Building leaders through teamwork, sportsmanship and citizenship.
SPORTSMANSHIP
IS HAVING PRIDE IN
YOUR SCHOOL,
YOUR TEAM
AND YOURSELF.

SPORTSMANSHIP
IS RESPECT FOR THE GAME
AND THOSE WHO PLAY IT.

THE FHSAA REMINDS
YOU TO TAKE ON THE
RESPONSIBILITY OF
SPORTSMANSHIP.
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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.

BY-LAW 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.

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.

BY-LAW 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 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
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.

2004-05 FHSAA Handbook

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 were revised in their entirety in the 2008-09 school year. They 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 2009-10 school year.
Revisions to Bylaws for 2009-10 School Year

These Bylaws were revised in their entirety for the 2009-10 school year. Please review them carefully.
CONSTITUTIONAL BYLAW, ARTICLE 1

Name, Purpose, Objectives, General Terms and Fundamental Belief

1.1 NAME

The name of this corporation is “Florida High School Athletic Association, Inc.”

1.1.1 Common References. This organization is commonly referred to as the “Florida High School Athletic Association,” the “Association,” or the “FHSAA.”

1.1.2 Location of Office. The FHSAA Office is located in Gainesville, Florida.

1.1.3 Type of Organization. The FHSAA is a voluntary association of middle/junior high schools, senior high schools, combination schools (K-12, K-8, 6-12, etc.) and home education cooperatives that are physically located in Florida. It operates as a not-for-profit corporation.

1.1.4 National Affiliation. The FHSAA shall maintain membership in the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). (formerly 2.2)

1.2 PURPOSE

The FHSAA provides leadership for the development, supervision and promotion of interscholastic athletic programs sponsored by its member schools. Participation in these programs enriches the educational experience of qualified student-athletes by providing them with opportunities to compete in an equitable, sportsmanlike and wholesome manner.

1.3 OBJECTIVES (formerly 2.1)

To achieve its purpose, the FHSAA will:

(a) Strive for interscholastic athletics to be an integral part of the educational program;

(b) Ensure the equitable conduct of interscholastic athletic competitions;

(c) Promote an understanding that participation in interscholastic athletics is a
privilege earned by those who meet the established requirements;
(d) Provide rules for administrative control of, and responsibility for, interscholastic athletic programs that is consistent with the rules of the Association;
(e) Recognize the outstanding accomplishments of student-athletes, coaches, teams and schools;
(f) Protect member schools from exploitation by organizations and individuals whose purposes are not consistent with educational athletics;
(g) Encourage cooperation, friendship and sportsmanship among student-athletes, coaches and member schools; and
(h) Cooperate with the Florida Legislature and the Florida Department of Education in governing interscholastic athletics.

1.4 GENERAL TERMS
1.4.1 Bylaws or FHSAA Bylaws – refers to the rules and regulations of this Association that have been adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Representative Assembly of this Association.
1.4.2 Policies or FHSAA Policies – refers to the rules and regulation of this Association that have been adopted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
1.4.3 Regulations or FHSAA Regulations – refers to the FHSAA Bylaws and Policies.
1.4.4 School Year – refers to the period of time that begins on July 1 and continues to June 30.
1.4.5 Academic/Athletic Year – refers to the period of time which begins with the first day of practice for the fall sports or the first day of classes, whichever comes first for an individual school, and continues until the last day of classes for an individual school.
1.4.6 Summer – refers to the period of time which begins on the first day following the last day of classes for an individual school and continues through the Saturday preceding the first day of practice for the fall sports.
1.4.7 Permissible Contact – refers to the time in which a coach is allowed to meet with athletes for the purpose of conducting tryouts, demonstrating and instructing sport-specific skills and techniques, and practices for a given sport.
1.4.8 Start of a Sports Season – commences with the first day of permissible contact for the given sport as determined in the FHSAA Planning Calendar.
1.4.9 End of a Sports Season – concludes with the last regular season contest for the given sport or the contest in which an individual school has been eliminated from, or has been named the overall champion of, the state series for the given sport as determined in the FHSAA Planning Calendar.
1.4.10 Fiscal Year – refers to the period of time that begins on July 1 and
continues to June 30.

1.4.11 Calendar Year – refers to 365 continuous days.

1.4.12 Standardized Calendar – refers to the calendar in which each week is numbered 1 through 52, with Week 1 beginning the first Sunday in July.

1.4.13 Semester – refers to that period of time approximately equal to one-half of an academic year (approximately 90 days), with August through December/January as the first semester and January through May/June as the second semester.

1.4.14 One Full Semester – defined as being in attendance and earning a grade for an entire semester period (i.e., August through December/January as the first semester and January through May/June as the second semester).

1.4.15 Team Sport – refers to any sport in which competition is held between two collective groups of individuals in which winning or losing is by the group as opposed to by individuals (i.e., baseball, basketball, competitive cheerleading, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball, water polo, etc.). Only team honors are awarded in team sports.

1.4.16 Individual Sport – refers to any sport in which competition is held between or among individuals in which winning or losing is by individuals (i.e. bowling, cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, weightlifting, wrestling, etc.). Team and individual honors are awarded in individual sports.

1.4.17 Athletic Activities – refers to contact between coaches and student-athletes including, but not limited to: conditioning, weightlifting, tryouts, practices, intra-squad scrimmages and contests.

1.5 FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

Interscholastic athletic programs play a vital role in the education of students who participate in them. Through their participation in interscholastic athletics, students are provided character-building opportunities to demonstrate honesty, integrity, respect, caring, cooperation, trustworthiness, leadership, tolerance and personal responsibility. These fundamental values enable participants to realize and fulfill their potential as students, as athletes, as individuals and as citizens.
Principles for the Conduct of Interscholastic Athletics

FHSAA rules governing the conduct of interscholastic athletic programs are designed to advance one or more basic principles, including the following, to which member schools are committed. In some instances, a delicate balance of these principles is necessary to help achieve the objectives of the Association.

2.1 EDUCATIONAL NATURE OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Interscholastic athletic programs are designed to enhance the educational experience. The student-athlete is a student first, an athlete second; and each and every practice and competition is an extension of the classroom. This is what clearly separates interscholastic athletics from all other forms of youth sports.

2.2 PARTICIPATION IS A PRIVILEGE

Participation in interscholastic athletics by a student is a privilege, not a right. To earn this privilege, students must abide by the rules and meet standards of academic performance and personal behavior that are related to school purposes.

2.3 SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT

Interscholastic athletic programs must encourage good character, enhance the integrity of education and promote civility in society. Student-athletes, coaches and all others associated with interscholastic athletic programs, as well as those who attend interscholastic athletic events, should adhere to the fundamental values of honesty, integrity, respect, caring, cooperation, trustworthiness, leadership, tolerance and personal responsibility. Each school is responsible for:

(a) Establishing policies for sportsmanship and ethical conduct in its interscholastic athletic programs that are consistent with the educational mission and goals of the school; and
(b) Educating, on an ongoing basis, all individuals associated with the school’s interscholastic athletic programs and events about those policies.

2.4 GENDER EQUITY

The FHSAA will conduct its activities in a manner free of gender bias and will adopt rules that enhance schools’ efforts to comply with applicable gender-equity laws.

2.5 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITY

Each school must control its interscholastic athletic programs by FHSAA rules and regulations. The principal, who is responsible for the administration of all aspects of the school’s interscholastic athletic programs, is responsible for ensuring this control, which extends to and includes responsibility for and control over the actions of:

(a) The administration and faculty;
(b) The athletic department staff and student-athletes;
(c) The student body, parents and other spectators at athletic events; and
(d) Any other individual or group engaged in activities representing, supporting or promoting the athletic interests of the school.

2.6 COMPLIANCE WITH RULES

Each school must comply with all applicable FHSAA rules. The FHSAA will assist schools in their efforts to achieve full compliance with all rules and will establish fair procedures for addressing alleged or identified failures in compliance. A school found to have violated FHSAA rules will be subject to such disciplinary and corrective actions as may be determined to be appropriate by the Association.

2.7 NONDISCRIMINATION AND DIVERSITY

The FHSAA will promote an atmosphere of respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person. The Association will not discriminate in its governance policies, programs and employment practices on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, creed, sexual orientation or educational choice. The FHSAA will promote diversity of representation within its governance structure and substructures. Each school is responsible to determine independently its own policies regarding nondiscrimination and diversity.
2.8 COMPETITIVE EQUITY

FHSAA rules will promote the opportunity for equity in competition to assure that individual student-athletes and school teams will not be prevented unfairly from achieving the benefits possible through participation in interscholastic athletics.

2.9 ELIGIBILITY RULES

The FHSAA will adopt and enforce eligibility rules that assure proper emphasis on educational objectives and promote competitive equity among schools.

2.10 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES COMPETITION

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 and combination 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.
Membership

3.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

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

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

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

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

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

3.2 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

3.2.1 Member School. A “member school” is a senior high school, middle/junior high school, a combination school or home education cooperative that is provisionally admitted or duly elected to membership in the Association. Member school not only refers to the institution, but also to its administration, faculty, athletic staff, student-athletes, student body, and any other individual or group engaged in activities representing, supporting or promoting the athletic interests of the school.

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

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

3.2.3 Types of Member Schools.

3.2.3.1 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.

3.2.3.2 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).

3.2.3.3 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/or
senior high school grades under the direction of a single principal as defined in
Article 3.2.4 (i.e. K-12, K-8, 6-12, 7-12, etc.). A combination school must hold
membership as a middle/junior high school if its terminal grade is grade 6 through
9, or as a senior high school if its terminal grade is grade 10 through 12.

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

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

3.2.5 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.

3.2.6 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.

3.3 QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS OF
MEMBERSHIP

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

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

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

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

(d) The governing body of the school approves the school’s membership in the
Association, and adopts these bylaws annually as the rules governing its inter-
scholastic athletic programs;

(e) The school pays all dues and other fees required of member schools;

(f) The school maintains the insurance coverage required of member schools;
The school provides the principal, the FHSAA representative and the athletic director with high-speed Internet access and email accounts, and a dedicated fax line;

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

The Board of Directors elects the school to membership.

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

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

3.3.1.2 Existing Members without Accreditation. A school that is a full member as of June 30, 2009, but is not accredited by an approved agency, will have a maximum of three (3) years to earn accreditation.

3.3.1.3 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.

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

3.3.1.5 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.

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

(a) The principal applies for membership on a form provided for that purpose;
(b) The governing board of the cooperative adopts these bylaws annually as the rules governing its interscholastic athletic programs;
(c) The cooperative pays all dues and other fees required of member schools;
(d) The cooperative maintains the insurance coverage required of member schools;
(e) The cooperative successfully completes a two-year provisional period;
(f) The cooperative provides the principal, the FHSAA representative and the athletic director with high-speed Internet access and email accounts, and a dedicated fax line; and

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

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

3.4 PROVISIONAL PERIOD

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

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

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

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

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

(c) demonstrate a working knowledge of FHSAA regulations.

3.4.2 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 may, if granted, be assigned as a restricted member or apply for approved nonmember school status.

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

3.5 OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

3.5.1 Administrative Control. A member school must control its interscholastic athletic programs in accordance with the regulations of the Association. Responsibility for this control rests with the principal, who is responsible for the administration of all aspects of the school’s interscholastic athletic programs.

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

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

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

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

3.5.2.3 Attendance at Compliance Seminar. A member school, at least once every three years, must be represented by either its principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director at an FHSAA compliance seminar.

3.5.2.4 Compliance Review. The FHSAA Office may review member schools to verify compliance with bylaws and other rules of the Association. A school selected for review must fully cooperate with the review. A school that refuses to grant access to and inspection of records under review or refuses to permit the interview of any individual responsible for maintaining those records, or otherwise interferes with or obstructs the review, will be in violation of this provision.
3.5.3 **Insurance Coverage.** A member school must verify that athletic accident medical insurance coverage, catastrophic accident insurance coverage, and catastrophic disability insurance coverage is provided for each of its student-athletes. The school also must provide general liability insurance coverage for itself. The Board of Directors will establish the minimum limits for each type of insurance coverage.

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

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

### 3.6 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

3.6.1 **First-Time Membership.** The principal of a school applying for first-time membership must submit a complete application packet. 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.

3.6.1.1 **Application Packet.**

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

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

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

(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.

3.6.1.2 **Former Member.** A former member school that applies for re-admittance will be considered a first-time member, regardless of whether the school’s
previous membership was voluntarily or involuntarily ended.

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

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

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

3.7 PROCEDURES FOR ADMITTANCE AND ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP

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

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

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

3.7.2.2 Continuing Membership. A member school that applies to continue its membership will be considered for reelection 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 reelected to full membership.

3.7.3 Advance Notice of Unfavorable Recommendation. The FHSAA Office will provide advance notice in writing to the principal of a school that will not be recommended for admittance, election or reelection 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 reelected to membership.

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

3.7.4.1 **Reconsideration of Decision.** A school that is not admitted, elected or reelected to membership by the Board of Directors may request that the decision be reconsidered. 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 reelected to membership.

3.8 **MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES**

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

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

3.8.3 **Payment.** Dues and fees are payable July 1 of each year.

3.9 **PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP**

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

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

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

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

3.10 TERMINATION AND RESTRICTION OF MEMBERSHIP

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

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

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

3.10.2.2 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.

3.10.3 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.

3.10.3.1 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.

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

3.10.5 Readmission. A former member school that applies to reestablish its membership must pay a readmission fee, 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 involuntarily.

3.11 APPROVED NONMEMBER SCHOOLS

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

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

3.11.2 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.

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

(a) Comply with all Association regulations, 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.

3.11.4 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.

3.12 GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

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

4.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

4.1.1 Form of Government. The FHSAA is a representative democracy.

4.1.2 Governance. These bylaws, administrative policies and other regulations, as well as Florida Statutes pertaining to the FHSAA or interscholastic athletics in general, govern the Association.

4.1.2.1 Constitutional Bylaws. Constitutional bylaws establish the name, purpose, membership requirements and structure of the Association, as well as the more important principles for the conduct of interscholastic athletic programs. Only the Representative Assembly may adopt or amend constitutional bylaws.

4.1.2.2 Operating Bylaws. Operating bylaws govern the responsibilities of school administrations in conducting interscholastic athletic programs, the obligations of and relationships between schools in interscholastic contests, the eligibility of student-athletes, the penalties for rules infractions, and the procedures for appeals. Only the Representative Assembly may adopt or amend operating bylaws.

4.1.2.3 Administrative Policies. Administrative policies are adopted by the Board of Directors and are the basis for the regulations that govern the various FHSAA programs. Only the Board of Directors may adopt or amend administrative policies.

4.1.3 Florida Sunshine Law. All FHSAA meetings are conducted in compliance with the Florida Sunshine Law (s.286.011). All records are subject to the Florida Public Records Law (s.119.01).

4.1.4 Florida Statutes. The FHSAA cannot waive any provision of Florida Statutes.

4.2 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

4.2.1 Year of Service. A person who serves on a body in the FHSAA governance structure has served one year of his/her term of service if he/she was elected or appointed in advance of the first regularly scheduled meeting of the body in a school year. A person who is appointed to fill a vacant seat on a body after it has held at least one meeting in a school year will not be considered to have served a full year.
4.3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.3.1 Composition. The Board of Directors is composed of the following sixteen (16) members:

(a) Four public school representatives, one elected from each administrative section;

(b) Four non-public school representatives, one elected from each administrative section;

(c) Two district school superintendents elected by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents – one from administrative sections 1 or 2, and one from administrative sections 3 or 4;

(d) Two district school board members elected by the Florida School Boards Association – one from administrative sections 1 or 2, and one from administrative sections 3 or 4;

(e) Three persons appointed at large by the Commissioner of Education. One must be appointed from administrative sections 1 or 2. One must be appointed from administrative sections 3 or 4. The third must help balance the Board of Directors for racial diversity or state population trends, or both, and may be appointed from any administrative section; and

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

4.3.1.1 Restrictions. A district school superintendent and district school board member from the same public school district cannot serve on the Board of Directors at the same time.

