance, the student must secure a physician’s certificate to the effect that the student is physically fit for participation.

S. 1006.18, FLORIDA STATUTES – Safety Standards for Cheerleaders. The Florida High School Athletic Association or successor organization shall adopt statewide uniform safety standards for student cheerleaders and spirit groups that participate in any school activity or extracurricular student activity. The Florida High School Athletic Association or successor organization shall adopt the “Official High School Spirit Rules,” published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, as the statewide uniform safety standards.

B. Indoor Contests

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

2. Officials are responsible for the enforcement of this regulation. First offense – warning; Second and subsequent offense – technical foul in basketball; awarding of point against violating school in volleyball and wrestling.

POLICY 36
Guidelines for Photographing, Filming and Videotaping Athletic Contests

The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following guidelines for photographing, filming and/or videotaping athletic contests involving member schools:

A. Regular Season Contests

1. Representatives of a visiting school may photograph, film or videotape their team’s or contestants’ performance in a contest only when permission is secured from and arrangements are made with the host school principal. Photographers, videographers and their equipment must be positioned so that they do not block the view of any spectator.

2. No representative of a school that is not participating in a contest may photograph, film or videotape all or any part of the contest unless permission to do so is granted by the principal of each school that is participating in the contest.

B. State Series Contests

1. State series contests are the sole property of the FHSAA and may not be reproduced and marketed or otherwise distributed or publicly displayed in any manner without the express written permission of the FHSAA. The FHSAA retains all rights to the television broadcast or cablecast, radio broadcast, internet broadcast (audio and/or video), videotaping, filming and photographing of all state series contests.

2. The FHSAA, subject to the policies of the host facility, allows still cameras and video cameras to be used at state series contests so that participants and spectators may record the excitement and festivities for their own personal use – not for the purposes of commercial re-sale or public redistribution in any form.
Only those duly authorized organizations or individuals who have been granted appropriate rights by contract or by issued credential shall be permitted to sell or publicly display or otherwise redistribute images and sounds of state series contests and then only in accordance with the terms and conditions established by the FHSAA.

3. Each participating school shall be permitted to photograph, film or videotape, for archival, coaching or instructional purposes, only those state series contests in which its team or contestants perform when arrangements are made with the contest management. Photographers, videographers and their equipment must be positioned so that they do not block the view of any spectator.

4. There may be additional guidelines or restrictions for FHSAA Finals state championship events. Consult the appropriate athletic regulations manual governing a sport for additional guidelines or restrictions concerning photographing, filming and videotaping at a state championship event in that sport.

C. Penalty

1. A school that violates these guidelines shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct and will be subject to reprimand and the assessment of a financial penalty by the FHSAA.

2. An organization or individual who violates these guidelines, and in so doing infringes upon the rights of the FHSAA as stated hereinabove, shall be subject to one or more of the following actions: remedies under breach of contract; revocation of credentials; expulsion from the site of competition; and legal action under applicable state and federal laws.

POLICY 37
Policy on Boarding Schools

The following policy and procedures shall govern boarding schools that are members of the FHSAA. A boarding student who attends a boarding school that does not comply fully with the provisions of this policy shall not be eligible to represent the boarding school in interscholastic athletic competition.

1. A boarding school is defined as a school that has an enrolled resident boarding school population in the ninth through 12th grades of at least 25 boarding students or 10 percent of the full student enrollment in its ninth through 12th grades, whichever is greater. Schools that do not meet these enrollment requirements must satisfy the additional requirements set forth in paragraph 8 and its subparagraphs hereinbelow.

2. A boarding school must have appropriate dormitory facilities to house, feed and provide general living accommodations for boarding students. A boarding school must also employ and have on duty 24 hours a day in the dormitories appropriately trained supervisory dormitory personnel.

3. A boarding school must be recognized as a boarding school in its own literature and must be verified as such by the Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS) and/or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

4. A boarding student must spend at least an average of five (5) days per
week living and boarding on campus while school is in session.

5. Not more than 50 percent of a school’s boarding students may be members of the school’s varsity or junior varsity athletic teams in any single sport.

6. Coaches or other individuals employed by or associated with a boarding school’s athletic program shall not serve as dormitory supervisors or otherwise live with boarding students in school housing.

7. Only those schools that qualify as boarding schools as defined herein may provide any assistance for room and board to students who participate in interscholastic athletics, and only if such assistance is based on financial need. In no other schools may room and board expense be included in the determination of school expenses and financial need.

8. A school that satisfies the requirements of paragraphs 2-7, but cannot satisfy the requirements of paragraph 1, shall comply with the following additional requirements:

(a) The school shall notify the FHSAA in writing of the name of each boarding student, his/her grade in school and the interscholastic sport(s) in which he/she will participate;

(b) Not more than 25 percent of the school’s boarding students may be members of the school’s varsity or junior varsity athletic teams in any single sport;

(c) The school shall permit the FHSAA to conduct on-site inspections of the school, the full costs of such inspections to be borne solely by the school; and

(d) The FHSAA at anytime may disqualify the students enrolled in the school’s boarding program from further interscholastic athletic participation should the Commissioner determine that the school is using the boarding program for any improper athletic purpose.

**POLICY 38**

**Policy on Athletic Recruiting**

The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following policy with regard to the recruiting of students for athletic purposes by member schools:

**1.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

**1.1 Athletic Recruiting Forbidden.** Athletic recruiting is a gross violation of the spirit and philosophy of educational athletics. Athletic recruiting is unethical and unsporting conduct, and is forbidden by FHSAA Bylaws (FHSAA Bylaw 7.6.1).

**1.2 Scope of School’s Responsibility.** A school’s responsibility for the conduct of its interscholastic athletic program includes responsibility for:

(a) The acts of any employee or athletic department staff member;

(b) The acts of an independent person, business or organization that is a representative of the school’s athletic interests when a member of the school’s administration or athletic department staff knows or should know that the person, business or organization is promoting the school’s interscholastic athletic program; and

(c) The acts of any other independent person, business or organization act-
ing at the request, direction, or otherwise on behalf of any employee or representative of the school’s athletic interests.

1.3 **Compliance Programs.** Schools are expected to educate all employees, athletic department staff members and representatives of the school’s athletic interests about acts that are prohibited by this policy. Schools must immediately report to the FHSAA Office such impermissible acts when they are discovered to have occurred.

1.4 **Academic Recruitment Permissible.** A school may conduct an academic recruitment program that is designed to attract students to the school based upon its total educational and extracurricular (athletic and activities) program. A school must not use an academic recruitment program as a disguise for athletic recruiting.

1.5 **Financial Assistance Permissible.** Private schools, as well as developmental research schools operated by state universities, may administer school-based financial assistance programs for students who attend those schools. Financial assistance must be totally unrelated to a student’s athletic interest, potential or performance. Financial assistance based even partially on a student’s athletic interest, potential or performance is not permitted.

1.6 **Extra Benefit.** Student-athletes must not receive extra benefits, which are benefits that are not offered or generally made available to all other students in the school.

1.7 **Eligibility Effect of Violation.** A student who is found to have been athletically recruited or is found to have received an impermissible benefit will be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition for one or more years at the school to which the student was athletically recruited or at which he/she received the impermissible benefit, and may be declared ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition at all member schools for one or more years.

2.0 **GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

2.1 **Athletic Recruiting.** “Athletic recruiting” is any effort by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of a school’s athletic interests to pressure, urge or entice a student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

2.1.1 **Representative of a School’s Athletic Interests.** “Representative of a school’s athletic interests” refers to any independent person, business or organization 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 or organization 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 or organization that is otherwise involved in promoting the school’s interscholastic athletic program; and

2.2 Improper Contact. “Improper contact” is contact, either directly or indirectly, whether in person or through written or electronic communication, by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school’s athletic interests with a student who does not attend that school or any member of the student’s family, in an effort to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

2.3 Impermissible Benefit. An “impermissible benefit” is any arrangement, assistance or benefit that is not offered or generally made available to all students and/or their families who apply to or attend a school, or that otherwise is prohibited by FHSAA rules. Receipt of a benefit by a student-athlete or his/her family is not a violation of FHSAA rules if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the school’s students or family members and is not based in any way on athletic interest, potential or performance.

2.4 Financial Assistance. “Financial assistance” is funds from various sources that are administered and provided by a school to students to pay or assist in paying costs directly related to their education at the school.

3.0 IMPROPER CONTACT

3.1 General Regulation. No school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school’s athletic interests may make contact, either in person or through any form of written or electronic communication or through any third party, with a student who does not attend that school or any member of the student’s family, in an effort to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

3.2 Specific Prohibitions. Specifically prohibited contact by school employees, athletic department staff members and representatives of the school’s athletic interests with a student who does not attend that school includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Sending, or arranging for anyone else to send, any form of written or electronic communication to the student or any member of his/her family, in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

(b) Visiting or entertaining the student or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

(c) Making a presentation or distributing any form of advertisement, commercial or material that promotes primarily or exclusively the school’s athletic program or implies the school’s athletic program is better than the athletic program of any other school or suggests that the student’s athletic career would be better served by attending that school.

(d) Answering an inquiry by the student or any member of his/her family about athletic participation opportunities at the school with any response that
pressures, urges or entices the student to attend that school. The student or family member instead should be immediately referred to the school employee responsible for registrations or admissions.

(e) Providing transportation to the student or any member of his/her family to visit the school, to take an entrance examination for the school, to participate in an athletic tryout at the school, or to meet with a school employee, athletic department staff member or other representative of the school’s athletic interests as part of an effort to pressure, urge or facilitate the student’s attendance at that school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

(f) Attending an elementary school, a junior high school, a middle school or a non-school athletic contest to identify prospective student-athletes who might be recruited to attend the school.

(g) Suggesting or going along with any effort by any person, whether a school employee or other representative of the school’s athletic interests, or any other person such as an alumnus of the school, a coach or other person affiliated with a non-school athletic program (e.g., AAU team, club team, travel team, recreation league team, etc.), a coach of or recruiter for a collegiate athletic team, or a scout for a professional team, to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics, or to direct or place the student at the school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

(h) Making or arranging any other contact with the student or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

3.3 Contact Initiated by Prospective Student. When a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of a school’s athletic interests is contacted by a student who does not attend that school and/or any other member of his/her family, about the school’s interscholastic athletic program or attending the school, the school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school’s athletic interests must immediately refer the student and/or his/her family member to the appropriate school personnel who have the responsibility of registering and admitting prospective students.

3.4 Casual Contact with Students in Normal Community Settings. It is not considered a violation of this policy for an employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of a high school to have casual contact with a student who does not attend that school or any member of the student’s family in a normal community setting. At no time during such contact, however, may the employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of the high school pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the high school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

4.0 IMPERMISSIBLE BENEFIT

4.1 General Regulation. No school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school’s athletic interests may be involved, directly or indirectly, in promising, offering or giving an impermissible benefit to any student who does not attend that school or any member of his/her family in an attempt to entice the student to attend the school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics, or to any student-athlete who already attends that school.
Specific Prohibitions. Specifically prohibited arrangements, assistance or benefits include, but are not be limited to, the following:

(a) School-based financial assistance of any kind that exceeds the amount for which a student has been approved by an independent financial needs assessment company that is recognized by the FHSAA or otherwise is in excess of any supplemental assistance provided by the school to each and every student who qualifies for financial assistance.

(b) Cash or like items, such as credit cards, debit cards, gift cards, gift certificates, coupons or vouchers.

(c) Gift of clothing, equipment, merchandise or other tangible items.

(d) Loans or assistance in securing a loan of any kind.

(e) Payment for any work or service that is not performed or that is in excess of the amount normally paid for such work or service.

(f) Free or reduced-cost transportation.

(g) Living on a full- or part-time basis, regardless of whether rent is paid, with any school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school’s athletic interests.

(h) Free or reduced-cost rent for housing, vehicles or other items.

(i) Full or partial payment of moving expenses or assistance of any kind with an actual physical move.

(j) Employment or assistance in securing employment or contractual arrangement of any kind for which compensation may be paid.

(k) Promise of a position on an interscholastic athletic team or playing time as a member of the team.