4.3.1.2 Quorum. A quorum of the Board of Directors consists of nine members.

4.3.1.3 Passage. A majority of votes cast by board members voting is required to pass any measure.

4.3.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The Board of Directors:

(a) Adopts and amends administrative polices and regulations to govern the Association’s programs;

(b) Employs the Association’s Executive Director;

(c) Approves and oversees the Association’s budget;

(d) Assesses annual membership dues and other fees;

(e) Provides strategic planning for the Association;

(f) Authorizes statewide competitions that may or may not lead to state championships and establishes regulations governing those competitions;

(g) Serves as the highest and final appellate authority of the Association.

4.3.2.1 Budget and Audit. The Board of Directors at its final regularly scheduled meeting of a school year approves a preliminary budget for the next school
year. It approves a final budget for the school year at its first regularly scheduled meeting of that school year. The Board of Directors provides for an annual audit of all accounts by a certified public accountant and the report is made available upon request. (formerly Article 6)

**4.3.2.2 Appellate Authority.** The Board of Directors interprets and renders a final decision on all questions and appeals that result from the Association’s supervision of interscholastic athletic programs. It has administrative responsibility and rulemaking authority for the Association’s appellate branch. As such, the Board:

(a) Reviews, at the Executive Director’s request, the decision of a Sectional Appeals Committee or the Infraction Appeals Committee that directly conflicts with decisions of other Sectional Appeals Committees or the Board of Directors on the same question or rule, or that in the Executive Director’s opinion conflicts with the rules of the Association or has a great effect on the proper administration of interscholastic athletic programs throughout the state; and

(b) Renders at the Executive Director’s request an advisory opinion addressing issues as provided by rule.

**4.3.2.3 Delegation of Duties and Responsibilities.** The Board of Directors, when it deems appropriate, may assign for recommendation specific matters to committees that it creates for those purposes. The Board of Directors will make a final determination based on the committee’s recommendation.

**4.3.3 Meetings.** The Board of Directors meets a minimum of five times each school year. It sets the date and place of each meeting. The president may call additional meetings if needed.

**4.3.4 Selection/Term of Service.**

**4.3.4.1 Selection.** Each constituent group selects its representatives to the Board of Directors. The school representatives who represent each administrative section are elected by a majority of votes cast by all school representatives within the administrative section.

**4.3.4.2 Term of Service.** The term of service for a board member is three school years, beginning July 1 following his/her election or appointment. A board member may be reelected or re-appointed to a second three-year term, but cannot serve more than a maximum of six consecutive school years. These term limits, however, do not apply to the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee, whose term is unlimited.

**4.3.5 Officers.** The officers of the Board of Directors are a president and a president-elect. Each serves a term of one school year, which runs concurrent with one year of his/her term of service on the board. Neither can serve consecutive like terms.

**4.3.5.1 President.** The president presides over all meetings of the Board of Directors and performs other duties of the office. The president’s term of service begins on July 1 following a one-year term of service as president-elect.
**4.3.5.2 President-Elect.** The president-elect is elected by the Board from among its members at its last regularly scheduled meeting of each school year. To be eligible for election, the president-elect must have not fewer 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 reelection or re-appointment. The president-elect performs the duties of the president if he/she is absent or unable to act. The president-elect’s term of service begins on July 1 following his/her election to the office. The president-elect becomes president on July 1 of the next school year.

**4.3.5.3 Vacancies.**

(a) If the president vacates the office before the end of his/her term, the president-elect will serve as president for the remainder of the vacated term and then as president for the term to which he/she was elected.

(b) If the president-elect vacates the office before the end of his/her term, the Board of Directors elects a new president-elect during its next regularly scheduled meeting.

(c) If both the president and president-elect vacate the offices before their terms end, the board elects an acting president and acting president-elect for the remainder of the school year at its next regularly scheduled meeting. A new president and president-elect for the following school year then will be elected at the final regularly scheduled meeting of the year.

**4.4 REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**4.4.1 Composition.** The Representative Assembly is composed of the following delegates: (s.1006.20(5)(b) Florida Statutes)

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

(b) Four district school superintendents elected by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents – one from each administrative section;

(c) Four district school board members elected by the Florida School Boards Association – one from each administrative section; and

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

**4.4.1.1 Diversity Appointments.** The Board of Directors may appoint additional delegates if necessary to ensure racial and gender diversity in the Representative Assembly. There must be an equal number of appointees from each administrative section.

**4.4.1.2 Delegate Restrictions.** No member of the Board of Directors other than the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee can serve as a delegate to the Representative Assembly.

**4.4.1.3 Quorum.** A quorum of the Representative Assembly consists of one
more than half of its member delegates.

4.4.1.4 Passage. A two-thirds majority of votes cast by delegates present and voting is required to pass any proposed amendment.

4.4.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The Representative Assembly’s only duty and responsibility is to act on proposed amendments to the bylaws of the Association that are submitted for its consideration. The assembly cannot propose any amendment for its own consideration.

4.4.2.1 Meetings. The Representative Assembly meets one time each school year. The Board of Directors sets the date and place of each meeting. The president of the Board of Directors can call additional meetings if needed.

4.4.3 Selection/ Term of Service.

4.4.3.1 Selection. Each constituent group selects its delegates to the Representative Assembly. The school representative delegates from each administrative section or legislative division, if applicable, are elected by a majority of votes cast by all school representatives within the administrative section or legislative division.

4.4.3.2 Term of Service. The term of service for a Representative Assembly delegate is two school years. A delegate may be reelected or re-appointed to two additional two-year terms, but cannot serve more than a maximum of six consecutive school years. These term limits, however, do not apply to the Commissioner of Education or his/her designee.

4.4.4 Officers. The officers of the Representative Assembly are a chairperson and a vice chairperson. The assembly elects both from among its members at the beginning of its meeting. Both may be reelected to their offices at consecutive meetings if they continue to serve as delegates to the assembly.

4.4.4.1 Chairperson. The chairperson presides over the meeting of the Representative Assembly at which he/she is elected.

4.4.4.2 Vice Chairperson. The vice chairperson performs the duties of the chairperson if he/she is absent or unable to act.

4.5 SECTIONAL APPEALS COMMITTEES

4.5.1 Composition. There will be one Sectional Appeals Committee in each of the four administrative sections. Each committee will consist of the following seven (7) members:

(a) Two members representing public schools elected by and from among the public school representatives in the section;

(b) One member representing non-public schools elected by and from among the non-public school representatives in the section;

(c) One member representing public school districts selected by the Florida Association of School Administrators from among district school superintendents, or by the Florida School Boards Association from among district school board members in the section.
(d) One member representing recognized non-public school accrediting associations selected by the Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools from among district-, regional- or school-based non-public school administrators or governing board members in the section;

(e) One at-large member from an under-represented gender and/or race appointed by the Board of Directors from among district-, regional- or school-based administrators in the section; and

(f) One attorney from among attorneys living in the section, who within the last five years has been a member in good standing of the Florida Bar or the bar of any other state in the union.

4.5.1.1 Restrictions. No member of the Board of Directors can serve on a Sectional Appeals Committee.

4.5.1.2 Criteria for Board-Appointed Members.

4.5.1.2.1 At-Large Member. If 60 percent or more of the schools within a section are public, the Board of Directors must appoint a public school administrator as the at-large member. If less than 60 percent of the schools within the section are public, the Board of Directors must appoint a non-public school administrator as the at-large member.

4.5.1.2.2 Attorney. The attorney cannot be connected with any member school, public school district or non-public school accrediting organization, or represent student-athletes, coaches or athletic directors in any manner.

4.5.1.3 Committee Officers.

4.5.1.3.1 Chairperson. The attorney serves as chairperson. He/she presides over all meetings of the committee and is the only member who may have contact with the FHSAA staff relative to any case pending before the committee.

4.5.1.3.2 Vice Chairperson. The committee elects a vice chairperson from among its members at the first meeting of each school year. The vice chairperson presides over meetings of the committee when the chairperson is absent or unable to act.

4.5.1.3.5 Vacancies. If the chairperson vacates the office before the end of the term of service, the Board of Directors will appoint a replacement during its next regularly scheduled meeting. The vice chairperson, meanwhile, will serve as chairperson until a replacement is appointed. If the vice chairperson vacates the office before the end of the term of service, the committee will elect a new vice chairperson during its next regularly scheduled meeting.

4.5.1.4 Conflict of Interest. A member of a Sectional Appeals Committee who is associated with a school that files an appeal to the committee must disqualify himself or herself from hearing the case to avoid any conflict of interest.

4.5.1.5 Quorum. A quorum of a Sectional Appeals Committee will be four members. The Executive Director will appoint a qualified person or persons to serve as substitute members to ensure the presence of a quorum when it is known a committee member or members will not be present.
4.5.1.6 Passage. A majority of votes cast by committee members voting will be required to pass any measure.

4.5.2 Duties and Responsibilities. Each Sectional Appeals Committee will:
(a) Decide requests by schools seeking exceptions to bylaws and regulations of the Association;
(b) Decide undue hardship eligibility cases that are filed by schools on behalf of students; and
(c) Decide appeals of decisions rendered by the Executive Director that are filed by member schools. The Section Appeals Committee can only sustain or overturn the decision, but cannot modify the decision.

4.5.2.1 Florida Statutes. A Sectional Appeals Committee will not have the authority to waive any provision of Florida Statutes.

4.5.2.2 Meetings. Each Sectional Appeals Committee will meet as needed to carry out its duties and responsibilities nine times each school year. These nine meetings must be held during the first 15 days of the months of August, September, October, November, December, January, February, March and April.

4.5.3 Selection/Term of Service.
4.5.3.1 Selection. Each constituent group will select its representatives to the four Sectional Appeals Committees. The FHSAA Office will conduct an election in each administrative section to determine the school representatives who will serve on the committee. All school representatives within the section may vote in this election.

4.5.3.2 Term of Service. The term of service for a member of each Sectional Appeals Committee will be three school years. A committee member may be reelected to a second three-year term, but cannot serve more than a maximum of six consecutive school years.

4.6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

4.6.1 Employment. The Executive Director is the Association’s chief executive officer. The Board of Directors selects and employs the Executive Director by written contract for a stated period of time. This contract of employment may be renewed under conditions that are mutually satisfactory to the Executive Director and the Board of Directors. No person, however, can be employed as Executive Director beyond the end of the school year in which he/she reaches the age of 70.

4.6.1.1 Staff. The Executive Director is authorized to employ additional persons as needed to efficiently conduct the business of the Association. Such additional persons shall report directly to the Executive Director or his/her designee.

4.6.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The Executive Director:
(a) Manages and directs the affairs of the Association;
(b) Administers and enforces FHSAA rules and impose sanctions when he/she finds that violations have occurred;

(c) Presents an operating budget to the Board of Directors each year for approval, acts as custodian of all Association funds, and updates the Board of Directors on the Association’s financial status at each of its meetings;

(d) Waives bylaws in order to comply with changes to Florida Statutes;

(e) Prepares and issues to schools all necessary publications, forms and other materials, including but not limited to:
   1. Annual Calendar of events and activities;
   2. Handbook of Bylaws and Policies;
   3. Current Membership List and Membership Directory; and

(f) Receives and checks all reports submitted by schools;

(g) Rules on the eligibility of all student-athletes who participate in interscholastic athletic programs in the sports recognized by the Association;

(h) Calls upon the Board of Directors for advice and assistance, and performs such duties as may be necessary and expedient;

(i) Keeps a record of all meetings of the Representative Assembly, Board of Directors, Sectional Appeals Committees and Infractions Appeal Committee;

(j) Mediates controversies between schools at their request;

(k) Refers 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, of the Infractions Appeal Committee or of the Board of Directors or the same question or rule, or that, in his/her opinion, conflicts with the rules of the Association or has a great effect on the proper administration of interscholastic athletic programs throughout the state;

(l) Approves and supervises all tournaments, meets and contest schedules under the rules of the Association;

(m) Refers any of his/her decisions or rulings to the appropriate Sectional Appeals Committee, the Infractions Appeal Committee or the Board of Directors upon the request of a school;

(n) Performs any other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

4.6.2.1 Emergency Power to Grant Provisional Eligibility. The Executive Director’s office may grant provisional eligibility to a student-athlete who suddenly becomes ineligible if, in its opinion:

(a) The circumstances that cause the student-athlete to be ineligible are of a sudden and extraordinary nature and are completely beyond the control of the student-athlete, his/her parents, or school; and

(b) The student-athlete will miss all or most of the sport season in which he/she participates if required to wait for the next opportunity for a hearing before
4.6.2.1.1 **Period of Provisional Eligibility.** Any period of provisional eligibility granted to a student-athlete will end with the next regularly scheduled Sectional Appeals Committee meeting, during which his/her undue hardship waiver request will be considered. The student-athlete will immediately become ineligible for further competition if the Sectional Appeals Committee does not grant the waiver. The school that permitted the student-athlete to participate during the period of provisional eligibility, however, will not be penalized unless it is determined that provisional eligibility was granted on the basis of erroneous information provided by the student-athlete, his/her parents, or school.

4.7 **ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES (formerly Article 5)**

4.7.1 **Elections.**

4.7.1.1 **Positions Held by School Representatives.** The FHSAA Office will conduct elections for school representative positions on the Representative Assembly, Board of Directors and Sectional Appeals Committees each year in each administrative section as follows:

4.7.1.1.1 **Declaration of Candidacy.** The FHSAA Office by February 1 will notify school representatives of elections that must be held, and will place on the Internet a declaration of candidacy form for each race. A school representative who wants to run in a particular race and is eligible to do so must download, complete and fax to the FHSAA Office the form for that race. The form must be completed, signed and received in the FHSAA Office by February 10 to be valid. A school representative who is not a principal must have the form signed by his/her principal granting him/her permission to run. A school representative who wants to run in more than one race may do so, but must file the appropriate form for each race.

4.7.1.1.2 **General Election.** The FHSAA Office by April 1 will provide each school representative who is eligible to vote in the general election a ballot. The ballot will list the names of all candidates in each race. The school representative may vote for only one candidate in each race, and will be allowed 5 business days from the date the ballot is first provided to complete and submit the ballot. The candidate in each race receiving the majority of votes cast will be the winner.

4.7.1.1.2.1 **Provisional Member School Representatives.** The representative of a school that is in its two-year provisional period of membership is not eligible to run for or vote in any election.

4.7.1.3 **Run-Off Election.** If no candidate receives a majority of the votes in the general election, the FHSAA Office will provide to each school representative who is eligible to vote in the run-off election a second ballot. The run-off ballot will list the names of the candidates who received the most and second-most votes in the general election. The school representative may vote for only one candi-
date in the race, and will be allowed 5 business days from the date the ballot is first provided to complete and submit the ballot. The candidate receiving the majority of votes cast will be the winner.

4.7.1.1.4 Tie in Run-Off Election. The Board of Directors, by majority vote during its final regularly scheduled meeting of the school year, will determine a winner in any run-off election that ends in a tie. Each candidate shall have the opportunity to submit a resume to the Board of Directors for their consideration.

4.7.1.2 Positions Held by District School Superintendents and District School Board Members. The Florida Association of District School Superintendents and the Florida School Boards Association will determine the method for electing their representatives to the Representative Assembly, Board of Directors and Sectional Appeals Committees and will conduct those elections.