(l) Promise of assistance in securing a college athletic scholarship.

(m) Free or reduced costs to attend a sport or skills camp.

(n) Any other form of arrangement, assistance or benefit that is not generally available to other students in the school or their families or that is based in any way on athletic ability.

5.0 ACADEMIC RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

5.1 References to Athletic Program. Any presentation conducted as part of a school’s academic recruitment program must promote the school’s overall educational and extracurricular programs. Any mention of the school’s interscholastic athletics program must be limited to a listing of the interscholastic sports sponsored by the school and to a description of the school’s athletic facilities. It is understood that the presentations and activities of all persons involved in the school’s academic recruitment program must avoid any references to the school’s athletic program that might pressure, urge or entice a student to attend that school for purposes of athletic participation. All such presentations and activities must be in keeping with the general spirit of the rules prohibiting athletic recruiting.

5.2 Open Houses. A school may conduct an open house for prospective students and members of their families. Information distributed and presentations made during the open house, as well as advertisements for the open house, must limit references to the school’s athletic program to a listing of the interscholastic sports sponsored by the school and to a description of the school’s athletic facilities. No information can be distributed or any statement made that in any way
implies that the school’s interscholastic athletic program is better than any other school’s interscholastic athletic program or that a student would be better served by participating in interscholastic athletics at that school as opposed to any other school.

6.0 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

6.1 School-Administered Financial Assistance. Financial assistance provided by a school must be administered by the school; meaning that the school, through an established process that conforms to this policy, makes the final determination of the student who is to receive the assistance and the amount of assistance to be given. No student-athlete may accept financial assistance from any other person, business or organization unless it is received from one upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent or is received through established and continuing programs to assist students that are administered by the State of Florida.

6.1.1 Criteria for Providing Financial Assistance. School-based financial assistance, unless otherwise specifically permitted in this policy, must be based entirely on financial need as determined by an independent financial needs assessment company that is approved by the FHSAA. A school may supplement the amount of financial assistance for which a student is determined to qualify provided the same form of supplemental assistance is provided to each and every student who qualifies for any amount of financial assistance. Financial assistance must be totally unrelated to a student’s athletic interest, potential or performance. Financial assistance based even partially on a student’s athletic interest, potential or performance is not permitted.

6.1.2 Assistance with Room or Meals. School-based financial assistance for costs associated with room or meals, other than those meals made available during the school day to all students, may be provided only to students who board at FHSAA-recognized boarding schools, and then only if such financial assistance is based on financial need. 

6.1.3 Work-Study Programs. A work-study program in which students receive financial assistance from a school in exchange for labor performed by the student for the school may be operated as follows:

(a) The school must limit participation in the work-study program to those students who have been independently determined to have a need for financial assistance.

(b) The school must submit to the FHSAA Office each school year a complete description of the work-study program and the process for determining the students who are chosen for participation.

(c) The school must maintain detailed records regarding each student who participates in the work-study program. These records must include a description of the job(s) performed by the student, a documentation of the hours worked by the student, and the amount of financial assistance given the student in exchange for his/her labor.

(d) A student-athlete must not receive financial assistance through a
work-study program during the season of the sport(s) in which the student-athlete participates.

(e) Athletic department staff members and other representatives of the school’s athletic interests cannot supervise student-athletes in work-study programs.

6.1.4 Approved Financial Needs Assessment Companies. The FHSAA has approved the following independent financial needs assessment companies:

Auncor Inc. (Tuition Aid Data Services)
1821 University Ave W, Suite N-494
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104

Catholic School Tuition Assistance Service
407 8th Avenue
P.O. Box 111
Fulton, Illinois 61252

Facts Management Company
P.O. Box 67037
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506

Family Financial Needs Assessment
P.O. Box 466
Hernando, Mississippi 38632

Financial Aid Independent Review, Inc.
P.O. Box 484
Rosemount, Minnesota 55068

Financial Aid for School Tuition
Independent School Management
1316 N Union St
Wilmington, DE 19806-2594

Private School Aid Service
P.O. Box 770728
Lakewood, Ohio 44107-0034

School and Student Service for Financial Aid
Educational Testing Service
P.O. Box 6657
Princeton, New Jersey 08541-6657

6.1.5 Records Relating to Financial Assistance. The school must keep detailed records of school-based financial assistance provided to each
student. This includes the report of the student’s financial need as determined by the independent assessment company, as well as the actual amount of financial assistance provided to the student by the school and how that actual amount was determined. The school must make all records available to the Commissioner or his/her designee for inspection upon request.

6.1.6 Persons Who May Discuss Financial Assistance Opportunities. The only persons who may discuss financial assistance opportunities with a prospective student or any member of his/her family are those school employees who administer the school’s registration, admission and financial assistance programs. No other school employee nor any athletic department staff member nor representative of the school’s athletic interests may suggest to or promise a prospective student or any member of his/her family that any part of the student’s costs of attending the school may be reduced, waived or paid for, or that financial assistance may be granted for any reason, including financial need.

6.1.7 Involvement of Athletic Personnel in Administration of Assistance Program. Athletic department staff members, other than those persons who have as their major responsibility an official leadership role in the academic leadership or admission programs of the school, are prohibited from sitting on the school’s financial assistance committee or otherwise playing any role in the process of deciding which students receive financial assistance or the types or amount of assistance they will be given.

6.1.8 Assistance Based on Criteria Other Than Need. A school that provides financial assistance to students based on any criteria other than financial need must report to the FHSAA Office:
(a) The name of each student-athlete who is receiving such assistance;
(b) The criterion upon which the assistance is based (must have no relationship to athletic interest, potential or performance);
(c) The amount of the assistance; and
(d) The source of the funding (e.g. foundation, private donation, etc.) for the assistance.

6.2 Financial Assistance Not Administered by School. Students may apply for and receive financial assistance through established and continuing programs to assist students that are administered by the State of Florida. These programs are:
(a) The Opportunity scholarship program, through which the parent of a student in a failing public school may request and receive an opportunity scholarship for the student to attend an eligible private school.
(b) The McKay scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program, through which the parent of a public school student with a disability who is dissatisfied with the student’s progress may request and receive a McKay scholarship for the student to attend an eligible private school.
(c) The corporate income tax credit scholarship program, through which the parent of a public school student who qualifies for free or reduced-price school lunch may seek a scholarship to attend an eligible private school from an eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization.
6.3 **Contributions by Donor.** Funds that are donated to schools by persons, businesses and organizations may be given as financial assistance to students provided the decision as to how the funds are allocated rests exclusively with the school. It is not permissible for a donor to contribute funds to provide financial assistance for a particular student-athlete.

7.0 **COMPLIANCE DOCUMENTS**

7.1 **Certification of Compliance Form.** Each member school each year must submit to the FHSAA Office a “Certification of Compliance with the FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting” form. The principal, the athletic director, the head coach in each varsity sport offered by the school, as well as the president of each athletic booster organization of the school, must sign the form. By signing the form each individual certifies that he/she has reviewed the FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting, will comply with all provisions of the policy, and will review the provisions of the policy with school employees, athletic department staff members and representatives of the school’s athletic interests.

7.2 **Affidavit of Compliance.** A student, who for any reason changes schools after beginning the ninth grade, as well as the student’s parent(s) or legal guardian(s), must sign in the presence of a notary public an “Affidavit of Compliance with the FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting.” The school that receives the student will be responsible for originating the affidavit, which also must be signed by the school’s principal and athletic director. The affidavit will be necessary regardless of whether the student changes schools during the school year or during the summer period between school years. The affidavit will be accompanied by an explanation of the FHSAA Policy on Athletic Recruiting, including the penalties for violating the policy, as well as the consequences of making a false statement on the affidavit. The student will not be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition at his/her new school until the school submits the affidavit bearing all necessary signatures to the FHSAA Office.

8.0 **PENALTIES**

8.1 **Mandatory Forfeiture.** A school that is found to have athletically recruited a student-athlete will forfeit all contests and awards won in team sports and all points earned and resulting awards won in individual sports in which the student-athlete participated. Mandatory forfeiture also will be required when it is determined that a student who received an impermissible benefit was allowed to participate.

8.2 **Disciplinary measures.** In addition to the mandatory forfeiture of contests and awards, any one or more of the penalties described in Article 12 of the FHSAA Bylaws may be imposed against a school for violating any provisions of this policy. These include:

(a) Public reprimand;

(b) Financial penalty;

(c) A form or combination of forms of probation (administrative, restrictive and/or suspension) for one or more years;

(d) Prohibition against participating in certain interscholastic competitions, including FHSAA state championship series competitions, for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
POLICY 39

Chaperonage Guidelines

The Board of Directors has established the following guidelines which is intended to serve as a guide for each member school in setting up its policy on chaperonage:

A. Planning a Trip
   1. Reservations should be made early enough to assure satisfactory housing of students. Complete plans for the trip such as transportation, meals, etc., should be completed well in advance of the departure. These arrangements should be made by the adult in charge. They should be confirmed in writing if made by telephone.
   2. Housing should be in a standard hotel, motel, dormitory, or other recognized facilities. All students in the charge of a particular chaperon should be housed together. All students of the same sex should be housed in continuous rooms.
   3. Travel in private cars should be avoided. Driving into the early morning should be ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED.
   4. If more than one group from a school is going to the same activity, all should adhere to the same general regulations.
   5. The person in charge of the trip should meet with chaperons in advance of the departure to discuss assignments and regulations.
   6. Students taking the trip should be thoroughly indoctrinated as to the rules of the trip prior to departure. No student should be permitted to accompany a group on a trip until the student has agreed, in writing, to abide by the rules set up and has submitted the written consent of his/her parents for him/her to make the trip.
   7. The principal should make it a point to talk with students prior to departure, stressing the responsibility of the students as representatives of the school and making sure that they understand and agree to the regulations.

B. Student Guidelines
   1. Students should wear appropriate clothing, and engage in activities of a group nature only. Social dating while on the trip should be prohibited.
   2. When a student is assigned to a group or a chaperon, the student is to remain with the group at all times unless the student has made special arrangements. Students should return with the group unless other traveling arrangements are made prior to the time of departure.
   3. No student should be permitted to visit relatives or friends while on a trip unless arrangements have been made between the student’s parents and the chaperonage.
eron in charge.
4. Smoking is prohibited.
5. Hotel rooms are bedrooms. Under no circumstances should students of the opposite sex entertain guests in their hotel rooms.
6. A curfew should be set by chaperons and all members of the group notified. The time should allow a reasonable amount of time after the close of the last event. Events should not be planned to last after 11 p.m. and the curfew should not be later than midnight. When any mixed group travels at night, a curfew hour will be announced by the chaperons and after this time there should be segregation of sexes.

C. Duties of Chaperons
1. Teachers who assume the responsibilities for chaperoning a group of students on an out-of-town trip should recognize that they are assuming a 24-hour-a-day responsibility from the time they leave until they return. At no time may chaperons make personal plans except with the consent of the person in charge of the trip.
2. The drinking of alcoholic beverages by a chaperon at any time during the trip should be prohibited.
3. Chaperons should keep an accurate check on the members assigned to them at all times.
4. Chaperons should not retire until all students are in their rooms, all visiting between rooms has stopped and the chaperons are sure the students are quiet.
5. Policies are of no value unless they are adhered to. All regulations, once decided upon, should be followed.
6. If a party includes members of each sex, there should be chaperons from each sex.
7. All chaperons should be teachers on staff at a member school. It is strongly recommended that, at the very least, the person in charge of the trip be a teacher on staff at a member school. There should be a minimum of one chaperon for each 10 students.