4.7.2 Vacancies.

4.7.2.1 Positions Held by School Representatives. The Board of Directors will appoint an eligible person to fill a school representative position on the Representative Assembly, Board of Directors or Sectional Appeals Committees when the person holding the position vacates before the end of his/her term of service. The person appointed to the position will serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

4.7.2.2 Positions Held by District School Superintendents and District School Board Members. The Florida Association of District School Superintendents and the Florida School Boards Association will determine the method for replacing their respective representatives on the Representative Assembly, Board of Directors and Sectional Appeals Committees when the person holding the position vacates before the end of his/her term of service. The person appointed to the position will serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

4.7.2.3 Positions Held by At-Large Appointees of Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner of Education will appoint an eligible person to fill an at-large position appointed by the Commissioner of Education when the person holding the position vacates before the end of his/her term of service. The person appointed to the position will serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

4.7.2.4 Determining Year of Service for Person Appointed to Fill Unexpired Term. A person appointed to fill a position on the Representative Assembly, Board of Directors or Sectional Appeals Committees for the remainder of an unexpired term is considered to have served a full year only if he/she was appointed prior to and attended the first meeting of the year.
Amendments

5.1 SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENTS

5.1.1 Submission. Each member school representative, the Board of Directors acting as a whole or as members acting individually, any advisory committee to be established by the Association acting as a whole, and the Association’s Executive Director 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 Executive Director 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 Executive Director directly to the Representative Assembly for its consideration.

5.2 ACTION BY REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

5.2.1 Action. The Representative Assembly shall consider, adopt, or reject any proposed amendments to these Bylaws. The Representative Assembly 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 by delegates present at the Assembly.

5.2.2 Passage. 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.

5.3 EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENTS

5.3.1 Effective Date. An amendment shall become effective on the first day of July following its adoption unless otherwise specified.
Authority and Responsibilities of the Principal

6.1 DEFINITION AND RESPONSIBILITY

6.1.1 Responsibilities. The principal’s responsibilities include the following:

(a) Sign membership renewal application.

(b) Assure that all contracts for interscholastic athletic competition have been duly executed, including those entered into by a predecessor. (formerly 7.3)

(c) Enforce the Association’s bylaws and policies in his/her school.

(d) Maintain institutional control of all phases of interscholastic athletic activities within a member school, including the activities of its student-athletes, booster clubs, parent groups, etc.

(e) Keep on file all records required by this Association for the current school year. (formerly 7.5)

(f) Keep all “Pre-participation Physical Evaluation” (EL2) and “Consent and Release from Liability Certificate” (EL3) forms required to be kept on file for at least seven (7) years.

6.1.2 Delegation of Responsibilities. The principal may delegate his/her duties as the official representative to this Association to another member of his/her staff. This does not relieve the principal of the obligation to ensure that these bylaws and policies are adhered to.

6.2 CERTIFICATION OF STUDENT ELIGIBILITY (formerly 7.4)

6.2.1 Eligibility Reports. The principal or designee must annually submit all eligibility reports electronically and sign all eligibility correspondence.

6.2.1.1 Accuracy. The principal or designee shall certify that the information provided to the Association is accurate, and that the students named in the report are eligible in accordance with these bylaws. (was 7.4.1)

6.2.2 Principal is Unavailable. An assistant principal designated by the principal or the school’s representative to the Association, if other than the principal, may electronically submit eligibility reports or sign eligibility correspondence if the principal is unavailable.
principal is unavailable, provided that the circumstances are noted on the report or correspondence. (was 7.4.2)

6.3 RECRUITMENT OF STUDENTS (formerly 7.6)

6.3.1 General Principle. Recruitment or attempted recruitment of students for athletic purposes is an act of unsportsmanlike conduct and is expressly forbidden.

6.3.2 Definition of Recruiting. Recruiting is the use of undue influence or special inducement by anyone associated with the school in an attempt to encourage a prospective student to attend or remain at that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

6.3.2.1 “Undue Influence and Special Inducement” Defined. The Board of Directors shall establish and maintain a policy which defines undue influence and special inducement; lists examples of violations; establishes penalties; and regulates academic recruitment and financial aid programs. Refer to Policy on Athletic Recruiting for details.

6.3.3 Liability for Recruitment. A member school is responsible for any violation of this bylaw and/or the recruiting policies committed by any person associated with the school, including the principal, assistant principals, athletic director, coaches, teachers, any other staff members or employees, students, parents, or any organizations having connection to the school, such as booster clubs. The member school is also responsible for a violation committed by any third party under the direction of the school or anyone associated with it.
Sportsmanship

7.1 SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

7.1.1 Sportsmanship Requirement. Players, coaches, administrators, spectators, contest officials and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with a member school shall practice and promote the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethics before, during and after any interscholastic event.

7.1.2 Principal’s Duty. It shall be the responsibility of each member school principal to exercise control over all individuals to the extent necessary to ensure safety and fair play for all participants and adherence with these standards. (formerly part of 8.1.2)

7.2 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

7.2.1 “Unsportsmanlike Conduct” Defined. A student who commits an act of malicious and hateful nature toward a contest official, an opponent or any other person attending an athletic contest shall be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, profanity, striking or threatening a contest official; physical contact with an opponent which is beyond the normal scope of competition; spitting on a contest official or opponent; directing gender, racial or ethnic slurs toward a contest official, an opponent or any other person attending an athletic contest; or other such acts deemed to be unacceptable conduct according to the principal of the member school the student attends or this Association. (formerly part of 11.11.2)

7.2.1.1 Penalty for Students. Students who are found to have committed unsportsmanlike conduct will be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition for a penalty period up to one calendar year. (formerly part of 11.11.2)

7.2.1.2 Restoring Eligibility. The Executive Director, the Sectional Appeals Committee, or the Board of Directors on appeal, may restore the student’s eligibility prior to the end of the penalty period, when in the discretion of the Executive Director, the student has been properly disciplined and the student signs a written statement of his/her intention to comply with these standards in the future. (formerly part of 11.11.2)

7.2.2 Executive Director’s Powers. The Executive Director shall have full authority to investigate allegations and incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct and invoke penalties against member schools or individuals involved. (formerly part of 8.1.1)

7.2.3 Disqualifications. The disqualification from participation of a coach or student, or removal of a spectator or other representative of a member school due
to unsportsmanlike conduct during an interscholastic event will subject the school to the appropriate penalties. (formerly part of 8.1.2)

7.2.4 **Removal by Coach or Administrator.** The removal of a team or individual competitor by a coach or administrator because of their dissatisfaction with contest officials or other conditions of the contest shall be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will subject the school to the appropriate penalties. (formerly 8.1.3)

7.2.5 **Unsportsmanlike Conduct at Tournaments, Meets, or Contests.** The Executive Director, in the event of unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of a representative of the member school during an athletic tournament, meet, or contest, shall have the authority to deny further participation at said tournament, meet, or contest, to such team or individual. (formerly 8.1.4)

7.2.6 **Unsportsmanlike Conduct—Performance-Enhancing Drugs.** The use of anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs by a student is considered to be an act of unsportsmanlike conduct, and as such the student shall be ineligible for 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. (formerly part of 11.11.4)

7.2.7 **Crowd Control.** Any member school whose principal commits unsportsmanlike conduct or whose principal fails to control the conduct of the student body, faculty, and spectators shall be subject to the appropriate penalties, which may include expulsion from membership in this Association. (formerly 8.2)
Interscholastic Contests

8.1 INTERSCHOLASTIC CONTEST

8.1.1 Definition of Interscholastic Contest. An interscholastic contest is any competition between organized teams or individuals of different schools in a sport recognized by this Association, and therefore shall be subject to all regulations pertaining to such contests. (formerly 9.1.1)

8.1.2 Protests. Any decision made by a contest official shall not be contested. The decisions of the contest officials are final. (formerly 9.1.2)

8.2 RULES OF COMPETITION

8.2.1 NFHS Rules. Unless waived by at least a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors, the rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), or those approved by it, shall be the official rules for interscholastic athletic competition in all sports. (formerly 9.2.1)

8.3 SCHOOLS WITH WHICH CONTESTS MAY BE HELD

8.3.1 Eligible Contestants. Member schools may only engage in interscholastic contests with the following: (formerly 9.3.1)

(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 in good standing of associations which regulate interscholastic athletics for schools within their state. They must follow comparable eligibility guidelines and the season for the sport involved must run concurrently with that of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

(d) Member schools shall not participate in athletic contests or contractually obligate themselves to participate in any tournament, meet or contest in which any schools which do not meet these criteria are scheduled to participate, or with non-school teams or groups.

8.3.2 Middle, Junior, and Combination Schools. Member middle, junior, and combination schools may engage in interscholastic contests with non-member middle and junior high schools provided that: (formerly 9.3.2)
(a) Competition is confined to middle and junior high schools in the same county under conditions established by the District School Board for that county; or

(b) Subject to Executive Director’s approval, the nonmember school is within a 50-mile radius of the member school.

8.4 CONTRACTS

8.4.1 General Principles. Written or electronically generated contracts are required for all interscholastic athletic contests between member schools, excluding state series. Only the principal or the designated FHSAA Representative may execute such contracts. (formerly 9.4.1)

8.4.1.1 Forms. In order to be valid, the contracts shall be executed upon the official Association form or approved by the Executive Director if generated electronically.

8.4.1.2 Time Constraints. Member schools may not enter into a contract which purports to bind those schools for interscholastic athletic competition longer than three (3) years from the date on which it was executed. (formerly 9.4.2)

8.4.1.3 Contract Terms. Details must be specific. Definite dates, sites, financial arrangements, process for selecting officials, and other items of interest to both parties should be specified. (formerly 9.4.3)

8.4.2 Cancellation of Contract. Contracts may be canceled by mutual consent any time at least seven (7) days prior to the event.

8.4.2.1 Disputed Cancellation. If the parties fail to reach agreement on contract cancellation, the matter will be referred to the Executive Director for adjudication.

8.4.2.1.1 Appealing of Decision. If the Executive Director’s decision is appealed, the decision of the Sectional Appeals Committee or Board of Directors shall be final.

8.4.2.1.2 Failure to Comply. Non-compliance with the final decision by either principal shall subject the school to a penalty, which may include expulsion.

8.4.2.2 Use of Ineligible Athletes. Contracts between member schools shall be subject to cancellation whenever either party proposes to allow the use of ineligible students. Member schools are prohibited from competing with schools which propose to use ineligible students. (formerly 9.4.6)

8.4.2.3 Suspended or Expelled Schools. When a member school is placed on suspension, probation, or expelled from membership, all contracts which the principal has executed shall be null and void. The contract may be renewed when the penalized school’s punishment has ended if those dates have not yet been filled. (formerly 9.4.7)

8.4.3 Failure to Meet Contractual Obligations. Any school which does not fulfill the terms of any valid contract or enters into an invitational tournan-
ment and does not compete until elimination shall be subjected to a financial penalty at the discretion of the Executive Director. (formerly 9.4.8)

8.5 CATEGORIZATION OF SPORTS (formerly 9.5.1)

8.5.1 Sports May be Categorized as Recognized or Sanctioned. All sports which are not recognized or sanctioned by the Board of Directors shall be considered club sports and are not under the jurisdiction of this Association.

8.5.1.1 “Recognized” Sports. Recognized sports require that participants abide by Association bylaws, policies, rules and contest regulations with regard to student eligibility and sportsmanship in interscholastic contests.

8.5.1.2 “Sanctioned” Sports. Sanctioned sports may require participants to adhere to stricter guidelines established by the Board of Directors. Sanctioned sports may be eligible for state championship series status pursuant to Article 8.8.1.

8.6 PARTICIPATION BY GENDER (formerly 9.6.1)

8.6.1 Girls on Boys’ Teams. Girls may play on a boys’ team in a sport if the school does not sponsor a girls’ team in that sport.

8.6.2 Boys on Girls’ Teams. Boys may not participate on a girls’ team in any sport if the school’s overall boys’ athletic program equals or exceeds the girls’ overall athletic program.

8.6.3 Mixed Gender Teams. Team sports that have both boys and girls are required to compete in the boys division in that sport.

8.6.4 State Series. In a team or individual sport, girls may not participate on boys’ teams in the state series when a sport is offered in the state series for girls.

8.7 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (formerly 9.7.1)

8.7.1 State Championship Series. For the purpose of determining the official state champion(s) in those sports that are recognized or sanctioned by the Board of Directors, this Association may conduct a State Championship Series.

8.7.1.1 Determining Which Schools Are Eligible. Participation is limited to member senior high schools, combination schools and home education co-ops only. This excludes member middle or junior high schools and nonmember senior high schools.

8.7.1.2 Determining Which Sports Are Eligible. The Board of
Directors shall determine which sports will conduct state championship series and shall set the terms and conditions of each series.

**8.7.1.3 Commitment Form.** Member schools choosing to participate in a State Championship Series must complete and submit to the Association a binding “Commitment Form.”

**8.7.2 Disbursement of Funds Raised.** Member schools which host a state championship series shall disperse funds in accordance with conditions established by the Board of Directors. Failure to do so will result in restrictive probation for all sports until proper remuneration is made. (formerly 9.7.2)

**8.7.3 Officials Assignments.** The assignment of officials to officiate during the state championship series will be made by the assignment officer of the local association at the district level and by the FHSAA Office at the regional and state level. The officials assigned to these contests are independent contractors and are not employees of the local associations or the FHSAA.

**8.8 SEASON LIMITATIONS**

**8.8.1 General Principles.** The Board of Directors shall adopt season limitations in each sport which conducts a state championship series. These limitations shall establish the earliest and latest permissible dates for practice and competition, as well as the maximum number of regular season contests in each sport. The limitation on boys and girls will be the same for common sports. Member schools shall not conduct practice or competition in a sport during the established off-season for that sport. (formerly 9.8.1)

**8.8.2 Off-Season.** The Board of Directors shall establish guidelines to govern interactions between member schools and student-athletes during the off-season. The off-season is the period of time outside the season limitations for a sport but during the school year. (formerly 9.8.2)

**8.9 USE OF REGISTERED OFFICIALS (formerly 9.9.1)**

**8.9.1 Sports Requiring the Use of Registered Officials.** All officials for interscholastic contests in the sports of baseball, basketball, football (flag and tackle), lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball, water polo and wrestling must be registered with this Association in the sport the individual is to officiate.

**8.9.2 Registration Policies.** The Board of Directors shall establish the policies and procedures for the registration of officials, who shall be independent contractors. Registered officials must be members of an officials association which is sanctioned by this Association.

**8.9.3 Failure to Use Registered Officials.** It shall be the responsibility of the hosting member school principal for contracting registered officials through the officials association sanctioned by this Association. Violation of this
regulation shall subject the school to a financial penalty.

**8.9.4 Failure to Provide Registered Officials.** Failure of the sanctioned officials association to provide registered officials as contracted shall subject the officials association to a financial penalty.

**8.9.5 Conflicts of Interest.** Coaches or other persons connected with competing schools shall not officiate in contests except with the consent of all competing schools. The principal, athletic director or team coach from all competing schools may grant consent.
Student Eligibility

9.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

9.1.1 Participation in Interscholastic Athletics a Privilege. Participation in interscholastic athletic programs by a student is a privilege, not a right. Students who participate are required to meet the requirements established in state law, FHSAA regulations, and by their respective schools.

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

9.1.2 School Responsible to Ensure Student Eligibility. A school must not permit a student to represent it in interscholastic athletic competition unless the student meets all eligibility requirements and the school has certified the student’s eligibility to the FHSAA Office.