POLICY 40
Licensing and Royalty Policy

A. Rights to FHSAA Properties
   The FHSAA owns or controls all rights and interests in its name, logos, trademarks and service marks, whether registered or unregistered, including “Florida High School Athletic Association,” “Florida High School Activities Association,” “FHSAA,” “FHSAA Finals,” “FHSAA Florida Finals,” “Florida Finals,” “FHSAA Championships,” “FHSAA State Series,” and “Sport the ‘Tude!” The FHSAA will prosecute infringement of identical or confusingly similar marks. The FHSAA shall maintain control over the nature and quality of the goods and services rendered under the marks; therefore, no use of the marks by others will be permitted in advertising, in association with commercial services or related to the sale of merchandise without the specific approval of the FHSAA.
B. Registration

The name, emblem and logos of the FHSAA are registered service marks under the laws of the State of Florida and will be protected from unlawful use for the benefit of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) and its member schools. By virtue of its membership in this Association, each school will be an authorized agent of the FHSAA with respect to use of any or all service marks subject to the terms and conditions of this Licensing and Royalty Policy. By virtue of its contract with this Association, each organization which hosts an FHSAA State Championship event will be an authorized agent of the FHSAA with respect to use of any or all service marks subject to the terms and conditions of this Licensing and Royalty.

NOTE: The term “member school” hereinafter will refer both to member schools of the FHSAA and non-school organizations under contract with the FHSAA to host FHSAA State Championship events.

C. Licensing

1. Member schools are encouraged and licensed to use the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos and service marks on programs and event merchandise in connection with sanctioned interscholastic events only as set forth herein. A royalty will be due or owing the FHSAA for any use of the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos, trademarks and service marks for any item sold or distributed by a member school or outside vendor at or in connection with any such activity during the regular sports season when any official marks or logos are used. Required use during FHSAA State Series events is set forth separately in this policy.

2. Member schools may not authorize any other individual or entity to use any FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logo or service mark without the prior written approval of the FHSAA.

3. Member schools may contract only with those outside vendors who are licensed by the FHSAA to produce event merchandise on which the FHSAA name, emblem and/or logos is displayed. It will be the responsibility of the member schools to refer outside vendors wishing to become licensed to the FHSAA Office. The FHSAA Office will prepare and distribute to member schools a listing of such licensed vendors on a regular basis. The annual licensing fee shall be $100 per vendor.

4. Any use of the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos or service marks not otherwise specifically stated in this policy will obligate either the member school or an outside vendor doing business with the member school to remit to the FHSAA a royalty fee of ten percent (10%) of the price of first sale gross revenue in connection with all merchandise items.

5. Any other use of the FHSAA name, acronym, emblem, logos or service marks, such as on team patches, shirts, sweatshirts, hats, jackets, towels, artifacts or otherwise, requires the prior written approval of the FHSAA on terms specified by the FHSAA at its discretion.

6. Print, radio and television media may use the FHSAA name, emblem and logos as part of its coverage of FHSAA events and/or in any publication, slide, videotape, brochure, pamphlet, advertisement, commercial, etc. relating to its coverage of the FHSAA. Permission from the FHSAA Office is not required and the
terms of this Licensing and Royalty Policy do not apply. However, the use of any of the official marks in any merchandise created and/or distributed in connection with coverage of and/or sale of promotional use is subject to this Licensing and Royalty Policy.

7. The enforcement of this policy will be the responsibility of each member school in conjunction with the FHSAA Office. The collection of the revenue required pursuant to this policy will be the responsibility of the FHSAA Office via the member school or outside vendor, depending upon who is responsible for arranging for the actual production or distribution of any merchandise for the event. Forms for the accounting of all royalties due will be provided by the FHSAA and must be used by the member school or outside vendor. All contracts or agreements with a vendor, manufacturer, supplier or distributor of merchandise will incorporate this policy (as may be revised from time to time without notice, except that the policy in effect when any contract is signed will apply to that contract only) and include a requirement that a full accounting of revenues and expenses be made available to the FHSAA. All contracts and agreements will be for the benefit of the member school, FHSAA State Series event host and FHSAA whether or not named in any contract or agreement. The FHSAA may enforce this policy in the name of itself or any member school or FHSAA State Series event host as the FHSAA may elect.

8. A member school which contracts with an outside vendor not licensed by the FHSAA to produce merchandise and otherwise in which the FHSAA official marks is displayed, for sale or distribution at regular season events will be in violation of this policy and will be fined twenty percent (20%) of the gross retail sales less applicable sales tax of any merchandise sold.

9. Jurisdiction regarding any action to enforce this Licensing and Royalty Policy or any terms or provisions hereof will lie solely in the enforcement powers of the FHSAA with regard to its member schools and in the State Courts within the State of Florida, more specifically within Alachua County, with all other parties.

D. FHSAA State Series Events

1. The FHSAA Championships Logo must be conspicuously displayed on all T-shirts, other merchandise, printed materials or otherwise produced and/or distributed in connection with any FHSAA State Series event. FHSAA State Series events include, but are not limited to, all contests, games, meets or other events conducted by or under the auspices of the FHSAA on the district, regional and FHSAA State Championship levels. Other merchandise include caps, hats, golf shirts, rugby shirts, sweat shirts, muscle shirts, key chains, car tags, bumper stickers, pennants, banners, cups, mugs, posters and otherwise. Printed materials are considered to include programs, heat sheets, bracket sheets, scorecards, placards, promotional posters, flyers, advertisements, billboards and otherwise.

2. The FHSAA Office will enter into an agreement with one or more vendor(s) to exclusively produce the official merchandise, including T-shirts, for all FHSAA State Series events on the district, regional and state levels. The exclusive vendor(s) of FHSAA State Series event merchandise shall be subject to the Terms and Conditions of the contract between the FHSAA and the vendor. A member school or organization that serves as host for any FHSAA State Series event and
wishes to sell souvenir merchandise specific to that event shall be required to purchase such souvenir merchandise from the exclusive vendor(s). Should the exclusive vendor(s) elect to come to the site of any FHSAA State Series event and sell such souvenir merchandise directly to the participants and general public at the event, the host school/organization for the event shall be required to grant to the exclusive vendor(s) ingress to and egress from the facility in which the event is to be conducted, as well as space in the facility in which to set up a booth(es) from which to sell the souvenir merchandise. The FHSAA will retain complete control over the design of merchandise to be produced for sale at an FHSAA State Series event. In either case, the minimum royalty fee to be paid to the FHSAA on the price of first sale for all merchandise produced for sale at an FHSAA State Series event shall be ten (10) percent by the vendor on the district and regional levels, and twenty (20) percent by the vendor on the state level, for the first sale of the item. First sale is defined as follows:

(a) Wholesale – The sale of merchandise by an outside vendor to a member school for resale by the member school.

(b) Retail – The sale of merchandise by the outside vendor, or member school if member school created, directly to the customer.

3. No individual(s), including those affiliated with a participating member school, shall bring onto the property of a facility at which an FHSAA State Series event is being conducted any items (including but not limited to T-shirts, caps, posters, bumper stickers, etc.) to be sold or otherwise distributed on the property to student-athletes, coaches or spectators without the written approval of the FHSAA. An individual(s) found in violation of this provision shall surrender the items for confiscation, shall be expelled from the property and may be subject to legal action. A member school found in violation of this provision shall be assessed a minimum fine of $250 and, in addition, shall pay monetary damages to be mutually determined by the FHSAA and its exclusive vendor(s).

4. No royalty fee will be due to the FHSAA for use of the FHSAA’s protected identification marks on printed material as detailed in Item B-1. However, failure to properly display the FHSAA’s protected identification marks on all printed materials as required in Item B-1 will subject the member school to a fine for failure to comply with this policy. Member schools should notify the FHSAA office if they participated in any FHSAA State Series event at which printed materials lacking the proper FHSAA identification marks were distributed.

5. Selection of a member school to host a particular FHSAA State Series event will be conditioned, in part, upon such school’s agreement to comply with and enforce this Licensing and Royalty Policy. This policy is subject to modifications deemed necessary by the FHSAA which modifications will be binding on all member schools.

POLICY 41
News Media General Policies and Procedures

A. General Information
1. The Florida High School Athletic Association will promulgate rules and regulations concerning the release of information about FHSAA business and activities, the issuance of media credentials and broadcast rights for radio and television to FHSAA State Series contests, as well as general operating procedures for news media at FHSAA State Championship events. Print editors and broadcast directors should carefully review those policies and procedures applicable to their organization. Unless otherwise specified, these rules and regulations do not apply to regular season contests unless implemented by choice by the host school principal or contest manager.

(a) For regulations concerning media credentials to FHSAA State Series contests see the FHSAA Policy on Media Credentials.

(b) For regulations concerning broadcast rights to FHSAA State Series contests see the FHSAA Policy on Radio, TV Broadcasts.

B. Providing Information

1. The FHSAA, while not a government agency, subscribes to and abides by both the Open Records Law and Sunshine Law of the State of Florida. All FHSAA records, other than personnel records of a confidential nature and academic and disciplinary records of students, are available for public review. All meetings of the FHSAA are open to the public with the following exceptions:

(a) Those meetings of the Board of Directors and other FHSAA committees at which confidential matters pertaining to an employee of the Association are to be discussed will be closed to the public only during the period of discussion on the confidential matter;

(b) Hearings before the Sectional Appeals Committees relative to Undue Hardship Cases filed on behalf of a student-athlete by a member school during which matters of a private nature may be discussed will be closed to the public at the request of the student-athlete and/or the student-athlete’s parent(s) or guardian(s).

2. All requests to review FHSAA records and/or obtain copies of such records must be made in writing to the FHSAA Office. A nominal fee may be assessed for photocopies or facsimile transmissions of such records when requested. The FHSAA Office requires an appointment be made by an individual who wishes to physically review original copies of records on file in the FHSAA Office.

3. Members of the news media may be asked to notify the FHSAA Office in writing of their intention to attend a meeting of Board of Directors or other committees. Such a request is based on the FHSAA Staff’s need to prepare and have available for the news media in attendance an adequate number of photocopies of all documents to be distributed to members of the Board or committees during the meeting. Normally, the FHSAA Office will provide to the news media a form on which to submit the necessary written notification. Those news media who do not notify the FHSAA Office in writing of their intention to attend an FHSAA meeting may not be provided with photocopies of the documents distributed at the meeting.

4. Regularly throughout the calendar year, the FHSAA distributes via e-mail news releases and media advisories to the news media concerning any and/or
every aspect of Association business and activities. All news releases and media advisories will be posted on the FHSAA web site the same day on which they are e-mailed.

5. All news media may request to be placed on the FHSAA mailing list at no charge to the news media. All news media on this mailing list will receive special media information that may not be available on the FHSAA web site on an occasional basis throughout the school year.

6. Any member of the news media may purchase FHSAA publications at a reasonable cost to be established by the FHSAA Office. Such publications include the FHSAA Handbook, FHSAA Sports Manuals (one in each sport), FHSAA Member School Directory, FHSAA Planning Calendar and FHSAA Officials Guidebook.

7. Tournament pairings for each level of each FHSAA State Series in all team sports will be posted on the FHSAA web site immediately after such pairings have been completed and verified by the FHSAA Office.

8. Telephone calls from the news media to the FHSAA Office, in general, will be directed to the Director of Communications. However, such calls may be diverted to the administrator in charge of a specific activity so that the news media will be provided with the best possible answer to its question(s).

C. Eligibility Decisions, Investigations of Alleged Violations of FHSAA Regulations and Legal Proceedings

1. The FHSAA will not comment about an eligibility situation until it has been resolved within the framework of the FHSAA Bylaws. At no time, however, will the FHSAA divulge personal details of the eligibility situation which might compromise the privacy of the minor student-athlete involved.

2. The principal of the member school involved or the person(s) involved may release information about an eligibility case as they see fit. Once the FHSAA has substantiated knowledge of its decision by all parties involved, it will then entertain questions and respond.

3. The FHSAA will not comment about any investigation into alleged violations of Association Bylaws, regulations or policies until such time as the investigation has been concluded and the FHSAA has substantiated knowledge of its decision by all parties involved. It will then entertain questions concerning the investigation and respond.

4. The FHSAA will not release by telephone, fax, mail or otherwise the names of student-athletes involved and/or implicated in any investigation into alleged violations of Association Bylaws, regulations or policies. Such information may be obtained from the principal of the member school involved or the person(s) involved.

POLICY 42

Media Credential Policy for FHSAA State Series Events

The following media credential policy was established to provide a clear un-
standing of the procedures followed by the Florida High School Athletic Association in processing requests for media credentials to FHSAA Finals state championship events.

NOTE: The FHSAA Office does not issue credentials to state series preliminary events on the district and regional levels. State series event managers are instructed to provide complimentary admission and extend professional courtesies to representatives of news media organizations upon presentation of valid news media identification.

1. Requests for media credentials for each FHSAA Finals state championship event must be submitted online via the FHSAA media site (media.fhsaa.org) by the deadline established for the event. The online form must be completed in its entirety. It is the responsibility of the individual to confirm that his or her request has been received.

2. The issuance of all media credentials to FHSAA Finals events is at the sole discretion of the FHSAA staff. Submission of a credential request does not guarantee a representative a media credential. All requests will be reviewed and must be approved by the FHSAA staff. The FHSAA staff will notify any individual whose request has been denied.

3. Only those representatives whose requests are submitted by the advertised deadline and are approved will be issued credentials. Late requests will not be guaranteed processing. Media representatives not approved for credentials in advance will not be issued credentials upon arrival at the site of the event. Credentials must be picked up at the media entrance to the event. Under no circumstance will credentials be mailed. Proper photo identification will be required of individuals when picking up credentials.

4. Credentials to an FHSAA Finals event will be issued on a space-available basis only to representatives of daily newspapers who are covering the event; television personnel who are directly involved in covering the event for a newscast production; broadcast crews of a radio station self-originating an approved play-by-play broadcast of the event; non-daily newspapers whose primary circulation area includes a school participating in the event; non-originating radio stations providing on-air updates of the event; student-based media of member schools participating in the event; and Internet sites, specialty publications and out-of-state media subject to additional restrictions below. Credentials will be limited to four (4) for daily newspapers, three (3) for television stations, three (3) for self-originating radio stations and student-based media of participating schools, two (2) for non-daily newspapers, and one (1) for non-originating radio stations, Internet sites, out-of-state media and specialty publications. Requests for credentials beyond the categories listed above and/or above the specified number allowed must be accompanied by an explanation of the necessity for the additional credentials.

5. Requests from Internet sites must be submitted no later than two weeks in advance of the event to allow the FHSAA staff time to review the site and its content to determine credibility. Each request will be considered on a case-by-case basis according to the following guidelines:

   (a) Internet sites must update news content daily and have a demonstrated record of sustained coverage of high schools sports.
(b) Internet sites must have a unique registered domain name ending in one of the recognized extensions (.com, .cc, .edu, .net, .org).

(c) Parallel Internet sites owned and operated by traditional media (i.e., newspapers, radio stations and television stations) may be issued credentials if the request is for the purpose of reporting unique content that only can be accomplished by receiving the credentials. In instances where space is limited, such credentials may be counted as part of the traditional media outlets’ allotment.

(d) Internet sites must furnish, upon request, certifiable traffic numbers from an established auditing firm (i.e. Nielsen), or from its service provider. Hit counters on pages will not fulfill these requirements. The following information may be requested: the average number of “unique viewers/visitors” to the site in the last 30, 60 and 90 days; the average number of “page views” by each visitor; and the name and telephone number of the auditing firm or service provider to discuss and ensure the accuracy of the numbers.

6. Requests from specialty publications (magazines and other periodicals) must be submitted no later than two weeks in advance of the event to allow the FHSAA staff time to review the publication and its content to determine credibility. Specialty publications must have a demonstrated record of sustained coverage of high school sports. Specialty publications must declare their coverage plans so that the FHSAA staff can determine the legitimacy of the request, if the content to be printed does not duplicate existing content already being provided, or if the content to be printed violates rights already granted by the FHSAA to another party.

7. Out-of-state media organizations must have a circulation area that includes the community of a participating school and must have covered that school throughout the regular season and state series. All other out-of-state media organizations must explain the necessity for their coverage of the event.

8. Media representatives who receive credentials to an FHSAA Finals event must be on assignment for a specific media organization. Credential requests for freelance reporters, freelance photographers, correspondents or stringers must be submitted on their behalf by the media organization for which they are working.

9. The following organizations and/or individuals will not be granted credentials:

   (a) Publications or Internet sites operated by recruiting or scouting services.

   (b) Personal page Internet site publishers.

   (c) Internet sites with content that is subscription-based or that require paid membership to view content.

   (d) Internet sites intending to merely report information already available on the FHSAA web site.

   (e) Specialty publications that provide only recruiting lists or lists of outstanding teams.

   (f) Any publication or Internet site deemed to be in poor taste or incompatible with the mission of interscholastic athletics as determined by the FHSAA.

10. Credentials will not be issued to commercial photographers. Photographers wishing to cover an FHSAA Finals event must be on assignment from a recognized news organization and be using professional camera equipment.
FHSAA prohibits the sale of photographs from state series events, and will not credential any photographer whose photos will be used for any purpose other than news media coverage.

11. Credentials or complimentary tickets for spouses, friends, etc. of news media representatives will not be provided. Individuals who attend an event with a credentialed news media representative will be required to purchase a ticket.

12. Media credentials to an FHSAA Finals event are issued for the sole purpose of identifying and providing complimentary admission and special access to representatives who have a legitimate working function in connection with the event. Credentials are non-transferable and may be used only by those representatives to whom they are issued. Any media organization that wishes to change the name(s) of its credentialed representatives may do so in writing to the FHSAA staff prior to the event. Unauthorized use, sale or other transfer of a credential will subject the bearer to ejection from the event and the indefinite denial of credentials to future events.

13. Credentials, once issued, remain the property of the FHSAA and are subject to revocation and confiscation at the discretion of the FHSAA Commissioner and/or his/her designees. Grounds for revocation and confiscation of a credential include, but are not limited to, misuse, abuse and/or transfer of the credential to anyone other than to the person to whom the credential is issued. Any media outlet whose representative has a credential revoked for any reason is subject to being denied credentials to future FHSAA events.

14. Should any credentialed representative become verbally or physically confrontational or abusive for any reason, or refuse to cooperate or comply with the conditions of the credential or the established guidelines for conduct of news media representatives during the event, the FHSAA has the right to revoke and confiscate the credential and have the offending representative removed from the premises. In all such cases, the FHSAA will report the incident to the representative’s employer and will reserve the right to withhold approval of future requests for credentials by the representative as well as his or her employer.

15. Credential bearers and their employers assume all risks incurred to the performance by the bearers for their services and assume all risks incidental to FHSAA-related events whether occurring prior to, during or sequential to the actual playing of the contests.

16. Acceptance of a credential constitutes an agreement by the bearer and his or her organization to abide by the foregoing policy, as well as the following conditions:

"Conditions Placed on Use of FHSAA Finals Media Credentials"

This working credential is issued for the sole purpose of providing facility access to a representative of an accredited media organization recognized by the FHSAA who has a legitimate working function in connection with this FHSAA Finals event. It is non-transferable. Any unauthorized use of this credential subjects the bearer to ejection from the facility and/or his/her organization to forfeit future privileges. Issuance and use of this credential is subject to the following conditions:

1. This credential shall be used solely for news and editorial coverage
(bona-fide news purposes) of this FHSAA Finals event.

2. Any use of news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images for entertainment and commercial purposes and not for bona-fide news purposes is strictly prohibited without prior written consent of the FHSAA. The selling of news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images is exclusive to the FHSAA and/or any other company so designated by the FHSAA.

3. The accredited media organization and bearer shall indemnify, defend and save harmless the FHSAA, its officers, agents, employees and each of its member schools, their officers, agents and employees, from and against any and all expenses, lawsuits, damages, costs and liabilities (including reasonable attorney fees and expenses) incurred by, arising from, or in connection with:
   • the unauthorized use of news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images, whether such unauthorized use is by the bearer, the accredited media organization designating the bearer to use the credential on its behalf, or some third party to whom the bearer distributes news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images;
   • any injuries resulting from acts or omissions by the bearer or some third party to whom the bearer directly or indirectly distributed news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images;
   • any cameras, wires, cables, computers, telephones or any other equipment brought to the premises by the bearer, or
   • the use of any news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images or any other matter other than coverage of this FHSAA Finals event.

   NOTE: Should approval be granted to use news and editorial content or photographs/electronic images for entertainment or commercial use, the accredited media organization and/or bearer agrees to obtain all necessary licenses, consents or releases permitting the use of any party’s proprietary material, including, but not limited to, any party’s copyrights, trademarks, rights of publicity, rights of privacy or other proprietary or personal rights, however denominated, included in any photograph/electronic image taken or other material obtained in connection with the credential. The accredited media organization and/or bearer is solely responsible for determining which licenses, consents and releases shall be obtained.

4. Irrevocable permission is granted to the FHSAA and its assignees to utilize the bearer’s voice, image and likeness in connection with any broadcast, other recording or print reproduction of the event without compensation.

5. Bearer assumes all risk and danger incidental to this FHSAA Finals event, whether occurring prior to, during or sequential to the event, and releases the FHSAA and all agents thereof from any and all liabilities resulting from such cases.

6. This credential is the property of the FHSAA and may be revoked at any time at the sole discretion of the FHSAA and will automatically terminate if any term hereof is breached. In cases deemed unique by the FHSAA, these policies and any other FHSAA media policies may be amended. The accredited media organization and/or bearer that breaches the conditions of use of this credential is subject to legal liability as well as all costs incurred in enforcing the terms of these conditions including but not limited to reasonable attorney fees.

7. Acceptance of this credential constitutes agreement by the bearer and his or her organization to abide by the foregoing conditions, other FHSAA media policies, as well as guidelines established for the conduct of media representatives at this FHSAA Finals event. Thank you for your cooperation.
POLICY 43

Broadcast Policy

A. Regular Season
1. Radio broadcast, telecast, cablecast and internet broadcast rights for regular season contests in all sports are held by the home/host school. The FHSAA cannot grant radio broadcast, telecast, cablecast or internet broadcast rights to regular season contests. Outlets wishing to broadcast, telecast, cablecast or webcast a regular season contest should contact the principal of the home/host school to secure rights and make arrangements.

(a) The terms “radio station(s)”, “over-the-air television station(s)”, “cable TV system(s)”, “independent producer(s)” and “internet providers” are applicable and appropriate any place in this policy where the term “outlet(s)” is used unless one or more of the terms is specifically used.

(b) The term “telecast(s)”, “cablecast(s)” and “internet broadcast(s)” or “webcast(s)” is applicable and appropriate any place in this policy where the term “broadcast(s)” is used unless the two are specifically differentiated.

2. An outlet that broadcasts a regular season contest shall agree to hold the FHSAA and its member schools harmless because of any injury to person or property on the premises. The outlet shall further agree to assume all responsibility for any damages which are a direct result of the activities of the broadcast. The outlet shall also agree to defend all claims made against the FHSAA or its member schools for damages occasioned by the outlet of whatever nature.

B. FHSAA State Series
1. An outlet wishing to broadcast a contest in the FHSAA State Series must request and be granted rights by the FHSAA prior to originating or accepting feed of such a broadcast and make payment to the FHSAA Office of the appropriate rights fee. Such rights are not exclusive.

(a) An outlet granted broadcast rights may not feed its broadcast to any other outlet(s) without written permission from the FHSAA. For the purposes of television, a videotape of an FHSAA State Series contest is considered a “feed.” Therefore, an over-the-air or cable television station, even if granted broadcast rights by the FHSAA, may not share a videotape of an FHSAA State Series contest without express written permission from the FHSAA and payment of appropriate rights fees. Requests for permission to feed such broadcasts should be indicated on the FHSAA Broadcast Rights Application Form.

(b) The FHSAA reserves the right to grant exclusive rights to broadcasts for FHSAA State Championship events to network providers. In these cases, there may be additional network fees which must be paid.

2. Radio broadcast rights must be secured from the FHSAA for both live and tape-delay broadcasts. Telecast rights, in general, are for tape-delay telecasts only. However, rights fees for live telecasts may be negotiated at the Commissioner’s discretion.

(a) There can be no delay in the start of a contest to accommodate a live or tape-delay radio broadcast or a tape-delay telecast of an FHSAA State Series contest; neither can there be any radio or television timeouts, or any extension of
halftime. Provisions for live telecasts, when permitted, are found in item (b) of this provision.