9.1.2.1 Ineligible Student. An ineligible student shall not be allowed on the players’ bench, in the team box or on the field of play wearing any portion of a team uniform.

9.1.2.2 Falsification of Information. A student who falsifies information to gain eligibility shall be declared ineligible to represent any member school for a period of one year from the date of discovery.

9.1.3 Rationale for Eligibility Standards. Eligibility rules are necessary for participation in interscholastic athletics because:

(a) They protect the opportunities of qualified students to participate; and
(b) They promote competitive equity among schools; and
(c) They encourage academic achievement by student-athletes.

9.2 ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

9.2.1 Student May Only Participate at School He/She First Attends Each School Year. A student must attend school, and may participate only in the interscholastic athletic programs sponsored by the school he/she first attends each school year, which is either: (s.1006.20(2)(a), Florida Statutes)

(a) The school where the student first attends classes; or
(b) The school where the student first participates in an athletic activities on or after the official start date of that sport season before he/she attends classes at any school. (formerly 11.1.1 and 11.3.1)

9.2.1.1 Definition of “Attend School.” A student attends school if he/she is present in a school classroom on a regular basis or is legally registered as
a home education student. A student can attend only one school at a time for the purposes of interscholastic athletic eligibility.

9.2.1.2 **Definition of “Interscholastic Athletic Programs.”** Interscholastic athletic programs encompass all activities relating to competitive sport contests involving individual students or teams of students from one school against individual students or teams of students from another school. Such activities include, but are not limited to, tryouts, offseason conditioning, summer workouts, preseason conditioning, in-season practice and contests.

9.2.2 **Attendance Exceptions.**

9.2.2.1 **Home Education Student.** A legally registered home education student may participate at one of the following:

(a) The public school the student normally would attend; or
(b) A public school the student could choose to attend according to controlled open enrollment provisions; or
(c) A private school that will accept the student for participation; or
(d) A home education cooperative to which the student belongs. (formerly 11.1.3)

9.2.2.1.1 **Home Education Student Requirements.** To participate in interscholastic athletics, a home education student must: (s.1006.15(3)(c)1-7, Florida Statutes)

(a) register as a home education student with the district school superintendent of the county in which he/she resides; and
(b) notify the school of his/her intent to participate before the beginning date of the season for the sport in which he/she wants to participate; and
(c) meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior and performance as the school requires of other participating students; and
(d) certify to the school at the end of each semester that he/she has the minimum cumulative grade point average required for participation; and
(e) meet all other FHSAA eligibility requirements; and
(f) must be approved by the FHSAA Office each year using a form provided by the Association.

9.2.2.2 **Charter School Student.** A student who attends a charter school that does not sponsor an interscholastic athletic program in one or more sports may participate in the sport or sports not sponsored by the charter school at either of the following schools:

(a) The public school the student normally would attend; or
(b) The public school the student could attend according to controlled open enrollment provisions. (formerly 11.1.4)

9.2.2.2.1 **Charter School Student Requirements.** To participate in interscholastic athletics, a charter school student must: (s.1006.15(3)(d)1-7, Florida Statutes)
(a) meet the requirements of the charter school education program as determined by the charter school governing board; and

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

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

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

(e) 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; and

(f) meet all other FHSAA eligibility requirements (no form is required).

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

(a) The school awards credit toward graduation for the work the student completes at the community college or university; and

(b) The community college or university officially issues grades on the same schedule as the school’s semester; and

(c) The student takes and completes the minimum number of credits required for graduation; and

(d) The student does not participate in the intercollegiate athletic programs of the community college or university; and

(e) The student meets all other FHSAA eligibility requirements (no form or letter is required). (from Policy 16; eliminates requirement that principal or superintendent write the FHSAA Office for permission)

**9.2.2.4 Students in Alternative or Special Schools.** A student who attends an alternative school or other special school operated by a school district may participate at the school he/she would normally attend according to the school district attendance policy, provided the alternative or special school does not sponsor an interscholastic athletic program and the superintendent or district athletic director has notified this Association which schools qualify to allow students to participate under this bylaw. The student must meet all other FHSAA eligibility requirements. (from Policy 16; eliminates requirement that superintendent write FHSAA Office for permission)

**9.2.2.5 Participation in Summer Athletic Activities by Students Changing Schools or Entering a Member School or Combination School for the First Time.** 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 will be considered to have established residence in that school and will not be eligible to participate in athletic activities sponsored by or affiliated with a school 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 activities prior to attendance, whichever comes first. (formerly 11.1.1.1 & 11.3.1.1)

9.2.2.6 Middle School Students Attending Non-member Public Schools. A student 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 a member public school that is part of the same school district in interscholastic competition, provided such participation is at the junior high or middle school level. (formerly part of 11.1.5)

9.2.3 Attendance Within First 10 Days of Semester Required. A student must attend classes within the first 10 school days of a semester. Otherwise, the student will not be eligible until:

(a) The student has made up all classwork missed during his/her absence; and
(b) The student has attended one school day for each school day missed. (formerly 11.1.2)

9.2.4 Participation in Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School. A student who participates in any non-school athletic activities affiliated with a school that the student does not attend or did not attend in the previous school year and then establishes his/her residence at the affiliated school within one calendar year of such participation will not be eligible in the new school until the student has been in attendance at that school for one calendar year. Establishing such residence is bona fide evidence that the student is attending the school in whole or in part for athletic reasons. (formerly 11.4.12)

9.2.4.1 Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School. Non-school athletic activities affiliated with a school are any athletic activities not sponsored by the school but are organized, coached and/or supervised by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school’s athletic interests (as defined by FHSAA Policy 36.2.1.1), or in which the majority of participants are students who attend the school. Such activities include, but are not limited to: (formerly 11.4.12)

(a) club teams;
(b) travel teams;
(c) grade school teams;
(d) recreational league teams;
(e) personal instruction sessions; and
(f) any other type of activity determined by the FHSAA to be an athletic activity.
9.2.5 Relocation of a Coach. A student who establishes residence at a school within one year of the relocation of any member of the coaching staff of the student’s sport(s), on any level regardless of which level the student participated, will not be eligible to participate in the sport(s) coached by that coach until the student has been in attendance for one calendar year if said coach is in any way affiliated with the athletic program at the new school. Establishing such residence is bona fide evidence that the student is attending the school in whole or in part for athletic reasons. (formerly 11.4.13)

9.3 TRANSFER REGULATIONS

9.3.1 “Transfer” Defined. A transfer occurs when a student makes any change in schools after he/she establishes residency at a school each year.

9.3.2 Transfer Student Not Eligible Until the Following School Year. A student who transfers from one school to another will not be eligible at the new school until the beginning of the next school year, unless the student qualifies under one of the following four exceptions: (formerly 11.4.1)

9.3.2.1 Exception – Full and Complete Move to New Residence. A student who moves to a new home address due to a full and complete move by the student and the persons with whom he/she has been living for at least one calendar year that makes it necessary for the student to attend a different school and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible subject to Bylaw 9.3.3. A student and his/her parents cannot occupy a residence at more than one address, and only the student’s current residence may be used for eligibility purposes. (formerly 11.4.1)

9.3.2.1.1 Full and Complete Move Defined. The following items are evidence a move is full and complete:

(a) The former residence is not occupied for any purpose at any time by the student or any of the persons with whom the student has been living; and

(b) All personal belongings are moved from the former residence; and

(c) Mail is received at the new residence; and

(d) All utilities are transferred to the new residence; and

(e) Driver’s license, voter registration and other forms of legal identification are changed to the new residence.

9.3.2.2 Exception – Necessary Relocation to Residence of Another Individual. A student who transfers because he/she has to move into the residence of another person who lives at a residence that makes it necessary for the student to attend a different school and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible at the new school subject to Bylaw 9.3.3. This exception applies only to the following specific situations:

(a) One of the persons with whom the student has been living dies;

(b) One of the persons with whom the student has been living is imprisoned or
committed by court order to a mental facility; or

(c) The student is made a ward of the court or state and is placed in a foster home by a court of legal jurisdiction. In this case, a certified copy of the court order, a copy of the petition upon which the order was based, and other evidence the court had to consider in issuing the order must be provided to the FHSAA Office. Temporary guardianship that is granted without the approval of a court of legal jurisdiction does not meet this requirement.

9.3.2.3 Exception – Move to New Residence Following Marriage. A student who marries and immediately establishes a new residence with his/her spouse at a residence that makes it necessary for the student to attend a different school and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible subject to Bylaw 9.3.3. (formerly 11.4.14)

9.3.2.4 Exception – Reassignment by District School Board. A student who is reassigned during the school year to a different school by the district school board, as long as the reassignment is not for athletic or disciplinary reasons, and is not requested by the student or his/her parents, and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible at the new school subject to Bylaw 9.3.3. In this case, the student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition at the public school where he/she is assigned or a private school he/she chooses to attend. (formerly 11.4.17)

9.3.2.5 Need to Attend a Different School Defined. When determining whether a change in residence makes it necessary for a student to attend a different school as required in Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2 and 9.3.2.3, the FHSAA Office will consider the following criteria:

(a) Is the student not permitted to attend his/her old school by the district school board because the new residence is outside the school’s attendance zone?

(b) Is public transportation from the student’s new residence to the old school not provided?

9.3.3 Qualifying Transfer Student Becomes Eligible on Sixth Day of Attendance. A transfer student who qualifies under one of the four exceptions in Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2, 9.3.2.3 and 9.3.2.4 will be eligible for competition on the sixth school day of attendance at the new school if:

(a) The school has received and evaluated the student’s official sealed transcript provided by his/her former school; and

(b) The school has determined that the student meets all eligibility requirements. (formerly 11.4.7)

9.3.3.1 Transfer Student Must Provide Academic Records. A student who transfers to a member school from a nonmember school after beginning high school must provide the member school with an official sealed transcript showing all grades he/she has received at all schools attended since beginning eighth grade. The student must also provide the school with all information the school needs to convert the student’s grades using the scale in Bylaw 9.4.2. The student cannot be declared academically eligible by the member school until all such information
is received to its satisfaction. (formerly 11.2.3)

9.3.3.2 Transfer Student's Former School Must Verify Eligibility Status Upon Request. The member school formerly attended by a transfer student must verify the student’s eligibility status if requested to do so by the student’s new school. (formerly 11.4.14)

9.3.3.3 Transfer Student Not Eligible for One Full Semester if Transcript Cannot be Obtained. A transfer student whose former school cannot or will not provide an official sealed transcript will not be eligible in the new school until he/she has been in attendance for one full semester and has established a cumulative GPA. The school must submit a written report to the FHSAA Office that includes the student’s name, date of first attendance in the school, and the beginning and ending dates of the previous semester. (formerly 11.2.9)

9.3.4 Ineligible Student Cannot Transfer to Become Eligible. A transfer student who is ineligible for any reason at the time of the transfer will not be eligible in the new school until the student has been in attendance for one full semester. Attending a new school at the beginning of the school year does not decrease or eliminate the period of ineligibility. (formerly 11.4.10 and 11.4.11)

9.3.4.1 Students Under Expulsion. A student who has been expelled by a school district or school shall not be considered eligible at any member school during the length of the expulsion. If the student who chooses not to attend an alternative school, if offered by the school district or school, shall be ineligible to represent a member school for the next two consecutive “full” semesters. Attending a new school at the beginning of the school year does not decrease or eliminate the period of ineligibility.

9.3.5 Transfer Students Who Are Not Eligible. The following transfer students are not eligible in their new school even if they otherwise qualify under one of the four exceptions in Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2, 9.3.2.3 and 9.3.2.4.

9.3.5.1 Student Who Transfers After FHSAA State Championship Series in a Sport Begins. A student who transfers to any school after the FHSAA State Championship Series in a sport begins will not be eligible to participate in that sport through the conclusion of that state championship series. (formerly 11.4.9)

9.3.5.1.1 Student Who Participated in a State Championship Series in Another State. A student who attends a member school after having participated in a state championship series in a sport in another state is ineligible to participate in that sport for that school year.

9.3.5.2 Student Who Transfers After Participation in a Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School. A student who participates in any non-school athletic activity affiliated with a school that the student does not attend or did not attend in the previous school year and then transfers to the affiliated school within one calendar year of such participation will not be eligible in the new school until the student has been in attendance for one calendar year. (formerly 11.4.12)
9.3.5.2.1 What Are Considered Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated With a School? Non-school athletic activities affiliated with a school are any athletic activities not sponsored by the school but are organized, coached and/or supervised by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school’s athletic interests (as defined by FHSAA Policy 36.2.1.1), or in which the majority of participants are students who attend the school. Such activities include, but are not limited to: (formerly 11.4.12)

(a) club teams;
(b) travel teams;
(c) grade school teams;
(d) recreational league teams;
(e) personal instruction sessions; and
(f) any other type of activity determined by the FHSAA to be an athletic activity.

9.3.5.3 Student Who Transfers Following Relocation of a Coach. A student who transfers to a school within one year of the relocation of any member of the coaching staff of the student’s sport(s), on any level regardless of which level the student participated, will not be eligible to participate in the sport(s) coached by that coach until the student has been in attendance for one calendar year if said coach is in any way affiliated with the athletic program at the new school. (formerly 11.4.13)

9.4 ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

9.4.1 Cumulative 2.0 GPA Required for Academic Eligibility. A student must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, at the conclusion of each semester to be academically eligible during the next semester. (s.1006.15(3)(a)1, Florida Statutes) (formerly 11.2.1)

9.4.1.1 Courses to be Used in Calculating GPA. The grades from all courses required for graduation that a student takes, including those taken by the student before he/she begins high school, must be included in the calculation of the student’s cumulative GPA at the conclusion of each semester. For public school students, this includes the courses listed in s.1003.43(1), Florida Statutes. (formerly part of 11.2.1, 11.2.2)

9.4.1.2 Academic Eligibility/Ineligibility is for a Semester. A student who is academically eligible at the beginning of a semester will continue to be academically eligible for that entire semester. Likewise, a student who is academically ineligible at the beginning of a semester will continue to be academically ineligible for that entire semester, except as provided in Bylaw 9.4.5.1.2. The student’s academic eligibility for each successive semester will depend upon his/her cumulative GPA at the conclusion of the previous semester. (formerly 11.2.12)
9.4.1.3 **Attendance During Previous Two Consecutive Semesters Required.** A student cannot be academically eligible if he/she has not attended school and received grades for all courses taken during the previous two consecutive semesters. (formerly 11.2.10)

9.4.1.4 **Exception – First Semester of High School Attendance – Ninth Grade.** A first-year high school student, entering the ninth grade for the first time, is academically eligible during his/her first semester of high school attendance. The student, however, must have the cumulative 2.0 GPA at the conclusion of his/her first semester of high school attendance to be academically eligible to participate during his/her next semester of attendance. (formerly 11.2.1.1)

9.4.1.5 **Exception – Using Semester GPA for Ninth and Tenth Grade.** A student who is academically ineligible during the second semester of ninth grade or during the first semester of tenth grade and does not regain a cumulative 2.0 GPA at the conclusion of the semester of ineligibility may be granted academic eligibility for the next semester if: (s.1006.15(3)(a)2, Florida Statutes)

(a) The student signs an academic performance contract with his/her school upon discovery of the semester of ineligibility; and
(b) The student sits out the semester of ineligibility; and
(c) The student attends summer school, or its graded equivalent, as necessary; and
(d) The student earns a 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses taken during the semester of ineligibility. (formerly 11.2.1.2)

9.4.1.6 **No Exceptions During the 11th and 12th Grade.** Once a student has completed 10th grade, he/she must have the cumulative 2.0 GPA as required by Bylaw 9.3.1 for the remainder of his/her high school career. (s. 1006.15(3)(a)3, Florida Statutes) (formerly 11.2.1.3)

9.4.1.7 **Students in Dual Enrollment or Early Admission Programs.** Students who participate in dual enrollment programs or early admission programs must have the cumulative 2.0 GPA as required in Bylaw 9.4.1 to be academically eligible. (formerly 11.2.11)

9.4.2 **Mandatory Grading Scale to be used in Calculating GPA.** All member schools must use the following alphabetical grading scale as mandated in s.1003.437, Florida Statutes, when calculating the grade point averages of high school students to determine their academic eligibility:

- 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 59 percent or less and has a GPA value of 0. (was 11.2.3)

9.4.2.1 **Incomplete Grade is a Failure.** An incomplete grade must be counted as a failure (Grade “F”) when calculating a student’s cumulative GPA.
9.4.3 Effect of Summer School or its Graded Equivalent Courses on Cumulative GPA. A student may raise or lower his/her cumulative GPA by attending summer school or its graded equivalent if:

(a) The summer school or its graded equivalent is regularly scheduled and regularly organized under the direction of a district school board or private school;

(b) All coursework taken by the student is completed before the first day of classes in the subsequent semester; and

(c) All courses taken by the student, in which he/she receives a grade, whether during the regular academic year or summer school, or its graded equivalent, must be used to calculate the student’s cumulative GPA. (formerly 11.2.5)

9.4.3.1 “Forgiveness.” If a student repeats a course, regardless of whether he/she passed or failed the course on the first attempt in which the student earned a “D” or “F,” or the equivalent of a grade of “D” or “F,” the grade may be replaced with a grade of “C” or higher, or the equivalent of a grade of “C” or higher, provided for required courses the course is the same or comparable course, or with a grade of “C” or higher, or the equivalent of a grade of “C” or higher for an elective course and that grade will be used to calculate the student’s cumulative GPA. (s.1003.428(4)(d), note, Florida Statutes) (formerly in 11.2.5)

9.4.3.1.1 Grade GPA Calculation. For the purposes of GPA calculation, each subsequent unsuccessful attempt on a course taken for forgiveness must be computed in the calculations. One successful attempt will overwrite the original grade and all previous unsuccessful attempts.