(b) Live telecasts of football and basketball games, when permitted, may operate under the following guidelines upon approval of the Commissioner: (1) The intermission between the first and second quarters, the third and fourth quarters, and overtime periods will be extended from 60 seconds to 90 seconds; (2) The outlet will be granted one 90-second television timeout during each quarter. This timeout will be granted at the dead ball following the change of possession which occurs nearest to the midpoint of the quarter. This television timeout will be granted regardless of whether one of the two participating teams has called a charged timeout close to the midpoint of the quarter. Additionally, this television timeout will not preclude either one of the two participating teams from calling a charged timeout near the midpoint of the quarter; and (3) All charged timeouts called by either team will be a full 60 seconds in duration. It will be the responsibility of the referee to see that these guidelines for television timeouts are strictly adhered to.

3. Tape-delay telecasts may not be aired earlier than 12 hours following the scheduled starting time of the contest and may not conflict with the playing times of scheduled FHSAA State Series contests in the same sport. There is no limit on the number of times these telecasts may be replayed by the outlet approved for such telecasts.

4. The use of audiotape, videotape and/or film by an outlet granted broadcast rights for any purpose other than for complete playback of the contest(s) for which it was approved, or for the use of excerpts for regularly scheduled newscasts is expressly forbidden. Any other use of the verbal description and/or video account of the contest(s) must be approved in writing by the FHSAA.

5. FHSAA approval of broadcasts of FHSAA State Series contests is final. Host schools or contest managers will be required to permit all broadcasts approved by the FHSAA, and admit to the facility without charge personnel originating these broadcasts upon presentation of the proper documentation.

6. The outlet must make all arrangements for seating and equipment setup with the host school principal or contest manager. The outlet must assume all expenses in connection with the broadcast, and must provide all equipment necessary for the broadcast. This includes arranging for broadcast lines with the appropriate telephone company.

7. Personnel originating approved broadcasts who are to be admitted to the facility without charge must not exceed four (4) persons. The host school principal or contest manager must make every effort to provide these personnel with seating which provides them with an unobstructed view of the playing area.

8. In facilities where seating is limited in the press box or broadcast booth, the host school principal or contest manager should provide seating to the one (1) principal outlet covering each participating school. Thereafter, seating in the press box or broadcast booth should be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. An outlet must understand that it may be necessary for it to set up operations in the spectator seating area at facilities with limited space in the press box or broadcast booth. The principal outlet for a participating school is considered to be the outlet
which has broadcast the greatest number of regular season contests and/or FHSAA State Series contests in which the school has participated.

9. The host school principal, contest manager and/or the officials assigned to work the contest will have the authority to require the repositioning of television cameras and videographers if they believe their placement may threaten the safety of the participants or interfere with the conduct of the competition.

10. The outlet must incorporate into its broadcast of each FHSAA State Series contest a minimum of two (2) announcements concerning the FHSAA and its activities programs. Script for these announcements and/or cassette copies of professionally pre-produced spots will be provided by the FHSAA.
   (a) The outlet may present scripted announcements in a manner of its choice, and may use sound and/or visual effects as it desires, provided the integrity of the FHSAA State Series in which the announcement is used, the Florida High School Athletic Association and its member schools is upheld.
   (b) The two (2) mandatory FHSAA announcements must be incorporated into the actual broadcast of the contest. Airing the announcements and disclaimer during a pregame and/or postgame show will not satisfy the requirements of this policy.

11. The outlet must incorporate into each broadcast the following disclaimer establishing its broadcast rights as granted by the FHSAA:

   “BROADCAST RIGHTS TO THIS F-H-S-A-A STATE SERIES CONTEST HAVE BEEN GRANTED TO (THE OUTLET) BY THE FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION AND IS INTENDED SOLELY FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF OUR (LISTENING/VIEWING) AUDIENCE. ANY REBROADCAST, RETRANSMISSION OR OTHER USE OF THIS PRODUCTION WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE F-H-S-A-A IS PROHIBITED.”

   The disclaimer must be incorporated into the actual broadcast of the contest. Airing the disclaimer during a pregame and/or postgame show will not satisfy the requirements of this policy.

12. Announcers are expected to handle broadcasts with efficiency and without introduction of objectionable comments such as criticism of an official, coach, team, player, school or other entity. Reports of any accidents, injuries or other incidents should be minimized and factual, in order to prevent undue anxiety on the part of viewers. Announcers should also make every effort to correctly pronounce the names of individual participants.

13. The terms “sponsor”, “sponsorship” or other like terms that imply or refer to the presentation and support of the activities under the jurisdiction and control of the Florida High School Athletic Association by entities other than the FHSAA must not be used during any broadcast of an FHSAA State Series event unless expressly approved, in writing, by the FHSAA. Announcers may not refer to or use words that imply a sponsorship of any FHSAA State Series contest by a commercial advertiser without the expressed written consent of the FHSAA (see
Item E-9 elsewhere in this policy).

14. The outlet must abide by each and all terms and conditions of this policy. Failure to do so may result in the immediate revocation of the outlet’s immediate broadcast rights, and denial of future broadcast rights to the outlet for a period to be determined by the Commissioner. The FHSAA reserves the right to discontinue at any time an outlet’s broadcast of an FHSAA State Series contest if previous broadcasting by the outlet is considered by the FHSAA to have been in poor taste or incompatible with the educational dignity and propriety of the FHSAA State Series, the Florida High School Athletic Association and its member schools. The host school principal or contest manager will have the authority to act on the behalf of the Florida High School Athletic Association in enforcing this policy during all FHSAA State Series contests at his/her facility.

15. An outlet which broadcasts an FHSAA State Series contest without prior written approval of the FHSAA may be denied future broadcast rights for a period to be determined by the Commissioner. A host school principal or contest manager who permits the broadcast of an FHSAA State Series contest that has not been approved by the FHSAA will subject his/her school, organization or facility to a monetary penalty to include payment of the appropriate rights fees and, for member schools, a financial assessment in the amount of $50.00 per game broadcast.

16. An outlet which broadcasts an FHSAA State Series contest must agree to hold the FHSAA and its member schools harmless because of any injury to person or property on the premises. The outlet must further agree to assume all responsibility for any damages which are a direct result of the activities of the broadcast. The outlet must also agree to defend all claims made against the FHSAA or its member schools for damages occasioned by the outlet of whatever nature.

17. Venue of any civil action arising out of this policy will lie in Alachua County, Florida.

18. The FHSAA reserves the right to amend this policy at any time and in any manner deemed necessary. No exception to this policy may be made by an outlet, host school principal or contest manager except by written permission of the FHSAA.

C. Obtaining Broadcast Rights

1. Application to broadcast an FHSAA State Series contest must be made on the FHSAA Broadcast Application Form, a copy of which is provided in the FHSAA Forms Book and on FHSAA.org. An application also may be obtained by contacting the FHSAA communications department at (352) 372-9551 ext. 170.

   a) It is the responsibility of an outlet feeding its broadcast to another outlet(s) to request permission for this feed on its application form, and to make payment of the appropriate rights fees for both itself and all other outlets accepting its feed.

   b) The Broadcast Application Form shall be an agreement between the outlet and the FHSAA and will be governed by the laws of the State of Florida.

2. The broadcast application form must be received in the FHSAA Office not later than 3 p.m. Eastern Time on the business day immediately preceding the date of the contest or event to be broadcast. The form may be mailed to the atten-
tion of the Director of Communications, FHSAA, 1801 NW 80th Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32606-9176, or faxed to the FHSAA Office at (352) 373-1528.

3. A late filing fee of $25.00 shall be assessed an outlet that fails to meet the appropriate deadline for filing its broadcast application form. The FHSAA reserves the right to deny any request for broadcast rights which is filed after the deadline.

4. The FHSAA will not grant blanket broadcast rights to an outlet which intends to follow a school, until it is eliminated, through each level of an FHSAA State Series. An outlet must file a separate broadcast application form for contests on each level in which the school being followed participates, with the exception of district tournaments in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball and volleyball. Requests for broadcast rights to games or matches in district tournaments in these sports shall be processed as a single event for which a flat rights fee shall be paid regardless of the number of games or matches in the tournament that are broadcast. Levels of the FHSAA State Series are: Football – district shootout, each round of the regional series and the FHSAA State Championship game; Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball – district tournament, regional series and FHSAA State Championship tournament; Other sports –district tournament or meet, regional tournament or meet, and FHSAA State Championship tournament or meet. Individual rounds in the district and state championship tournaments are not considered to be separate levels of an FHSAA State Series.

5. Upon approval of an outlet’s broadcast application, the FHSAA will fax to the outlet the approved application form signed by the Commissioner or his/her designee which grants the outlet permission to broadcast the contest. The approved application form will also be faxed to the host school principal or contest manager. An outlet’s broadcast crew should have a copy of the broadcast approval in its possession to ensure admission to the facility.

D. Payment of Rights Fees

1. An outlet granted broadcast rights to an FHSAA State Series contest must pay rights fees as follows:
   a) Live or tape-delay radio broadcast – $50.00 (per event)
   b) Tape-delay telecast – $250.00 (per contest)
   c) Live telecast – to be determined by Commissioner.

   An outlet must pay all rights fees, both for itself as well as $25.00 for each outlet to which it feeds its signal, to the FHSAA. Payment of rights fees must be by company check made payable to the FHSAA. Payment of rights fees must be received in the FHSAA Office not later than 30 calendar days following the event broadcast. A $25.00 late fee shall be assessed if payment is not received by the 30-day deadline.

2. An outlet which feeds its broadcast to another outlet(s) is solely responsible for collecting reimbursement for its $25.00 feeder fee payment to the FHSAA from each outlet to which the originating outlet feeds its broadcast. Any fees charged by an originating outlet to accepting outlets will be in addition to FHSAA rights fees.

3. A $30.00 returned check fee will be assessed to any outlet whose payment of rights fees is returned due to insufficient funds. Additionally, such outlet
will be denied broadcast rights to future FHSAA State Series contests until such
time as payment of rights fees and any other fees assessed by the FHSAA is made
to the satisfaction of the FHSAA.

4. An outlet must pay all costs of collection to include reasonable attorney’s
fees if it becomes necessary for the FHSAA or the host school principal or contest
manager to place the account for collection and bills incurred. Venue of any such
civil action relative to the collection of rights fees shall lie in Alachua County,
Florida, or in the county of Florida wherein the host school or facility is located.

E. Commercials and Sponsors

1. An outlet must submit the names of all sponsors on the Broadcast Application
Form, and must be able to produce in writing upon request of the FHSAA
any and all commercials used during the broadcast.

2. The FHSAA reserves the right to reject any and all applications for broad-
cast rights, whether sponsored or unsponsored. The FHSAA reserves the right to
approve or reject the product or service which desires to sponsor the broadcast.

3. Advertisements for the following are prohibited:
   a) Promotions for the possession, use or sale of alcoholic beverages, tobacco
      products, harmful drugs, firearms and contraceptives;
   b) Bars, taverns and cocktail lounges or other establishments that serve
      alcoholic beverages;
   c) Exotic dance clubs;
   d) Political issues;
   e) 900 call-ins for personal services, betting services, scouting services or
      other 900 call-ins which are in poor taste or are incompatible with the educational
      dignity and propriety of the FHSAA State Series or the Florida High School Ath-
      letic Association;
   f) Parimutuels, excluding the Florida Lottery; and
   g) Any other business, product, service or ideal that is incompatible with
      the educational dignity and propriety of the FHSAA State Series, the Florida High
      School Athletic Association and its member schools.

4. Combination businesses such as drug stores, grocery stores, department
stores, hardware stores, hotels and restaurants which dispense alcoholic beverages,
tobacco products, harmful drugs, firearms and contraceptives may be acceptable
as sponsors provided no part of the advertising messages for these establishments
refer to the dispensing of such products; or to a bar, tavern, cocktail lounge or other
facility dispensing such products.

5. While advertisements for political issues are prohibited by this policy,
political candidates may be acceptable as sponsors provided no part of their politi-
cal advertisements raise controversial political issues.

6. Advertisements of the type prohibited in Item E-3(a-g) above are pro-
hibited from use at any time during the broadcast from the time the pregame show
begins until the completion of the postgame show. Advertisements of this type
are prohibited from use in pregame and/or postgame shows whether such pregame
or postgame shows originate from the site of the contest or from the studio of the
originating outlet. At no time during the broadcast may a listing of broadcast spon-
sors be read which includes the name of such business, product or service listed in
Item E-3(a-g) above and referred to in this note.

7. Sponsorship of a broadcast does not provide for display of sponsor banner(s) and/or other promotional items and such display is prohibited. Originating outlet name identification banners, however, are permitted.

8. Commercial announcements may not occupy time when actual competition is taking place. An outlet must, as near as possible, limit its commercial announcements to timeouts and other times when the contest is not in progress.

9. Outlets may not use or allow to be used during a broadcast, both live and tape-delay, any commercial announcement that implies a sponsorship of any FHSAA State Series contest without the expressed written consent of the FHSAA.

   Example: Language may be used which indicates that contest coverage “is brought to you by _______,” “is sponsored by _______,” or “_______ is a sponsor” of this tournament coverage.

   Outlets may not allow advertisers to claim that they are sponsors of FHSAA State Series contests.

10. The FHSAA will exercise immediately its responsibility to cancel all broadcast rights for the particular contest and subsequent contests of any outlet found to have violated the provisions of this section of the policy. The host school principal or contest manager will have the authority to act on behalf of the FHSAA in enforcing the provisions of this section of the policy.

F. News Film Crews

1. A film crew not to exceed three persons from an over-the-air television station or cable TV system will be allowed access, without charge, to an FHSAA State Series contest to shoot news film clips for use as part of the outlet’s regular news telecast or other special news programs. The outlet may not air a total of more than three (3) minutes of such footage. Any use of such footage must include visual credit to FHSAA.

2. The outlet must not sell, loan or give away any part of the footage shot and must use it only for the purpose set forth above unless permission for its use otherwise is granted in writing by the FHSAA.

G. Credentials

1. The FHSAA will not issue credentials to FHSAA State Series contests below the state championship level. Authorized working personnel employed by an outlet which has been approved to broadcast an FHSAA State Series contest must be admitted to the facility without charge upon presentation of proper identification and payment of appropriate rights fees to the host school principal or contest manager.

2. Application must be made to the FHSAA for credentials to certain FHSAA State Series contests on the state championship level. Please refer to the FHSAA Media Credential Policy for regulations governing state championship contest credentials.
POLICY 44

Penalty Code

Article 12 of the FHSAA Bylaws establishes the five penalties that may be assessed a member school for violations of FHSAA Bylaws, regulations, policies, procedures and guidelines, while Article 13 establishes a school’s or individual’s right to appeal any penalty assessed it.

A. Penalties

The five penalties, in general, that may be assessed, separately or collectively, include:

1. **REPRIMAND** – An official letter of censure to the member school regarding the violation(s). The letter of reprimand becomes a permanent part of the school’s membership record.

2. **FINE** – A financial penalty assessed the school for the violation(s). Fines range from as little as $50 to as much as $2,500 or more.

3. **FORFEIT** – The surrender of a victory due to the violation(s).

4. **PROBATION** – A period of warning for one or more calendar years during which time any additional violations committed by the school may result in more severe penalties being assessed. There are three levels of probation:
   (a) Administrative Probation – The least severe, it is simply the period of warning.
   (b) Restrictive Probation – In addition to the period of warning, it includes some form of restriction(s) on the school’s athletic program for one or more calendar years. Examples of such restrictions include but are not limited to restriction from participation in the total number of regular season contests normally allowed in a sport(s); restriction from participation in out-of-state contests or contests within Florida beyond a certain distance from the school; restriction from participation in home contests; restriction from participation before spectators; restriction from participation in invitational tournaments or meets; restriction from participation with a particular individual(s) in attendance; restriction from competing for city, county, conference or other championships; and restriction from participation in the FHSAA State Series.
   (c) Suspension Probation – The more severe form of probation. In addition to the period of warning, the school is suspended from participating in interscholastic athletic competition in a particular sport or sports, or all sports for one or more calendar years. Suspension from participation means that the school cannot enter a team or individual into competition in the specified sport(s) against any other member school.

5. **SUSPENSION** – Temporary revocation of all membership privileges.

6. **RESTRICTED MEMBERSHIP** – Restriction on one or more membership privileges for one or more years.

7. **EXPULSION** – The most severe penalty that can be assessed any member school. It is the involuntary termination of the school’s membership in the Association for a period of one or more calendar years. No member school may enter into competition – athletic or non-athletic – with any school that has been expelled from membership in the Association.
### B. Fine Schedule

The following fines are generally assessed member schools for the most common rules violations. 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 the severity of the violation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINIMUM DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Failure of head coach to attend mandatory rules clinic</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Permitting student-athlete to compete in an interscholastic contest prior to his/her name being submitted to the FHSAA Office on an Annual Eligibility Report</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Statements of criticism or other derogatory remarks concerning officials which are made by coaches or other school personnel and appear in the news media</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Permitting student-athlete to compete in an FHSAA State Series contest who was not submitted to the FHSAA Office on the Official Entry List for that sport</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Failure of school to have representative present at District Tournament/Meet Planning Meeting</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Use of tobacco or tobacco-like products by a coach during a contest or in the vicinity of the court or playing field</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Conduct of an illegal practice session, illegal scrimmage or other illegal practice contest</td>
<td>$ 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Illegal filming or videotaping of an athletic contest</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Failure of student-athlete who has qualified to advance in the FHSAA State Series to participate on the next level of the State Series</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Disqualification (ejection) of a coach for unsportsmanlike conduct</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Use or profanity or other such gutter language by a coach</td>
<td>$ 150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Coach continuing to give instruction to his/her student-athletes or other members of the coaching staff after having been ejected from a contest</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Pursuit of officials with intent following a contest by a coach or other school personnel</td>
<td>$ 150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Refusal of an ejected coach to leave the court, playing field or team area</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Physical contact by a coach or other school personnel with an official</td>
<td>$ 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Disqualification (ejection) of a student-athlete for gross unsportsmanlike conduct, beginning with second incident during a school year</td>
<td>$ 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINIMUM DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION</td>
<td>AMOUNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Disqualification (ejection) of a student-athlete for unsportsmanlike conduct, beginning with fourth incident during a sports season</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Participation by one or more student-athletes on the bench in an altercation on the court or playing field (i.e., bench-emptying)</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Removal by a coach or school personnel of a team or individual from an athletic contest prior to its normal conclusion</td>
<td>$ 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Premature termination of a contest by an official due to unsportsmanlike conduct by student-athletes, coaches, other school personnel spectators in attendance</td>
<td>$ 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Actions which may not be regarded as unsportsmanlike which result in a contest being prematurely concluded</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Failure to contract with sanctioned local officials associations for registered officials at all interscholastic home contests</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. General failure to comply with FHSAA policies and procedures</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Failure to submit team photo and data for publication in Florida Finals official souvenir program by deadline</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If team advances to Florida Finals ($100 photo, $100 any item of information such as roster, schedule, statistics, etc.)</td>
<td>$ 300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Exceeding the number of contests allowed in a tournament or withdrawing from a tournament to avoid exceeding number of contests allowed</td>
<td>$ 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Violation of the Policy on Recruiting which results in the successful recruitment of a student-athlete</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Violation of the Sanction Policy other than late filing of application</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Withdrawal from state series commitment to participate in team sport after deadline for filing of official entry list (in addition to $250 fee)</td>
<td>$ 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Withdrawal from state series intent to participate in individual sport after deadline for filing of official entry list</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Storming the playing field, court or pool by spectators and students at the conclusion of an athletic contest (may be increased depending upon the severity of the incident)</td>
<td>$ 500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. ADMINISTRATIVE FEE SCHEDULE

The following fees are generally assessed member schools for failure to file necessary forms or other paperwork by the appropriate deadline, of for other administrative services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINIMUM DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Filing of an Annual Eligibility List after the deadline</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINIMUM DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE</td>
<td>FEE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Filing of a Request for Football Schedule after the deadline</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Filing of an Official Entry List after the deadline</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If filed later than Friday prior to the week of the district tournament/meet the fee increases</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If not filed at time of first competition (will increase if student(s) is later found to be</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ineligible)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The addition of or change in a name to/on an Official Entry List after filing (will increase</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>if student(s) is later found to be ineligible)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Late filing of an Application for Sanction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 30 days prior to first date of event</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 10 days prior to first date of event</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After first date of event</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Late filing of financial report</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 60 days late</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 90 days late</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 90 days late</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Filing of request to participate in state series after specified deadline</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Withdrawal from State Series Commitment Form in Team Sports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by deadline for filing of official entry list</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After deadline for filing official entry list (includes $250 fine)</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Failure to file membership renewal application by April 30 deadline</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By May 31 final deadline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Failure to pay membership dues by August 31 deadline</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Application fee for first-time membership</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Application fee for approved nonmember school status</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Listing of Full Member Schools by Administrative Section/Legislative Division

(746 Full Member Schools as of June 30, 2007)

This listing of the 746 full member schools as of June 30, 2007 is divided into Administrative Section, Legislative Division and County.

Administrative Section 1
(166 Schools)

Legislative Division 1
(28 schools)

Escambia County
Dr. Gainer Charter (Pensacola)
East Hill Christian School (Pensacola)
Escambia Charter School (Gonzalez)
Escambia High School (Pensacola)
Gulf Coast High School (Pensacola)
Jones Christian Academy (Pensacola)
Northview High School (Bratt)
Pensacola Catholic High School
Pensacola Christian Academy
Pensacola High School
Pine Forest High School (Pensacola)
Tate High School (Cantonment)
Washington High School (Pensacola)
West Florida Technical High School (Pensacola)
Woodham High School (Pensacola)

Holmes County
Bethlehem High School (Bonifay)
Bonifay Middle School
Holmes County High School (Bonifay)
Ponce de Leon High School
Poplar Springs High School (Graceville)

Walton County
Freeport High School
Freeport Middle School
Paxton High School
South Walton High School (Santa Rosa Beach)
Walton High School (DeFuniak Springs)
Walton Middle School (DeFuniak Springs)

Washington County
Chipley High School
Roulhac Middle School (Chipley)
Vernon High School
Vernon Middle School

Legislative Division 3
(17 schools)

Okaloosa County
Baker High School
Choctawhatchee High School (Fort Walton Beach)
Crestview High School
Fort Walton Beach High School
Laurel Hill High School
Niceville High School
Rocky Bayou Christian School (Niceville)

Santa Rosa County
Central High School (Milton)
Gulf Breeze High School
Jay High School
Milton High School
Navarre High School
Pace High School

Calhoun County
Altha High School
Blountstown High School
Blountstown Middle School

Franklin County
Apalachicola High School
Carrabelle High School

Gulf County
Port St. Joe High School
Port St. Joe Middle School
Wewahitchka High School
Wewahitchka Middle School

Jackson County
Cottondale High School
Graceville High School
Grand Ridge Middle School
Malone High School
Marianna High School
Marianna Middle School
Sneads High School

Liberty County
Liberty County High School (Bristol)

2007-08 FHSAA Handbook
Legislative Division 4
(23 schools)

Gadsden County
Carter Parramore Academy (Quincy)
East Gadsden High School (Havana)
Havana Middle School
Munroe Day School (Quincy)
West Gadsden High School (Greensboro)

Leon County
Chiles High School (Tallahassee)
Christ Classical Academy (Tallahassee)
Community Christian School (Tallahassee)
FAMU High School (Tallahassee)
FSU High School (Tallahassee)
Godby High School (Tallahassee)
Holy Comforter Episcopal School (Tallahassee)
innovation School of Excellence (Tallahassee)
John Paul II High School (Tallahassee)
Leon High School (Tallahassee)
Lincoln High School (Tallahassee)
Maclay School (Tallahassee)
North Florida Christian School (Tallahassee)
Rickards High School (Tallahassee)
Trinity Catholic Middle School (Tallahassee)