9.4.3.2 Course Taught by Private Tutor Cannot be Used to Raise GPA. A school cannot accept a grade received by a student in a class conducted by a private certified tutor to raise his/her cumulative GPA for academic eligibility purposes. (formerly in 11.2.5)

9.4.4 Determination of Academic Eligibility at Conclusion of Each Semester. A school must calculate the cumulative GPA of a student at the conclusion of each semester to determine the student’s academic eligibility for the next semester. Only those grades that are first reported by the student’s teachers at the conclusion of the semester can be used to calculate the student’s cumulative GPA. (formerly 11.2.13)

9.4.4.1 Definition of “First Reported.” “First reported” means the grades that are originally submitted by the student’s teachers at the conclusion of the semester. Changes to grades that are first reported by a student’s teachers may only be made according to the published policies of the school. (formerly in 11.2.13)

9.4.5 Course Work must be Completed by First Day of Next Semester. A student must complete all work required to earn credit in a course taken during a semester by the first day of the next semester. A grade of “incomplete” must be considered a failing grade when calculating a student’s cumulative GPA. (formerly 11.2.8)
9.4.5 Exceptions.

9.4.5.1 Special Course Work That Cannot be Completed by First Day of Next Semester. An exception to Bylaw 9.4.5 is made for students taking courses such as agriculture, which have special projects that cannot be completed until late summer. (formerly in 11.2.8)

9.4.5.1.2 Work Not Completed Due to Illness or Excused Absence. A student who is academically ineligible because of a failure to complete his/her course work by the first day of the next semester due to an extended illness, supported by a physician’s report, or other excused absence may have his/her academic eligibility restored once the course work is completed and the student receives a passing grade that raises his/her cumulative GPA to 2.0 or above. A school must notify the FHSAA Office in writing whenever this occurs. (formerly in 11.2.13)

9.4.6 Change in Eligibility Status. If a student’s academic eligibility changes at the end of a semester, the student will become eligible or ineligible on the sixth school day of the next semester as published on the school’s official calendar for that school year. Even if the last day of the semester coincides with the last day of school for the winter holidays, the student will not become eligible or ineligible until the sixth school day of the next semester that follows the winter holidays as published on the school’s official calendar for that school year. (formerly 11.2.10)

9.4.7 Student Must be an Undergraduate. A student must not have completed the terminal grade of high school in the secondary education system of the U.S. or any other country. (formerly 11.2.4)

9.5 LIMIT OF ELIGIBILITY

9.5.1 High School Student Has Four Years of Eligibility. A student has four consecutive calendar years of eligibility from the date he/she begins ninth grade for the first time. This does not imply that the student has four years of participation. A student becomes permanently ineligible four consecutive calendar years from the date he/she begins ninth grade for the first time. (formerly 11.5.1)

9.5.1.1 Exception – Student Whose Limit of Eligibility Expires During Sports Season. A student whose four-year limit of eligibility expires during the season of a sport in which the student is participating may complete the season if the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. The student, however, will not be permitted to participate in any other sport that begins after his/her limit of eligibility has expired. (formerly 11.5.2)

9.5.1.2 Participation Prior to High School Does Not Affect Limit of Eligibility. A student’s four-year limit of high school eligibility is not affected by the student’s participation in interscholastic athletics before beginning the ninth grade for the first time. (formerly 11.5.4)

9.5.2 Middle School Student Has 1-Year Limit of Eligibility in Each Grade. A middle school student may participate only one year as a sixth grader, only one year as a seventh grader and only one year as an eighth grader.
9.5.3 Middle School Student Attending a Combination School. A middle school student attending a combination high school with grades 6, 7 and/or 8 may participate on the high school level, only one year as a sixth grader, only one year as a seventh grader and only one year as an eighth grader.

9.6 AGE

9.6.1 Student May Participate at High School Level Until the Age of 19 Years 9 Months. A student may participate at the high school level until the day he/she reaches the age of 19 years 9 months if the student has not exceeded his/her four-year limit of eligibility. The student becomes permanently ineligible at the high school level on the day he/she reaches the age of 19 years 9 months. (formerly 11.6.1)

9.6.1.1 Exception – Student Who Reaches Age Limit During FHSAA State Championship Series. A student who reaches the age of 19 years 9 months during a FHSAA State Championship Series in which he/she is participating may complete that state series if the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements. The student, however, will not be allowed to participate in any other sport that begins after he/she has reached the age of 19 years 9 months. (formerly 11.6.1.1)

9.6.2 Student May Participate at Junior High School Level Until the Age of 16 Years 9 Months. A student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition at the junior high school level until the day he/she reaches the age of 16 years 9 months. The student becomes permanently ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition at the junior high school level on the day he/she reaches the age of 16 years 9 months. (formerly 11.6.2)

9.6.2.1 When Junior High Age Limit Applies. The 16 year 9 month junior high school age limit applies to a participating student only when:

(a) Teams representing junior high schools compete against each other; or

(b) Teams representing the junior high school departments of combination junior-senior high schools compete against each other.

(c) If a junior high school team competes against a senior high school team or the varsity team of a combination junior-senior high school, the high school age limit of 19 years 9 months will apply to all participating students. (formerly 11.6.2)

9.6.3 Student May Participate at Middle School Level Until the Age of 15 Years 9 Months. A student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition at the middle school level until the day he/she reaches the age of 15 years 9 months. The student becomes permanently ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition at the middle school level on the day he/she reaches the age of 15 years 9 months. (formerly 11.6.3)

9.6.3.1 When Middle School Age Limit Applies. The 15 year 9 month middle school age limit applies to a participating student only when:
(a) Teams representing middle schools compete against each other; or
(b) Teams representing the middle school departments of combination middle-
senior high schools compete against each other.
(c) If a middle school team competes against a senior high school team or the
varsity team of a combination middle-senior high school, the high school age
limit of 19 years 9 months will apply to all participating students. (formerly
11.6.3)

9.6.4 School Must Verify Age of Student. A school must verify the
age of each student who represents it in interscholastic athletic competition. The
student must provide documented proof of his/her age for this purpose. A student
who is unable to provide documented proof of his/her age cannot participate. (for-
merly 11.6.4)

9.6.4.1 What is Documented Proof of Age? Documented proof of
age is one or more of the following:
(a) An original birth certificate issued by the office of vital records in the country,
province, state, county or city where the student was born;
(b) A passport, visa or “green card” that lists the student’s date of birth; or
(c) An official record of birth from the hospital in which the student was born.
(formerly 11.6.4)

9.7 PHYSICAL EVALUATION (FHSAA Form EL2
– Pre-participation Physical Examination)

9.7.1 Student Must Have a Physical Evaluation Each Year. A
student must have a physical evaluation each year and be certified as being physically
fit to participate in interscholastic athletic programs. A physical evaluation shall
be valid for a period not to exceed one calendar year from the date of practitioner’s
signature. The student cannot be allowed to participate in any activity related to
interscholastic athletic programs until the fully executed physical evaluation form
is on file in the school. (s.1002.20(17)(b), Florida Statutes)

9.7.2 Qualified Practitioners. The annual physical evaluation must be
administered either by a licensed physician, a licensed osteopathic physician, a li-
censed chiropractic physician, a licensed physician assistant, or a certified advanced
registered nurse practitioner.

9.7.3 Filing Requirements. The student-athlete shall be required to file
with the principal or his/her designee a fully executed physical evaluation form
signed by the practitioner and medical history questionnaire signed by the student
and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).

9.7.4 Evaluation Requirements. The Board of Directors shall adopt
minimum requirements for the physical evaluation to which each member school
shall adhere.
9.8 CONSENT AND RELEASE (FHSAA Form EL3 – Consent and Release from Liability Certificate)

9.8.1 Student Must Provide School with Signed Consent and Release Form to Participate. A student must have the consent of his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to participate in interscholastic athletic programs at a member school. The student and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must also release the FHSAA, its member schools and contest officials from all liability for any injury or claim that may result from the student’s participation in interscholastic athletics. This consent and release from liability must be provided in writing on a form developed by this Association for that purpose. The form must be signed by the student and his/her parent(s) or legal guardians. The student cannot be allowed to participate in any activity related to interscholastic athletic programs until the fully executed consent form is on file in the school.

9.8.1.1 Board of Directors to Adopt Language for Consent and Release Form. The Board of Directors will adopt the language that must be contained in the consent and release form, which, at a minimum, will include the following:

(a) A statement acknowledging that participation in interscholastic athletics may require the student to miss classes;
(b) A statement authorizing the school to provide to the FHSAA for inspection the student’s academic, attendance and financial assistance records when requested;
(c) A statement warning of the health risks involved in participating in interscholastic athletics;
(d) A statement authorizing the use or disclosure of the student’s individually identifiable health information should treatment for illness or injury become necessary; and
(e) A statement granting to the released parties the right to photograph and videotape the student and to use his/her name, face, likeness, voice and appearance in connection with exhibitions, publicity, advertising, promotional and commercial materials without reservation or limitation.

9.9 AMATEURISM

9.9.1 General Principles. A student may not participate in an athletic activity of this Association unless he/she is an amateur. An amateur is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social, and pleasure benefits derived from the activity.

9.9.2 Forfeiture of Amateur Status. A student-athlete forfeits amateur status in a particular sport for one year by:

(a) Competing for money or other monetary compensations;
(b) Receiving any award or prize of monetary value which has not been approved
by the FHSAA;
(c) Capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money or gifts of a monetary nature;
(d) Signing a professional playing contract in any sport or hiring an agent to manage his/her athletic career;
(e) Competing under an assumed name.

9.9.3 Permissible Awards, Gifts, or Other Compensation. A student-athlete will not forfeit his/her amateur status for accepting:

(a) Symbolic awards such as school letters, medals, trophies, ribbons, plaques, pins, keys, or ribbons of small monetary value purchased from an established awards company.

(b) Rings, sweaters, jackets, or award blankets provided that they are presented by the school which they represent and do not exceed the value of the purchase price from an established awards company.

(c) Remuneration of “essential expenses” for any game in which he/she participates as a player; limited to meals, lodging, and transportation;

(d) A college scholarship offer.

9.9.3.1 Amateur Sports Guidelines. The FHSAA uses the guidelines of the national governing body of a particular sport, when applicable, to determine the types and amounts of benefits an amateur may receive.

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

NOTE: Any student who may consider participating in athletics as an amateur after high school should determine whether any action they intend to take while in high school would violate the amateurism regulation of the governing boy at the level of competition at which he or she intends to participate.
Compliance and Enforcement

10.1 PENALTIES

10.1.1 General Principles. The Executive Director shall have the authority to investigate all alleged violations of this Association’s Bylaws, as well as regulations, guidelines, policies or procedures established by the Board of Directors. All findings shall be disclosed to the school or person alleged to have committed a violation. The Executive Director shall have full authority to invoke one or more of the following penalties against the violating school or person:

(a) REPRIMAND—An official letter of censure to the concerned party in regard to the offense committed which warns against further violations. This letter will be kept on file for future reference.

(b) FINE—A monetary payment.

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

(d) PROBATION—Types of probation that may be imposed are as follows:

1) Administrative Probation—The school is reprimanded, fined and served notice that it is in a period of warning for a minimum of one calendar year. Additional violations during this time will result in increased penalties which may include expulsion.

2) Restrictive Probation—The school faces the same penalties as administrative probation, with the additional consequence of restriction from participation in championship competition in one or more sports, or other restrictions deemed appropriate by the Executive Director, for one or more calendar years.

3) Suspension Probation—The school faces the same penalties as administrative probation, with the additional consequence of suspension from one or more sports for one or more calendar years.

(e) EXPULSION—Involuntary termination of a school’s membership in the Association for one or more calendar years. Any member school that competes with a currently expelled school may subject itself to expulsion from the Association for one calendar year.

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

10.1.2 Reimbursement of Expenses. A member school found to have committed a violation shall pay to this Association any expenses incurred related to such violation, including, but not limited to, the costs of the investigation, attorney’s
fees and legal costs, and all other related costs.

**10.1.3 Court Injunctions.** If a member school or student, in violation of or noncompliance with any provisions of this Association’s rules, competes based on an injunction or restraining order which is later voluntarily vacated, stayed or reversed, or it is determined that injunctive relief is not or was not justified, they will still be subject to the penalties listed in 10.1.1.

**10.2 FORFEITURE OF CONTEST**

**10.2.1 General Principle.** If an ineligible student is inadvertently or intentionally permitted to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest, forfeiture of the game and honors shall be automatic and mandatory.

**10.2.1.1 Team or Individual Sports.** In team sports, the contest and honors shall be forfeited. In individual sports, the points won by the ineligible student, individually or as the member of a relay team shall be forfeited.

**10.2.1.2 Procedures.** If an ineligible student is allowed to participate in an athletic contest, the principal shall notify the Executive Director the dates of the competition and provide copies of the letters of forfeiture to the opposing school(s) the student participated against.

**10.2.1.3 Intentional Use of Ineligible Students.** The Executive Director shall have full authority to invoke additional penalties against a member school that in his/her determination intentionally permits an ineligible student to participate.

**10.3 PROTEST PROCEDURE**

**10.3.1 Protesting Actions of Another School.** Any member school filing a protest over the eligibility of a student or the actions of a member school shall submit to the Executive Director in writing a full statement of the facts signed by the principal. The Executive Director shall provide the accused party or parties with a copy of the accusation and determine if the allegations warrant an investigation.