Wakulla County
Riversprings Middle School (Crawfordville)
Wakulla High School (Crawfordville)
Wakulla Middle School (Crawfordville)

Legislative Division 5
(13 schools)

Hamilton County
Hamilton County High School (Jasper)

Jefferson County
Aucilla Christian Academy (Monticello)
Howard Middle School (Monticello)
Jefferson County High School (Monticello)

Lafayette County
Lafayette High School (Mayo)

Madison County
Madison County Central School
Madison County High School

Suwannee County
Branford High School
Suwannee High School (Live Oak)
Suwannee Middle School (Live Oak)

Taylor County
Steinhatchee School
Taylor County High School (Perry)
Taylor County Middle School (Perry)

Legislative Division 6
(18 schools)

Baker County
Baker County High School (Glen St. Mary)
Baker County Middle School (Maccleenny)

Bradford County
Bradford High School (Starke)
Bradford Middle School (Starke)

Columbia County
Columbia High School (Lake City)
Fort White High School
Lake City Christian Academy
Lake City Middle School
Richardson Middle School (Lake City)

Nassau County
Callahan Middle School
Fernandina Beach High School
Fernandina Beach Middle School
Hilliard High School
West Nassau County High School (Callahan)
Yulee High School
Yulee Middle School

Union County
Lake Butler Middle School
Union County High School (Lake Butler)

Legislative Division 7
(22 schools)

Duval County (North and East)
Andrew Jackson High School (Jacksonville)
Arlington Country Day School (Jacksonville)
Bishop Kenny High School (Jacksonville)
Bolles School (Jacksonville)
Englewood High School (Jacksonville)
Episcopal High School (Jacksonville)
Esprit de Corps Center for Learning (Jacksonville)
First Coast High School (Jacksonville)
Fletcher High School (Neptune Beach)
Harvest Community School (Jacksonville)
Hendricks Day School (Jacksonville)
Mandarin High School (Jacksonville)
Mandarin Christian School (Jacksonville)
Providence School (Jacksonville)
Raines High School (Jacksonville)
Ribault High School (Jacksonville)
Sandalwood High School (Jacksonville)
Shekinah Christian Academy (Jacksonville)
Stanton College Preparatory School (Jacksonville)
Terry Parker High School (Jacksonville)
University Christian School (Jacksonville)
Wolfson High School (Jacksonville)
Legislative Division 8
(25 schools)

Clay County
Clay High School (Green Cove Springs)
Fleming Island High School
Green Cove Springs Junior High School
Keystone Heights High School
Lake Asbury Junior High School (Green Cove Springs)
Lakeside Junior High School (Orange Park)
Middleburg High School
OakLeaf School (Orange Park)
Orange Park Christian Academy
Orange Park High School
Orange Park Junior High School
Ridgeview High School (Orange Park)
St. Johns Country Day School (Orange Park)
Wilkinson Junior High School (Middleburg)

Duval County (West and South)
Baldwin High School
Bishop Snyder High School (Jacksonville)
Cedar Creek Christian School (Jacksonville)
Eagle’s View Academy (Jacksonville)
Ed White High School (Jacksonville)
First Coast Christian School (Jacksonville)
Forrest High School (Jacksonville)
Paxon School For Advanced Studies (Jacksonville)
Potter’s House Christian Academy (Jacksonville)
Robert E. Lee High School (Jacksonville)
Trinity Christian Academy (Jacksonville)

Administrative Section 2
(170 Schools)

Legislative Division 9
(22 schools)

Alachua County
Buchholz High School (Gainesville)
Country Side Christian School (Gainesville)
Eastside High School (Gainesville)
Gainesville High School
Hawthorne High School
Loften High School (Gainesville)
Newberry High School
Oak Hall School (Gainesville)
P. K. Yonge School (Gainesville)
Rock School (Gainesville)
St. Francis Catholic High School (Gainesville)
Santa Fe High School (Alachua)

Dixie County
Dixie County High School (Cross City)
Rains Middle School (Cross City)

Gilchrist County
Bell High School

Levy County
Bronson High School
Cedar Key High School
Chiefland High School
Chiefland Middle School
Williston High School
Williston Middle School

Legislative Division 10
(22 schools)

Marion County
Bellevue High School
Dunnellon High School
Forest High School (Ocala)
Lake Weir High School (Ocala)
Meadowbrook Academy (Orlando)
North Marion High School (Citra)
St. John Lutheran School (Ocala)
Shores Christian Academy (Ocala)
Trinity Catholic High School (Ocala)
Vanguard High School (Ocala)
West Port High School (Ocala)

Putnam County
Crescent City High School
Interlachen High School
Palatka High School
Peniel Baptist Academy (Palatka)

St. Johns County
Bartram Trail High School (Jacksonville)
Florida School for the Blind (St. Augustine)
Florida School for the Deaf (St. Augustine)
Menendez High School (St. Augustine)
Nease High School (St. Augustine)
St. Augustine High School
St. Joseph Academy (St. Augustine)

Legislative Division 11
(19 schools)

Flagler County
Flagler Palm Coast High School (Bunnell)
Matanzas High School (Palm Coast)

Volusia County
Atlantic High School (Port Orange)
Calvary Christian Academy (Ormond Beach)
Halifax Academy (Ormond Beach)
DeLand High School
Deltona High School
Father Lopez High School (Daytona Beach)
Lighthouse Christian School (DeLand)
Mainland High School (Daytona Beach)
New Smyrna Beach High School
Pine Ridge High School (Deltona)
Riverbend Academy (Ormond Beach)
Seabreeze High School (Daytona Beach)
Spruce Creek High School (Port Orange)
Stetson Baptist Christian School (DeLand)
Taylor High School (Pierson)
Trinity Christian Academy (Deltona)
Warner Christian Academy (South Daytona)

**Legislative Division 12**
(17 schools)

**Citrus County**
Citrus High School (Inverness)
Citrus Springs Middle School
Crystal River High School
Crystal River Middle School
Inverness Middle School
Lecanto High School
Lecanto Middle School
Seven Rivers Christian School (Lecanto)

**Hernando County**
Central High School (Brooksville)
Fox Chapel Middle School (Spring Hill)
Hernando Christian Academy (Brooksville)
Hernando High School (Brooksville)
Nature Coast Technical High School (Brooksville)
Parrott Middle School (Brooksville)
Powell Middle School (Brooksville)
Springstead High School (Spring Hill)
West Hernando Middle School (Brooksville)

**Legislative Division 13**
(28 schools)

**Pasco County**
Academy at the Lakes (Land O'Lakes)
Bayonet Point Middle School (New Port Richey)
Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School (Spring Hill)
Centennial Middle School (Dade City)
Challenger K8 School (Spring Hill)
Chasco Middle School (Port Richey)
Genesis Preparatory School (New Port Richey)
Gulf High School (New Port Richey)
Gulf Middle School (New Port Richey)
Hudson High School
Hudson Middle School
John Long Middle School (Wesley Chapel)
Land O'Lakes High School
Mitchell High School (New Port Richey)
Pasco High School (Dade City)
Pasco Middle School (Dade City)
Paul Smith Middle School (Holiday)
Pine View Middle School (Land O'Lakes)
Ridgewood High School (New Port Richey)
River Ridge High School (New Port Richey)
River Ridge Middle School (New Port Richey)
Saddlebrook Academy (Wesley Chapel)
Seven Springs Middle School (New Port Richey)
Stewart Middle School (Zephyrhills)
Weightman Middle School (Wesley Chapel)
Wesley Chapel High School
Wiregrass Ranch High School (Wesley Chapel)

**Legislative Division 14**
(15 schools)

**Lake County**
East Ridge High School (Clermont)
Eustis High School
First Academy (Leesburg)
Leesburg High School
Montverde Academy
Mount Dora Bible School
Mount Dora High School
South Lake High School (Groveland)
Tavares High School
Umatilla High School

**Sumter County**
South Sumter High School (Bushnell)
South Sumter Middle School (Webster)
The Villages High School
Wildwood High School
Wildwood Middle School

**Legislative Division 15**
(19 schools)

**Orange County (North)**
Apopka High School
International Community School (Winter Park)
Ocoee High School
Orangewood Christian School (Maitland)
Trinity Preparatory School (Winter Park)
Winter Park High School

**Seminole County**
Crooms Academy (Sanford)
Forest Lake Academy (Apopka)
The Geneva School (Fern Park)
Hagerty High School (Oviedo)
Lake Brantley High School (Altamonte Springs)
Lake Howell High School (Winter Park)
Lake Mary High School
Lake Mary Preparatory School
Lyman High School (Longwood)
Master's Academy (Oviedo)
Oviedo High School
Seminole High School (Sanford)
Winter Springs High School

**Legislative Division 16**
(28 schools)

**Orange County (South)**
Agape Christian Academy (Orlando)
Bishop Moore High School (Orlando)
Boone High School (Orlando)
Central Florida Christian Academy (Ocoee)
Circle Christian School (Orlando)
Colonial High School (Orlando)
The Crenshaw School (Windermere)
Cypress Creek High School (Orlando)
Administrative Section 3
(181 Schools)

Legislative Division 17
(16 schools)

Pinellas County (North)
Calvary Christian High School (Clearwater)
Clearwater Central Catholic
Clearwater High School
Countryside High School (Clearwater)
Dunedin High School
East Lake High School (Tarpon Springs)
Indian Rocks Christian School (Largo)
Keswick Christian School (St. Petersburg)
Lakeland Christian School (Clearwater)
Largo High School
Oldsmar Christian School
Osceola High School (Seminole)
Palm Harbor University High School
Pinellas Park High School (Largo)
Seminole High School
Tarpon Springs High School

Legislative Division 18
(20 schools)

Hillsborough County (South and West)
Academy of the Holy Names (Tampa)
Bayshore Christian School (Tampa)
Berkeley Preparatory School (Tampa)
Blake High School (Tampa)
Jefferson High School (Tampa)
Plant High School (Tampa)
Robinson High School (Tampa)
Tampa Preparatory School

Pinellas County (South)
Academy Prep Center (St. Petersburg)
Admiral Farragut Academy (St. Petersburg)

Legislative Division 19
(30 schools)

Hillsborough County (North and East)
Alonso High School (Tampa)
Armwood High School (Seffner)
Berean Academy (Tampa)
Bloomingdale High School (Valrico)
Brandon High School
Cambridge School (Tampa)
Carrollwood Day School (Tampa)
Chamberlain High School (Tampa)
Durant High School (Plant City)
East Bay High School (Gibsonston)
Freedom High School (Tampa)
Gaither High School (Tampa)
Hillsborough High School (Tampa)
Jesuit High School (Tampa)
King High School (Tampa)
Lennard High School (Ruskin)
Leto High School (Tampa)
Middleton High School (Tampa)
New Hyde High School (Lithia)
Plant City High School
Quest Middle School (Tampa)
Riverview High School
Seffner Christian Academy
Sickles High School (Tampa)
Spoto High School (Riverview)
Tampa Adventist Academy
Tampa Baptist Academy
Tampa Bay Technical High School
Tampa Catholic High School
Wharton High School (Tampa)

Legislative Division 20
(19 schools)

Manatee County
Bayshore High School (Bradenton)
Braden River High School (Bradenton)
Bradenton Academy
Bradenton Christian School
Lakewood Ranch High School (Bradenton)
Manatee High School (Bradenton)
Manatee Home Educated Activities Teams (Bradenton)
Palmetto High School
Pendleton School (Bradenton)
Southeast High School (Bradenton)
St. Stephen’s Episcopal School (Bradenton)
Sarasota County
Booker High School (Sarasota)
Cardinal Mooney High School (Sarasota)
North Port High School
Out-of-Door Academy (Sarasota)
Riverview High School (Sarasota)
Sarasota Christian High School
Sarasota High School
Venice High School

Harmony High School
Heartland Christian Academy (Kissimmee)
Life Academy (Kissimmee)
New Dimensions School (Kissimmee)
Osceola High School (Kissimmee)
Poinciana High School (Kissimmee)
Southland Christian School (Kissimmee)
St. Cloud High School