**10.3.2 Protesting Actions of Contest Officials.** The decisions of contest officials shall be final and not subject to review. Member schools should file reports with the Executive Director of unsatisfactory performance by contest officials which may be due to alleged lack of knowledge of the rules, errors in judgment or improper conduct.

**10.4 DUE PROCESS**

**10.4.1 Eligibility Appeals.** When a student is determined to be ineligible by a member school and/or is ruled ineligible by the Executive Director, the member school principal may appeal the ruling of the Executive Director if he/she or the student takes issue with it, and must do so at the student’s request.
10.4.2 Rules Violations Appeals. Any individual or member school who is found to be in violation of the rules of this Association may appeal the finding of the Executive Director if he/she takes issue with it, or may appeal the penalty imposed if he/she believes it to be too severe, and must do so at the student’s request.

10.4.3 Disputes Between Member Schools Appeals. A member school principal may appeal the findings by the Executive Director which arise from a dispute between one or more member schools.

10.4.4 Undue Hardship Waivers. A member school principal may file a request for undue hardship waiver on behalf of the student when enforcement of the provision(s) which render(s) the student ineligible works an undue hardship upon the student, and must do so at the student’s request.

10.4.4.1 Basic Principle. 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. (formerly 11.5.5)

10.4.4.2 Criteria for an Undue Hardship Waiver Determination. 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 the Sectional Appeals Committees and the Board of Directions 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.

10.4.4.2.1 Insufficient Grounds for Undue Hardship Waiver. The fact that a student is retained in a lower grade shall not be sufficient grounds for granting an undue hardship waiver if the student fails to pass the required number of courses, or is voluntarily withdrawn from school, or repeats a lower grade to gain physical, social or emotional maturity.

10.4.4.2.2 Potentially Sufficient Grounds for Undue Hardship Waiver. The fact that a student is unable or desires to participate in interscholastic athletics shall not, in and of itself, be grounds for granting an undue hardship waiver request. The fact that a student is retained in a lower grade because he/she misses school for a prolonged period of time due to serious injury or illness, which must be supported by a physician’s record indicating that the absence was directly and solely related to such injury or illness, or events which were beyond the control of the student and/or the parent or guardian which causes the student to miss school for a prolonged period of time causing the student to repeat a grade, may be grounds for granting an undue hardship waiver request.

10.4.5 Waiver of Bylaws Due to Special Circumstances. The principal of a member school or his/her designee 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, in the opinion of the person
or entity making the appeal, call for a relief from or a modification to the effects of the rule.

10.4.6 Appeals of Executive Director’s Findings. 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 Executive Director, whether or not such finding results in the imposition of penalty, may appeal the finding of the Executive Director 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.

10.4.7 No Appeal or Waiver of Florida Statutes. The Sectional Appeals Committee, the Infraction Appeals Committee and the Board of Directors do not have the authority to waive a provision of the Florida Statutes including but not limited to:

(a) Mandatory GPA requirements;
(b) Definition of a grading period as being one semester;
(c) Mandatory grading scale;
(d) Authority of school districts to establish codes of conduct by which students must abide to be eligible to participate in interscholastic competition;
(e) Home Education guidelines;
(f) Charter School guidelines.

10.5 GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR APPEALS AND REQUESTS FOR WAIVER

10.5.1 Cost of Appeal. The cost of an appeal, if any, including the Association’s attorney fees, shall be borne by the person or entity making the appeal if the finding of the Executive Director or the penalty imposed is upheld.

10.5.2 Burden Of Proof. The burden of showing error in the determination of ineligibility or in showing why a waiver should be granted is on the person or entity making the appeal. Such proof 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.

10.5.3 Complete and Accurate Submissions. The person or entity making the appeal must ensure that the information submitted to support such appeal or request is complete and accurate. In the event a decision by the Sectional Appeals Committee or the Board of Directors was made based on incomplete or inaccurate information, the decision shall be withdrawn and the sanctions provided by these bylaws shall apply.

10.5.4 Request for Eligibility Ruling. 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 regulations may request an official ruling on the student’s eligibility from the Executive Director on a form to be provided by this Association, and must do so at the student’s request. The Executive Director or his/her designee shall issue a ruling based on the statement of facts and any other information available to the Executive Director, which additional information shall be included in the official ruling related to the student’s eligibility. In the event the Executive Director 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 Executive Director against the member school requesting the ruling.

10.5.5 Initial Appeals or Requests for Waivers. Initial appeals or requests for waivers will be heard by the Sectional Appeals Committee.

10.5.6 Subsequent Appeals or Requests for Waivers. Unfavorable decision found on the initial appeal or request for waiver rendered by the Sectional Appeals Committee will be heard by:

(a) The Sectional Appeals Committee, provided new information is provided, or
(b) The Board of Directors, which will not hear any evidence that was not presented to the Sectional Appeals Committee, and decisions will be final.

10.5.7 Appeals of Major Violations. Appeals of major violations will be heard by the Infraction Appeals Committee. Decisions of the Infraction Appeals Committee can be appealed to the Board of Directors. Decisions by the Board of Directors will be final.

10.5.7.1 Infraction Appeals Committee (from Policy 44, 7.0)

10.5.7.1.1 Purpose of Committee. The Board of Directors appoints an Infractions Appeals Committee to hear and act upon appeals of schools found to have committed major violations.

10.5.7.1.2 Composition of Committee. The committee is composed of five members as follows:

(a) One public school member, who must be a school-based administrator;
(b) One public school member, who must be either a school-based administrator or a district-level administrator;
(c) One private school member, who must be a school-based administrator;
(d) One private school member, who must be either a school-based administrator or a regional or state-level administrator in a private school accrediting organization that is recognized by the FHSAA; and
(e) One attorney who within the last five years has been a member in good standing of the Florida Bar or the bar of any other state in the union, and who cannot be connected with any member school, public school district or private school accrediting organization, or represent student-athletes, coaches or athletic directors in any manner.
10.5.7.1.2.1 Restrictions on Appointments. No member of the Board of Directors or any Sectional Appeals Committee can serve on the Infractions Appeals Committee. The two public school members cannot be from the same public school district. The two private school members cannot be from the same private school accrediting organization. Otherwise, there are no restrictions on who may be appointed to the committee.

10.5.7.1.2.2 Quorum and Alternate Members. A quorum of the committee is four members. The Board of Directors will designate alternates the Executive Director may call as substitutes to ensure a quorum when regular committee members are absent.

10.5.7.1.2.3 Attorney Serves as Committee Chair. The attorney member chairs the committee, and is the only committee member who may have contact with the FHSAA staff regarding any case. The committee elects from among its remaining four members a vice chair who presides when the chair is absent or unable to act.

10.5.7.1.3 Term of Service. A member serves a term of three years, except as stipulated in paragraph 10.5.7.1.3.1 below. A member may be reappointed to a second term, but cannot serve more than six years on the committee.

10.5.7.1.3.1 Initial Terms of Service to Establish Rotation. To ensure that the terms of all members of the committee do not expire at the same time, each member initially appointed to the committee will serve the following initial terms of service:

(a) The attorney will serve an initial term of five years and may be reappointed to a second term of three years;

(b) One of the public school administrators and one of the private school administrators, selected at random by the Board of Directors, will serve an initial term of four years and may be reappointed to a second term of three years; and

(c) The remaining public school administrator and private school administrator will serve an initial term of three years and may be reappointed to a second term of three years.

10.5.7.1.4 Authority and Duties of Committee. The committee:

(a) Hears and acts upon appeals of schools found to have committed major violations; or

(b) Hears and acts on appeals arising from a situation involving or affecting member schools in more than one administrative section; or

(c) Hears and acts on requests of waiver of a rule that, if granted, would affect member schools in more than one administrative section; or

(d) Makes recommendations to the Board of Directors and FHSAA staff relative to the formulation and revision of FHSAA enforcement policies and procedures.

10.5.7.1.5 Committee to Meet as Needed. The committee meets
as needed upon call of the chair in consultation with the Executive Director.

### 10.6 APPEAL AND REQUEST FOR WAIVER PROCEDURES

#### 10.6.1 Filing an Initial Appeal or Request for Waiver.
An appeal or request for waiver must be filed with the Executive Director on the form(s) provided by this Association and must be accompanied by all necessary documentation. The appeal or request, including all required documentation, must be signed by the principal and 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 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. Incomplete appeals or requests for waiver will be returned to the person or entity making the appeal for an opportunity to resubmit with all the necessary information prior to the deadline, if time allows.

#### 10.6.2 Filing an Appeal or Request for Waiver to the Board of Directors.
The request for an appeal hearing before the Board of Directors must be made in writing to the Executive Director, 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 or the Infraction 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 or the Infraction Appeals Committee meeting shall be deemed a waiver of the right of an appeal as granted herein.

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

#### 10.6.3.1 Procedure for Appearance.
A person or entity making the appeal who is required, or who chooses, to appear before the Sectional Appeals Committee, Infraction Appeals Committee and/or the Board of Directors will be assigned a time for the appearance. A twenty (20)-minute block will be allotted for each case involving an appearance.

#### 10.6.3.2 Student Appearance.
A student who is required, or chooses, to appear before the Sectional Appeals Committee, Infraction Appeals Committee
and/or the Board of Directors must be accompanied by a school representative and may be accompanied by his/her parent(s) or other individuals 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. The student may be represented by an attorney. Such representation will not excuse the appearance of a student when that appearance is required.

**10.6.4 Appeals of Executive Director’s Findings.** To appeal the finding of the Executive Director, 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 Executive Director’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.

**10.6.5 Infraction Appeals Committee Appeals Procedure (from Policy 44, 8.0)**

**10.6.5.1 Written Notice of Appeal.** To be considered by the appropriate appeals committee, the school’s written notice of appeal of the findings of fact or the penalty imposed, or both, must be received in the FHSAA Office not later than 10 business days from the date that the school receives the FHSAA staff’s decision in secondary cases, or confirms its receipt of the infractions report in major cases. The notice of appeal must indicate whether the school will submit its appeal in writing only or whether it will appear before the appeals committee at the time the appeal is considered. The school must submit supporting information for its appeal, if any, to the FHSAA Office by the deadline published in the FHSAA Planning Calendar.

**10.6.5.1.1 Appeal of Secondary Violations.** Sectional Appeals Committees hear and act on appeals of secondary cases.

**10.6.5.1.2 Appeal of Major Violations.** The Infractions Appeals Committee hears and acts on appeals of major cases.

**10.6.5.2 Basis for Granting an Appeal.**

**10.6.5.2.1 Appeal of Findings.** An appeals committee may set aside findings of fact and violations arrived at ONLY if the school shows that:

(a) The finding of the FHSAA staff is clearly not supported by evidence that is credible, persuasive and of a kind on which reasonably prudent persons rely in the conduct of serious affairs;

(b) The school’s actions do not constitute a violation of FHSAA rules; or

(c) A procedural error affected the reliability of the information that was used to support the FHSAA staff’s finding. In this case, the school must demonstrate how it contends the staff was in error.

**10.6.5.2.2 Appeal of Penalties.** An appeals committee may set aside a penalty imposed by the FHSAA staff if the appeals committee determines that the penalty is excessive or inappropriate based on all the evidence and circumstances. Only the Board of Directors may modify a penalty imposed by this Association.
10.6.5.2.3 Committee Acts on Basis of Record in Case. An appeals committee can act only on the basis of the record in the case. This record consists of the notice of inquiry and/or allegations to the school, the report of the investigator and the written response by the school. The committee cannot consider information that was not available to the FHSAA staff when issuing its finding and imposing the penalty.

10.6.5.2.3.1 New Evidence. The appeals committee may stay an appeal when new information is introduced and refer the case back to the FHSAA staff for review if the committee concludes that:

(a) The new information was not available, and through the exercise of reasonable due diligence could not have been available, at the time the FHSAA staff issued its finding; and

(b) The new information is demonstrably relevant to the findings of the staff.

10.6.5.3 Appeal of Unfavorable Decision by Appeals Committee. A school that is unsuccessful in its appeal to the Sectional Appeals Committee or Infractions Appeals Committee may appeal the committee’s decision to the FHSAA Board of Directors. The school’s written notice of appeal of the committee’s decision must be received in the FHSAA Office not later than five business days from the date of the hearing before the appeals committee. The notice of appeal must indicate whether the school will submit its appeal in writing only, or whether it will appear before the Board of Directors at the time the appeal is considered.

10.6.5.3.1 Board Acts on Basis of Record in Case. The Board of Directors can act only on the basis of the record in the case. This record consists of the information that was available to the appeals committee at the time it rendered its decision. The Board of Directors may stay an appeal when new information is introduced and refer the case back to the FHSAA staff for review per the conditions of paragraph 10.6.5.2.3.1.

10.7 EMPOWERMENT

10.7.1 Sectional Appeals Committee Powers. 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 or other individuals. The decision in each case shall be by majority vote and may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

10.7.1.1 Reliance on a Sectional Appeals Committee Decision. 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.

10.7.2 Infraction Appeals Committee Powers. The Infraction Appeals Committee is empowered to hear and act upon appeals of schools found to have
committed major violations and to make recommendations to the Board of Directors and FHSAA staff relative to the formulation and revision of FHSAA enforcement policies and procedures. The decision in each case shall be by majority vote and may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

10.7.3 Board of Directors Powers. The Board of Directors is empowered to review appeals and requests for waivers and sustain, modify or overturn the decision of the Sectional Appeals Committee, Infraction Appeals Committee and/or the Executive Director in each case that comes before it.

10.7.3.1 Finality of Ruling. The decision of the Board of Directors in each case shall be by majority vote and shall be final.

10.7.4 Executive Director’s Powers

10.7.4.1 Executive Director Initiated Reviews. The Executive Director 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 Executive Director, is rendered in conflict with the rules of the Association or will have a great effect on the proper administration of the interscholastic athletic programs throughout the Association. The Executive Director 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.

10.7.4.2 Appeal of Infraction Appeals Committee Decisions. The Executive Director is empowered to appeal any decisions made by the Infraction Appeals Committee to the Board of Directors.

10.8 PROCEDURE IN CASES OF EXPULSION

10.8.1 Procedures. When the Executive Director 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) Notice. The Executive Director 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 Executive Director 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 fewer than 10 business days in advance of the date of the hearing.

(b) Hearings. 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 Executive Director may also present witnesses, testimony, and any other relevant evidence or information for consideration by the Board of Directors.

(c) Final Decision. 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 Executive Director. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final.

10.8.2 Applying for Reinstatement. 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 Executive Director 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 membership privileges reinstated only upon approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

10.9 COMPLIANCE WITH DECISIONS

The administrative decisions of the Board of Directors, Infraction Appeals Committee, Sectional Appeals Committee and Executive Director 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 Executive Director to the Sectional Appeals Committee, Infraction Appeals Committee and/or the Board of Directors.
Pursuant to the authority granted it in Article 4.3 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 Executive Director or his/her designee. Only a formal ruling by the Executive Director is binding on the FHSAA. The term “Executive Director” as used throughout these guidelines, policies and procedures shall mean the Executive Director of the FHSAA or his/her designee, unless otherwise specifically noted. Substantive changes for the 2009-10 school year are shaded.
Revisions to Policies for 2009-10 School Year

These Policies were revised in their entirety for the 2009-10 school year. Below are summaries of the major substantive changes; please see the policy on the given page for exact language.

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<td>The Executive Director shall review the administrative section apportionment every six years.</td>
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<td>The Executive Director shall make an annual report to the Board of Directors on the Association’s progress in diversity.</td>
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<td>82</td>
<td>Any member school that sponsors a sport that is recognized or sanctioned by this Association shall abide by all regulations of this Association.</td>
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<td>Approval of the Executive Director is required for missing more than one school day or part of one school day for travel or participation; volleyball tournaments are limited to a maximum field of 32 teams; tournaments must be completed in the same one week unless held during a school recess.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>Athletic participation is defined.</td>
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<td>The standardized calendar is defined.</td>
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<td>Student-athletes participating in individual sports cannot participate as a member of the varsity and sub-varsity teams on the same day.</td>
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<td>After the conclusion of the sub-varsity football season, sub-varsity players may complete the varsity regular season; a school week is Monday-Saturday.</td>
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<td>School week limitations for contests and individual student participation in softball may not exceed five total games.</td>
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<td>Each wrestling tournament counts as two meets.</td>
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<td>Tournaments are added to the policy; recognized sports are prohibited from participation in preseason classic tournaments and jamborees; definitions are provided.</td>
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<td>Fall classics are added; approval is not required for multi-team regular season events in wrestling; Form AT3 is required for approval in boys weightlifting.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Member school principals are required to certify on the membership application that all coverage has been obtained, and must provide certificates of coverage.</td>
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<td>The FHSAA shall be named as an additional insured.</td>
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<td>Applications for continuing membership are due by April 30, with a $50 late fee for applications received after the deadline.</td>
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<td>Administrative fees are defined.</td>
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<td>Jamboree admission in all sports cannot exceed $4, but the host school may increase the admission fee to the amount charged for a regular season game.</td>
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<td>Clarifications to special event financial reporting and revenue sharing.</td>
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<td>Clarifications to State Series financial reporting and revenue sharing.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Recognized sports are added.</td>
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Commitment forms are issued on a biennial basis.
Commitment forms must bear the signature of the athletic director or FHSAA Representative.
Competitive cheerleading, football and lacrosse are added to the list of team sports.
Limits to the number of student-athletes allowed on an Official Entry List in the sports of competitive cheerleading, football and lacrosse.
The administrative fee will be waived for changes due to academic eligibility changes from the first to second semesters.
Schools shall be classified on a biennial basis.
Clarifies advancement to the regional complexes in football.
Schools that cannot meet the specifications for host facilities may appeal to the Executive Director.
The presence of an AED is recommended for preseason and regular season contests and required for State Series contests.
Host schools must admit FHSAA State Series Pass holders without charge to district and regional contests; performing pep bands and sponsors and FHSAA State Series Pass holders must be admitted without charge to state contests.
GPA calculation is clarified.
Registration procedures for foreign exchange and international students; procedures for returning international students.
Spring football practice is confined to a maximum of 20 sessions, inclusive of the spring jamboree or classic.
Scrimmage games are prohibited except for FHSAA-sponsored officials clinics.
Changes and clarifications to advisory committees.
Definitions for off-season participation guidelines.
Penalties for noncompliance with Policy 24.
Internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used; penalties for noncompliance with Policy 25.
Internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used.
No FHSAA official should fraternize with athletes, coaches or spectators before, during or after a contest; no FHSAA official who is employed by a member school shall officiate a contest involving a team from that school, except as provided in Bylaw 8.9.5.
New sections of the “Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct” establish a system of levels for infractions and penalties for student-athletes and coaches.
NFHS “Spirit Rules” shall be the statewide uniform safety standards for cheerleading.
Clarifies the regular season contest section of the “Guidelines for Photographing, Filming and Videotaping Athletic Contests.”
FAANS may verify boarding school status.
Smart Tuition, LLC. is added to the list of approved financial needs assessment companies.
Clarifies the limit of media credentials allowed to outlets.
Storming the field/court/pool by spectators and students subject to a $250 penalty for indoor contests, $500 for outdoor contests; allowing a student to participate without a completed EL2 or EL3 form, $500; use of an ineligible player when not self-reported, $2,500; violation of Policies 21, 22, 23, 24 or 25, $2,500.
POLICY 1

Policy on the Apportionment of Administrative Sections

1.1 Board of Director Apportionment Charge. Bylaw 3.12.1 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.

1.1.1 Executive Director Evaluation. The Executive Director, each six years, 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.

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

1.1.3 Effective Date of Reapportionment. 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.

1.1.4 Next Review Period. Pursuant to this policy, the next review of the apportionment of administrative sections by the Board of Directors shall be conducted in Fall 2014. Any reapportionment resulting from this review shall be in effect for the elections to be conducted beginning in February 2015.

POLICY 2

Policy on Diversity in Leadership

2.1 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).

2.1.1 Charge to Executive Director. The Executive Director shall actively solicit and encourage eligible individuals from under-represented groups to seek election to available member school positions within the Association gov-
2.1.2 Charge to Board of Directors. The Executive Director 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 whenever such vacancies occur.

2.1.3 Charge to Commissioner of Education, Superintendents, and School Boards. The Executive Director 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.

2.1.4 Charge to Advisory Committees. The Executive Director 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.

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

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

2.1.7 Report by Executive Director. On an annual basis, the Executive Director will report to the Board of Directors the Association’s progress toward diversity.

POLICY 3 (formerly Policy 4)

CATEGORIZATION OF INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

3.1 General Principles. 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. Any member school that sponsors a sport that is recognized or sanctioned by this Association shall abide by all regulations of this Association.

3.2 Club Sports

3.2.1 Club Sports Defined. 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 eligibility requirements as set forth in Florida Statutes.
3.3 Recognized Sports

3.3.1 Recognized Sport Defined. 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.

3.3.2 Requirements for Recognition. The Board of Directors may extend recognition to a sport, effective with the beginning of the next school year, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, 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 stationery. 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.

3.3.3 State Championship Series for Recognized Sports. The Board of Directors may authorize the conduct of a 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 Executive Director.

3.3.3.1 Requirements for State Championship Series. 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.

3.3.3.2 Commitment to Participate in State Championship Series. When the Board of Directors authorizes a 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 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 a 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 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 state championship series have done so. In committing to participate in the state championship series, schools shall agree to abide by all season limitations, as well as all terms and conditions for the 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 state championship series under these conditions, the state championship series shall not be implemented at that time.

3.3.4 Current Sports Holding Recognition. Sports that hold recognition status only are girls bowling, boys bowling, competitive cheerleading, girls flag football, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, boys volleyball, girls water polo, boys water
3.4 Sanctioned Sports

3.4.1 Sanctioned Sport Defined. 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 8.5.1 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.

3.4.2 Requirements of Sanctioning. 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 Executive Director, 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.

3.4.3 Implementation of a State Championship Series. 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 state championship series that has been implemented and is being conducted in the sport, however, shall be continued.

3.4.4 Season Limitations for Sanctioned Sports. A sanctioned sport, in which an official state championship series is implemented, shall be 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.

### 3.4.5 Current Sanctioned Sports

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.

### 3.5 Revocation of Categorization Status

#### 3.5.1.1 Empowerment of Board of Directors

The Board of Directors may revoke the status given any sport, and suspend or discontinue the state championship series or official state championship series in any sport, upon recommendation of the Executive Director, when any one of the following occur:

- **3.5.1.1 Below Requisite Number.** The requisite number of member senior high schools no longer sponsor a program in the sport; or
- **3.5.1.2 Majority of Members Seek Revocation.** 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 state championship series or official state championship series in the sport be suspended or discontinued; or
- **3.5.1.3 Financially Unfeasible.** 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 a state championship series or official state championship series in the sport; or
- **3.5.1.4 Revocation Due to Unsportsmanlike Conduct.** 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.

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### POLICY 4 (formerly Policy 5)

**GENERAL POLICIES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC CONTESTS**

#### 4.1 Interscholastic Contests

- **4.1.1 Interscholastic Contests Defined.** FHSAA Bylaw 8.1.1 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.
- **4.1.2 Prohibited Contests.** 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.

4.1.3 Absence from School. 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) unless approved by the Executive Director.

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

4.1.5 Tournaments and Meets. The following regulations shall apply to tournaments and meets:

4.1.5.1 Team Sport Tournaments. Tournaments in the sports of baseball, basketball, flag football, soccer, softball, volleyball and water polo shall be limited to a maximum field of 32 teams. Tournaments exceeding the maximum field numbers may be subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director. Single elimination, double elimination, round robin and pool play formats are permissible. Each and every contest played by the team in a tournament, however, shall count toward the maximum contest limitations. A tournament in which a member school team participates must be completed in the same one week (Monday through Saturday) unless held during a school recess.

4.1.5.2 Wrestling Tournaments. 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.

4.1.5.3 Individual Sport Tournaments. 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.

4.2 Outcome of Interscholastic Contests

4.2.1 Outcome is Final. 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.

4.2.2 Elimination is Final. Elimination from a FHSAA State Series competition of individuals or teams is final. Defeat by individuals or teams that are later ordered to forfeit their victory, place and/or points, or are vacated from the bracket, will not bring about reinstatement or advancement in the FHSAA State Series competition on the part of the individual or team that has been eliminated.

4.2.3 Championship is Final. Championships or other placements in FHSAA State Series competitions are final. Championships or other placements ordered vacated by individuals or teams, will not bring about advancement in placements or receipt of awards for those placements.
POLICY 5 (new)

STUDENT-ATHLETE PARTICIPATION

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

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.

6.1 General Principles.

6.1.1 Season Limitations. 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.

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

6.1.3 Individual Limitations. 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.

6.1.4 Standardized Calendar. 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.

6.2 Baseball

6.2.1 Season Limitations.

   6.2.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 29.
   6.2.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 33.
   6.2.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 42 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.2.2 Contest Limitations.

   6.2.2.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.2.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
6.2.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.2.3.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.2.3.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   6.2.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.3 Girls Basketball
6.3.1 Season Limitations.
   6.3.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 17.
   6.3.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 20.
   6.3.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 30 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.3.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.3.2.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.3.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

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

6.4 Boys Basketball
6.4.1 Season Limitations.
   6.4.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 18.
   6.4.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 21.
   6.4.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 31 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.4.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.4.2.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.4.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

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

6.5 Bowling
6.5.1 Season Limitations.
   6.5.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 7.
   6.5.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 9.
6.5.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 17 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.5.2 Contest Limitations.

6.5.2.1 Season – 18 matches or tournaments (each tournament counts as 2 matches).

6.5.2.2 School Week – 3 matches, or 1 match and 1 tournament.

6.5.3 Individual Student Limitations.

6.5.3.1 Season – 18 matches or tournaments (each tournament played counts as 2 matches).

6.5.3.2 School Week – 3 matches, or 1 match and 1 tournament.

6.5.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.6 Competitive Cheerleading

6.6.1 Season Limitations.

6.6.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 6.

6.6.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 9.

6.6.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 35 or the date of elimination from state championship competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.6.2 Contest Limitations.

6.6.2.1 Season – No limit.

6.6.2.2 School week – No limit.

6.6.3 Individual Student Limitations.

6.6.3.1 Season – No Limit.

6.6.3.2 School week – No limit.

6.6.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.7 Cross Country

6.7.1 Season Limitations.

6.7.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 7.

6.7.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 11.

6.7.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 17 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.7.2 Contest Limitations.

6.7.2.1 Season – 13 meets.

6.7.2.2 School Week – 3 meets.

6.7.3 Individual Student Limitations.

6.7.3.1 Season – 13 meets.

6.7.3.2 School Week – 3 meets.

6.7.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.
6.8 Flag Football

6.8.1 Season Limitations.
   6.8.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 34.
   6.8.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 37.
   6.8.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 42 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.8.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.8.2.1 Season – 12 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.8.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

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

6.9 Football

6.9.1 Season Limitations.
   6.9.1.1 First practice (non-contact) – Monday of Week 6 (First three (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).
   6.9.1.2 First practice (with contact) – Thursday of Week 6 (Earliest possible date on which full uniforms may be issued and body contact engaged).
   6.9.1.3 First contest – Monday of Week 9.
   6.9.1.4 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 19 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.9.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.9.2.1 Season – 10 games, high school varsity level; 8 games, all other levels.
   6.9.2.2 School Week – 1 game.

6.9.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.9.3.1 Practice – First 3 days in shorts restricted to conditioning drills (equipment limited to helmet and dental guard).
   6.9.3.2 Season – 11 games, inclusive of all games played. After the conclusion of the sub-varsity season, sub-varsity players may complete the varsity regular season.
   6.9.3.3 School Week – 1 game; cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams in same calendar week; Monday through Saturday. Not inclusive of the state series.

6.9.4 Spring Practice.
   6.9.4.1 Maximum of 20 sessions conducted exclusively during month of May.
   6.9.4.2 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.
6.9.4.3 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.

6.10 Golf
6.10.1 Season Limitations.
   6.10.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 6.
   6.10.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 9.
   6.10.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 15 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.10.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.10.2.1 Season – 14 matches or tournaments.
   6.10.2.2 School Week – 3 matches or tournaments.

6.10.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.10.3.1 Season – 14 matches or tournaments.
   6.10.3.2 School Week – 3 matches or tournaments.
   6.10.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.11 Lacrosse
6.11.1 Season Limitations.
   6.11.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 29.
   6.11.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 32.
   6.11.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 39 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.11.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.11.2.1 Season – 18 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.11.2.2 School Week – 2 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 3.

6.11.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.11.3.1 Season – 18 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.11.3.2 School Week – 2 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 3.
   6.11.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.12 Girls Soccer
6.12.1 Season Limitations.
   6.12.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 15.
   6.12.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 18.
   6.12.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 28 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.12.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.12.2.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.12.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
6.12.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.12.3.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.12.3.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.
   6.12.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.13 Boys Soccer
6.13.1 Season Limitations.
   6.13.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 16.
   6.13.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 19.
   6.13.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 29 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.13.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.13.2.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.13.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

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

6.14 Softball
6.14.1 Season Limitations.
   6.14.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.14.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.14.2.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.14.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament provided the total number of games does not exceed 5.

6.14.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.14.3.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
   6.14.3.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games does not exceed 5.
   6.14.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.15 Swimming & Diving
6.15.1 Season Limitations.
   6.15.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 6.
6.15.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 9
6.15.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 16 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.15.2 Contest Limitations.
6.15.2.1 Season – 13 meets.
6.15.2.2 School Week – 3 meets.

6.15.3 Individual Student Limitations.
6.15.3.1 Season – 13 meets.
6.15.3.2 School Week – 3 meets.
6.15.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.16 Tennis

6.16.1 Season Limitations.
6.16.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 31.
6.16.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 33.
6.16.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

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

6.16.3 Individual Student Limitations.
6.16.3.1 Season – 18 matches or tournaments.
6.16.3.2 School Week – 3 matches or 1 match and 1 tournament.
6.16.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.17 Track & Field

6.17.1 Season Limitations (Classes 1A & 2A).
6.17.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 29.
6.17.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 33.
6.17.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 40 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.17.2 Season Limitations (Classes 3A & 4A).
6.17.2.1 First practice – Monday of Week 30.
6.17.2.2 First contest – Monday of Week 34.
6.17.2.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.17.3 Contest Limitations.
6.17.3.1 Season – 13 meets.
6.17.3.2 School Week – 3 meets.

6.17.4 Individual Student Limitations.
6.17.4.1 Season – 13 meets.
6.17.4.2 School Week – 3 meets.
6.17.4.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.
6.18 Girls Volleyball
6.18.1 Season Limitations.
   6.18.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 6
   6.18.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 9.
   6.18.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 16 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.18.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.18.2.1 Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   6.18.2.2 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.

6.18.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.18.3.1 Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   6.18.3.2 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.
   6.18.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.19 Boys Volleyball
6.19.1 Season Limitations.
   6.19.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 33.
   6.19.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 36.
   6.19.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 43 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.19.2 Contest Limitations.
   6.19.2.1 Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   6.19.2.2 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.