Legislative Division 21
(22 schools)

Polk County
All Saints’ Academy (Winter Haven)
Auburndale High School
Bartow High School
Fort Meade High School
Frostproof High School
George Jenkins High School (Lakeland)
Haines City High School
Haven Christian Academy (Winter Haven)
Kathleen High School (Lakeland)
Lake Gibson High School (Lakeland)
Lake Region High School (Eagle Lake)
Lake Wales High School
Lakeland Christian School
Lakeland High School
McKeel Academy (Lakeland)
Mulberry High School
Ridge High School (Davenport)
Santa Fe Catholic High School (Lakeland)
Sonrise Christian School (Lakeland)
Vanguard School (Lake Wales)
Victory Christian Academy (Lakeland)
Winter Haven High School

Legislative Division 22
(21 schools)

DeSoto County
DeSoto County High School (Arcadia)

Hardee County
Hardee High School (Wauchula)

Indian River County
Gifford Middle School (Vero Beach)
Master’s Academy of Vero Beach
Oslo Middle School (Vero Beach)
Sebastian River High School
Sebastian River Middle School
St. Edward’s School (Vero Beach)
Vero Beach High School

Legislative Division 23
(28 schools)

Brevard County
Astronaut High School (Titusville)
Bayside High School (Palm Bay)
Brevard Christian School (West Melbourne)
Brevard Home Educated Activities Teams (Palm Bay)
Brevard HomeSchool Academy (Merritt Island)
Cocoa Beach High School
Cocoa High School
Community Christian School (Melbourne)
Covenant Christian School (Palm Bay)
Eau Gallie High School (Melbourne)
Edgewood High School (Merritt Island)
Florida Air Academy (Melbourne)
Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy (Melbourne)
Melbourne Central Catholic
Melbourne High School
Merritt Island Christian School
Merritt Island High School
Palm Bay High School (Melbourne)
Park Avenue Christian (Titusville)
RFM Christian Academy (Melbourne)
Rockledge High School
Satellite High School (Satellite Beach)
Space Coast Junior/Senior High School (Cocoa)
Temple Christian School (Titusville)
Titusville High School
Viera High School (Melbourne)
West Melbourne Christian Academy
West Shore High School (Melbourne)

Legislative Division 24
(25 schools)

Indian River County
Gifford Middle School (Vero Beach)
Master’s Academy of Vero Beach
Oslo Middle School (Vero Beach)
Sebastian River High School
Sebastian River Middle School
St. Edward’s School (Vero Beach)
Vero Beach High School

Martin County
David Anderson Middle School (Stuart)
Community Christian School (Stuart)
Hidden Oaks Middle School (Palm City)
Indiantown Middle School
Martin County High School (Stuart)
Murray Middle School (Stuart)
Pine School (Stuart)
South Fork High School (Stuart)
Stuart Middle School

St. Lucie County
Centennial High School (Port St. Lucie)
Fort Pierce Central High School
Fort Pierce Westwood High School
Jensen Beach High School
John Carroll High School (Fort Pierce)
Lincoln Park Academy (Fort Pierce)
Morningside Academy (Port St. Lucie)
Port St. Lucie High School
Treasure Coast High School (Port St. Lucie)

Administrative Section 4
(229 Schools)

Legislative Division 25
(33 schools)

Charlotte County
Charlotte High School (Punta Gorda)
Community Christian School (Port Charlotte)
Lemon Bay High School (Englewood)
Port Charlotte High School

Collier County
Barron Collier High School (Naples)
Community School of Naples
Everglades City High School
First Baptist Academy (Naples)
Golden Gate High School (Naples)
Gulf Coast High School (Naples)
Immokalee High School
Lely High School (Naples)
Naples High School
Palmetto Ridge High School (Naples)
St. John Neumann High School (Naples)
Seacrest Country Day School (Naples)

Lee County
Baker High School (Cape Coral)
Bishop Verot High School (Fort Myers)
Canterbury School (Fort Myers)
Cape Coral High School
Cypress Lake High School (Fort Myers)
Dunbar High School (Fort Myers)
East Lee County (Lehigh Acres)
Estero High School
Evangelical Christian School (Fort Myers)
Fort Myers High School
Gateway Charter High School (Fort Myers)
Lehigh High School (Lehigh Acres)
Mariner High School (Cape Coral)
North Fort Myers High School
Riverdale High School (Fort Myers)
South Fort Myers High School
Southwest Florida Christian Academy (Fort Myers)

Legislative Division 26
(25 schools)

Glades County
Moore Haven High School

Hendry County
Clewiston High School
Clewiston Middle School
LaBelle High School
LaBelle Middle School
West Glades School (LaBelle)

Palm Beach County (North)
Benjamin School (North Palm Beach)
Berean Christian School (West Palm Beach)
Cardinal Newman High School (West Palm Beach)
Dreyfoos School of the Arts (West Palm Beach)
Dwyer High School (Palm Beach Gardens)
Glades Central High School (Belle Glade)
Glades Day School (Belle Glade)
Inlet Grove High School (Riviera Beach)
Jupiter Christian School
Jupiter High School
King’s Academy (West Palm Beach)
Maranatha Christian Academy (Palm Beach Gardens)
Pahokee High School
Palm Beach Gardens High School
Palm Beach Lakes High School (West Palm Beach)
R. J. Hendley Christian School (Riviera Beach)
Royal Palm Beach High School
Seminole Ridge High School (Loxahatchee)
Suncoast High School (Riviera Beach)

Legislative Division 27
(28 schools)

Palm Beach County (South)
American Heritage School (Delray Beach)
Atlantic High School (Delray Beach)
Boca Raton Christian School
Boca Raton High School
Boca Raton Preparatory School
Boynton Beach High School
Donna Klein Jewish Academy (Boca Raton)
Florida Atlantic University High School (Boca Raton)
Forest Hill High School (West Palm Beach)
Grandview Prep (Boca Raton)
Hillel Day School of Boca Raton
John I. Leonard High School (Greenacres)
Lake Worth Christian School (Boynton Beach)
Lake Worth High School
Olympic Heights High School (Boca Raton)
Palm Beach Central High School (Wellington)
Palm Beach Day Academy
Park Vista High School (Lake Worth)
Pope John Paul High School (Boca Raton)
St. Andrew’s School (Boca Raton)
Santaluces High School (Lantana)  
Spanish River High School (Boca Raton)  
Summit Christian School (West Palm Beach)  
Trinity Christian Academy (Lake Worth)  
Wellington Christian School  
Wellington High School  
West Boca Raton High School  
Yeshiva High School (Boca Raton)

Legislative Division 28  
(30 schools)

Broward County (North)  
Academy High School (Coral Springs)  
Boyd Anderson High School (Lauderdales Lakes)  
Broward Christian School (Plantation)  
Calvary Christian Academy (Fort Lauderdale)  
Cardinal Gibbons High School (Fort Lauderdale)  
Coconut Creek High School  
Coral Glades High School (Coral Springs)  
Coral Springs Charter School  
Coral Springs Christian School  
Coral Springs High School  
Deerfield Beach High School  
Dillard High School (Fort Lauderdale)  
Douglas High School (Parkland)  
Ely High School (Pompano Beach)  
Fort Lauderdale Christian School  
Fort Lauderdale High School  
Highlands Christian Academy (Pompano Beach)  
Monarch High School (Coconut Creek)  
North Broward Preparatory School (Coconut Creek)  
Northeast High School (Oakland Park)  
Pine Crest School (Fort Lauderdale)  
Piper High School (Sunrise)  
Plantation High School  
Pompano Beach High School  
Posnack Jewish High School (Plantation)  
St. Mark's Episcopal School (Fort Lauderdale)  
Taravella High School (Coral Springs)  
Upperroom Christian Academy (Lauderhill)  
Westminster Academy (Fort Lauderdale)  
Zion Lutheran Christian School (Deerfield Beach)

Legislative Division 29  
(31 schools)

Broward County (South)  
Abundant Life Christian Academy (Margate)  
American Heritage School (Plantation)  
Archbishop McCarthy High School (Fort Lauderdale)  
Brauser Maimonides Academy (Fort Lauderdale)  
Chaminade College Preparatory (Hollywood)  
Cooper City High School  
Cypress Bay High School (Weston)  
Everglades High School (Miramar)  
Flanagan High School (Pembroke Pines)  
Florida Bible Christian School (Miramar)  
Hallandale High School  
Hollywood Christian School  
Hollywood Hills High School  
Master's Academy (Fort Lauderdale)  
McArthur High School (Hollywood)  
Miramar High School  
Nova High School (Davie)  
Parkway Academy (Miramar)  
Pembroke Pines Charter High School  
Sagemont Upper School (Weston)  
Sheridan Hills Christian School (Hollywood)  
Somerset Academy (Pembroke Pines)  
South Broward High School (Hollywood)  
South Florida HEAT (Fort Lauderdale)  
South Plantation High School  
St. Thomas Aquinas High School (Fort Lauderdale)  
Stranahan High School (Fort Lauderdale)  
University School (Fort Lauderdale)  
Western High School (Davie)  
Westlake School (Davie)  
Weston Christian Academy

Legislative Division 30  
(25 schools)

Dade County (North)  
All Angels Academy (Miami Springs)  
Allison Academy (North Miami Beach)  
American High School (Hialeah)  
Champagnat Catholic School (Hialeah)  
Dade Christian School (Miami)  
Dr. Krop High School (Miami)  
Doctors Charter School of Miami Shores  
Goleman High School (Miami)  
Hialeah High School  
Hialeah-Miami Lakes High School  
Hillcrest High School (North Miami Beach)  
Horeb Christian School (Hialeah)  
Mater Academy Charter School (Hialeah Gardens)  
Miami Carol City High School  
Miami Central High School  
Miami Country Day School  
Miami Douglas MacArthur North High School  
Miami Norland High School  
Miami Northwestern High School  
Miami Springs High School  
Monsignor Pace High School (Miami)  
North Miami Beach High School  
North Miami High School  
Northwest Christian Academy (Miami)  
Washington High School (Miami)

Legislative Division 31  
(27 schools)

Dade County (Central)  
Archbishop Curley High School (Miami)  
Belen Jesuit Preparatory School (Miami)  
Braddock High School (Miami)  
Brito Miami Private School
Carrollton School (Miami)
Christopher Columbus High School (Miami)
Choice Learning Academy (Miami)
Design & Architecture High School (Miami)
Doral Academy (Miami)
Ferguson High School (Miami)
Florida Christian School (Miami)
Greater Miami Academy (Miami)
Hebrew Academy (Miami Beach)
LaProgresiva Presbyterian School (Miami)
LaSalle High School (Miami)
MAST Academy (Key Biscayne)
Miami Beach High School
Miami Christian School
Miami Coral Park High School
Miami Edison High School
Miami High School
Miami Jackson High School
Ransom Everglades School (Miami)
Reagan High School (Doral)
South Miami High School
Southwest Miami High School
St. Brendan High School (Miami)

**Legislative Division 32**
(30 schools)

**Dade County (South)**
Academy for Community Education (Coral Gables)
Archbishop Carroll High School (Miami)
Bay Point School (Miami)
Calusa Preparatory School (Miami)
Colonial Christian School (Homestead)
Coral Gables High School
Coral Reef High School (Miami)
Cutler Ridge Christian Academy (Miami)
First Assembly Christian Academy (Florida City)
Gulliver Preparatory School (Coral Gables)
Homestead High School
Miami Douglas MacArthur South High School
Miami Killian High School
Miami Palmetto High School
Miami Southridge High School
Miami Sunset High School
Our Lady of Lourdes Academy (Miami)
Palmer Trinity School (Miami)
Princeton Christian School
Redland Christian Academy (Homestead)
South Dade High School (Homestead)
Varela High School (Miami)
Westminster Christian School (Miami)
Westwood Christian School (Miami)

**Monroe County**
Coral Shores High School (Tavernier)
Island Christian School (Islamorada)
Key Largo School
Key West High School
Marathon High School
Plantation Key School (Tavernier)