6.19.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.19.3.1 Season – 25 matches inclusive of all matches played in tournaments.
   6.19.3.2 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.
   6.19.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.
6.20 Water Polo
6.20.1 Season Limitations.
  6.20.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 31.
  6.20.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 34.
  6.20.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.20.2 Contest Limitations.
  6.20.2.1 Season – 25 games inclusive of all games played in tournaments.
  6.20.2.2 School Week – 3 games, or 1 game and 1 tournament, provided total number of games in week does not exceed 4.

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

6.21 Girls Weightlifting
6.21.1 Season Limitations.
  6.21.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 23.
  6.21.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 31 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.21.2 Contest Limitations.
  6.21.2.1 Season – 13 meets.
  6.21.2.2 School Week – 3 meets.

6.21.3 Individual Student Limitations.
  6.21.3.1 Season – 13 meets.
  6.21.3.2 School Week – 3 meets.
  6.21.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

6.22 Boys Weightlifting
6.22.1 Season Limitations.
  6.22.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 32.
  6.22.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 35.
  6.22.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 41 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

6.22.2 Contest Limitations.
  6.22.2.1 Season – 13 meets.
  6.22.2.2 School Week – 3 meets.

6.22.3 Individual Student Limitations.
  6.22.3.1 Season – 13 meets.
  6.22.3.2 School Week – 3 meets.
  6.22.3.3 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.
6.23 Wrestling
6.23.1 Season Limitations.
   6.23.1.1 First practice – Monday of Week 17 (must be a minimum of 10 practice sessions on 10 separate days prior to first meet).
   6.23.1.2 First contest – Monday of Week 20.
   6.23.1.3 Last practice or contest – Saturday of Week 30 or the date of elimination from state series competition, whichever is last to occur.

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

6.23.3 Individual Student Limitations.
   6.23.3.1 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.)
   6.23.3.2 Season – 18 meets or tournaments (each tournament counts as 2 meets).
   6.23.3.3 School Week – 3 meets or tournaments (each tournament counts as 2 meets).
   6.23.3.4 Day – Cannot participate as member of varsity and sub-varsity teams on same day.

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 and tournaments in sanctioned sports. Multi-team athletic events and tournaments in recognized sports do not require approval by the FHSAA Office. Recognized sports are prohibited from participating in preseason classic tournaments and preseason jamborees.

7.1 Definitions.
7.1.1 Multi-Team Event. A multi-team event is an event of convenience in scheduling due to time, site or facility constraints by the participating schools.
7.1.2 Tournament. A tournament is any event in which any, but not limited to, of the following occur:
   7.1.2.1 Brackets of any type for the event are established (i.e. Round Robin, Single Elimination, Double Elimination, Shoot-outs, etc.); or
   7.1.2.2 Awards of any type are given for placement in the event (i.e. 1st Place, 2nd Place, etc.); or
   7.1.2.3 Sponsorship of any part of the event is secured, including, but not
limited to, corporate sponsors, booster clubs or titled events; or

7.1.2.4 Entry fees are charged.

7.2 Multi-Team Events and Tournaments:

7.2.1 Application. Any athletic event hosted by an FHSAA member senior high school in a sanctioned sport which involves three or more schools such as a tournament or meet; preseason classic tournament; preseason jamboree; fall or spring football jamboree or classic; 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 multi-team regular season events, such as tri-meets and quad-meets, in the sports of cross country, golf, swimming & diving, track & field, girls volleyball boys weightlifting and wrestling, for any event in the recognized sports of bowling, competitive cheerleading, flag football, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, boys volleyball, water polo and girls 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 boys 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 as per Policy 9.5.1, the following late processing fees:

7.2.1.1 Fewer than 30 days prior to the first day of the event: $50.00;
7.2.1.2 Fewer than 10 days prior to the first day of the event: $100.00; and
7.2.1.3 After the first day of the event: $200.00.

7.2.2 Events Between Middle/Junior and Senior High Schools. 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.

7.3 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.

7.4 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.
7.5 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 participate. A member school which participates in an out-of-state contest which requires NFHS and/or FHSAA sanctioning shall be assessed a $50 administrative fee. Out-of-state events which do not adhere to the FHSAA policy will not be approved by the FHSAA Office.

7.6 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.

7.7 Penalty for Violation of Sanction Policy: A minimum financial penalty of $100.00 and probation, administrative and/or restrictive, will be assessed against any member school which violates any provision of this Sanction Policy.

POLICY 8
Member School Insurance Requirements

All member school principals must certify on the membership application that all of the coverage referenced below has 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 coverage. The Board of Directors has established the following requirements with regard to insurance coverage for member schools, as well as schools granted approved non-member school status:

8.1 Athletic Medical Base Plan: Up to $25,000 limit is required for medical expenses for each participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged by the school. 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.

8.2 Athletic Catastrophic Accident Medical Plan: Minimum limits of $1,000,000 is required for medical expenses for each participant in interscholastic athletics sponsored, supervised and engaged in by the school. 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.

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

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

8.5 FHSAA Additional Insured. The FHSAA shall be named as an additional insured under all of the above coverage. Member schools shall require the insurance companies to give the FHSAA thirty (30) days prior notice in the event of policy lapse, non-payment of premiums or non-renewal.

POLICY 9
Financial Policies

The following policies shall govern the finances of the Association:

9.1 Definitions
9.1.1 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 and Royalty Policy”), parking fees, corporate support or other contributions, or any other form of revenue.

9.1.2 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.

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

9.2.1 Membership Dues.

9.2.1.1 Continuing Senior High School Members. Dues for the current school year are 55 cents per student in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades as reported by the school to the FHSAA Office the previous October. 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.

9.2.1.2 First-Time Senior High School Members. Dues for the current school year are 55 cents per student in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades as reported by the school to the FHSAA Office the previous October. Minimum dues are $330 and maximum dues are $1,100. Dues will be billed after the Fall Student Population Report is received. Payment of dues must be received in the FHSAA Office by December 31.

9.2.1.3 Middle/Junior High Schools. Dues for the current 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.

9.2.2 Membership Fees.

9.2.2.1 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.

9.2.2.2 Application Fee for Approved Nonmember School Status. A school applying for approved nonmember school status must pay a nonrefundable $150 application fee.

9.2.2.3 Application Fee For Continuing Members. Application for continuation of membership is due in the FHSAA Office by April 30. A continuing member school will be assessed a $50 late fee for applications received by the FHSAA after the deadline.

9.3 Legal Fees

9.3.1 Senior High Schools (Full Members):

9.3.1.1 Renewing Members: The legal fee assessment for a senior high school renewing its full membership for the current school year shall be determined by taking the total legal expense incurred by the FHSAA during the previous 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 previous school year. The total legal expense includes all attorney’s fees, court costs, settlements and judgments.

9.3.1.2 New Members: A senior high school joining the Association effective with the current school year will not be assessed a legal fee in its initial year of membership.

9.3.2 Junior High Schools: The legal fee assessment for a renewing junior high school member shall be $25.

9.3.3 Middle Schools: The legal fee assessment for a renewing middle school member shall be $25.

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

9.4 **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. An approved nonmember school will not be assessed FIAAA dues.

9.5 **Administrative Fees:**

9.5.1 An administrative fee shall be assessed each school making an application on Form AT2 for approval in the following sports. Refer to Policy 7 for filing deadlines and late filing financial penalties. There are no financial reporting requirements for these events.

9.5.1.1 The administrative fee in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer and softball shall be as follows:

(a) Preseason classic tournaments and jamborees: $100; Preseason classics and jamborees exceeding four (4) teams are subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director;

(b) Tournaments – 4 or fewer teams: $100; 5 to 8 teams: $250; 9 to 16 teams: $500; 17 to 20 teams: $750; 21 to 24 teams: $1,000; 25 to 32 teams: $1,500;

(c) Tournaments exceeding 32 teams are subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director.

9.5.1.2 The administrative fee in the sport of girls volleyball and wrestling shall be as follows:

(a) Preseason classic tournaments: $75; Preseason classics and jamborees exceeding four (4) teams are subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director;

(b) Tournaments – 8 or fewer teams: $100; 9 to 16 teams: $150; 17 to 32 teams: $250;

(c) Tournaments exceeding 32 teams are subject to conditional approval by the Executive Director and will be assessed $250, plus an additional $50 per team in excess of 32.

9.5.1.3 There is no administrative fee for schools making an application on Form AT3 for multi-team or special events in the sports of tennis, golf, boys weightlifting, track, football, cross country and swimming and diving. See Policy 7 for deadlines for filing Form AT3 and late filing financial penalties. See Policy 9.9 for financial reporting requirements.

9.5.1.4 There is no prior approval process or administrative fee or financial reporting requirements for school participation in multi-team or special events in recognized sports (bowling, flag football, water polo, boys volleyball, lacrosse, and girls weightlifting).
9.6 Admission to Special Events

9.6.1 Preseason and Spring Jamborees: The admission price to a preseason or spring jamboree in all sports shall be determined by the host school and cannot exceed $4. However, the host school may increase the admission charge to the amount it charges for a regular season game.

9.6.2 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 increase the admission charge to the amount it charges for a regular season game.

9.6.3 Tournaments and Meets: The admission price to a tournament and meet in all sports shall be determined by the host school.

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

9.7 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 Executive Director or his/her designee in advance of the event:

9.7.1 Baseball, Cross Country, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field, Girls and 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.

9.7.2 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.

9.7.3 Football: The admission price to games in the FHSAA State 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.

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

9.7.5 Bowling, Flag Football, Lacrosse 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.

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

9.8 Ticket Policy for State Series Events

9.8.1 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:

9.8.2 Numbered tickets shall be sold at each FHSAA State Series game, tournament or meet at which admission is required to be charged.
9.8.3 Each ticket must be torn in half by ticket-takers so that they cannot be resold.
9.8.4 All tickets sold must be accounted for on the financial report form.

9.9 Special Events Financial Reporting and Revenue Sharing

9.9.1 Preseason and Spring Jamborees: The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from preseason jamborees in any sports other than football. Other than football, it will not be necessary for host schools to file a financial report with the FHSAA. In the sport of football only, the FHSAA shall receive eight (8) percent of the gross receipts of preseason and spring jamborees. The balance of gross receipts shall be divided among the participating schools in accordance with the agreement among them. Financial Report Form FB3 must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, $50; 61 to 90 days late, $75; beyond 90 days late, $100.

9.9.2 Preseason and Spring Classics: The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from preseason classic tournaments in any sports other than football. Other than football, it will not be necessary for host schools to file a financial report with the FHSAA. In the sport of football only, the FHSAA shall receive 20 percent of the gross receipts of all preseason football classic games, as well as spring football classic games, whether or not a net profit was made on the event. The visiting school shall receive 35 percent of the net profit after the host pays expenses, including FHSAA’s fee, unless a mutual agreement is made for an alternative split among the schools prior to the event. Financial Report Form FB4 must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, $50; 61 to 90 days late, $75; beyond 90 days late, $100.

9.9.3 Tournaments and Meets: The FHSAA shall receive eight (8) percent of the gross receipts of all tournaments or 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 among them. Financial Report Form FN1 must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, $50; 61 to 90 days late, $75; beyond 90 days late, $100. The FHSAA will not receive any percentage of the gross receipts from tournaments or meets in the sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, girls volleyball, wrestling, tennis, golf, bowling, flag football, water polo, boys volleyball, lacrosse, and girls weightlifting, and it will not be necessary for host schools of tournaments or meets in these sports to file a financial report form with the FHSAA Office.

9.9.4 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. Financial Report Form FB3 must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A
late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, $50; 61 to 90 days late, $75; beyond 90 days late, $100.

**9.10 State Series Games, Tournaments & Meets**

**9.10.1 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. In the event the host school reports a net profit of $250 or less, the host school must provide supporting documentation for all expenses claimed. 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 9.10.5. Financial Report Form FB5 for district shootouts and FB6 for regional and state semifinals must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, $50; 61 to 90 days late, $75; beyond 90 days late, $100.

**9.10.2 Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Girls Volleyball:** 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. 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 9.10.5. Financial Report Form FN2 for district tournaments and FN3 for regional tournaments must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, $50; 61 to 90 days late, $75; beyond 90 days late, $100.

**9.10.3 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. 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 9.10.5. Financial Report Form FN2 for district tournaments and FN3 for regional tournaments must be received by the FHSAA within 30 calendar days of the completion of the event. A late filing fee shall be assessed as follows: 1 to 60 days late, $50; 61 to 90 days late, $75; beyond 90 days late, $100.

### 9.10.4 Bowling, Flag Football, Water Polo, Tennis, Golf, Lacrosse, Boys Volleyball and Weightlifting:

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. Host schools of district tournaments or FHSAA Finals play-in games in these sports do not need to file a financial report.

### 9.10.5 Net Loss Reimbursement:

To be eligible to receive the $350 maximum compensation for a net loss shown on the financial report forms FB5, FB6, FN2 and FN3, a host school must:

- **9.10.5.1** Charge the full admission price established in Policy 9.7;
- **9.10.5.2** Sell numbered tickets and account for all tickets sold as stipulated in Policy 9.8;
- **9.10.5.3** File a financial report form for the game, tournament or meet as stipulated in Policy 9.10;
- **9.10.5.4** Submit with the financial report form the FHSAA State Series Contest Pass Gate Sign-In Form(s) as stipulated in Policy 15;
- **9.10.5.5** Provide supporting documentation for all expenses reported; and
- **9.10.5.6** Be in compliance with all policies for the event.

### 9.11 Compensation to Schools Participating in FHSAA Finals State Championship Events

#### 9.11.1 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 based on their pro-rata share determined by total miles traveled for both teams. 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.

#### 9.11.2 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.
expenses of any kind except for those expenses specified above.

9.11.3 Cross Country, Golf, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Bowling, Flag Football, Lacrosse, Boys Volleyball and Water Polo: 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.

9.12 Athletic Events Not Held Due to Unusual Circumstances, Including Inclement Weather

9.12.1 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 canceled, special rules apply. If for other unforeseen reasons, a game, tournament or meet is delayed, postponed, suspended or canceled, special rules apply.

9.12.2 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 canceled before it was to begin, then the revenue received and retained (not refunded) from the presold tickets should be reported on the financial report.

9.12.3 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 Executive Director or his/her designee. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

9.13 Invoices Charged to Member Schools’ Accounts

9.13.1 Invoices. 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 August 31 of each year.

9.13.2 Waiver of Fines. 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:

10.1 Eligibility for Participation in State Series
10.1.1 Team Participation.

10.1.1.1 Participation is Voluntary. 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 independence 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.

10.1.1.2 Participation is for Full Member Senior High Schools. 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.

10.1.1.3 Eligibility for Participation. To be eligible for participation in the FHSAA State Series in any sport:

(a) 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.

(b) A school must play not less than 60 percent of its regular season contests in the sport against FHSAA member schools.
10.1.1.4 Only One Team May Enter. A school may enter only one team in the FHSAA State Series in a sport.

10.1.1.5 First Time Members Not Eligible. 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.

10.1.1.6 Continuing Members Starting a New Program. 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, shall not 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 10.1.1.3.

10.1.2 Individual Participation.

10.1.2.1 Minimum 4 Contest Requirement. 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) 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) interscholastic contests in that sport, shall be exempted from this provision.

10.1.2.2 Individual Honors Requirements. 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.

10.1.2.3 Mixed Gender Restrictions. 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 girl may not participate in the boys division in the FHSAA State Series if competition is conducted in a girls division in that sport. However, for a girl to participate in the girls division of the state series in a sport, the school must file a “Declaration of Intent to Participate in FHSAA State Series” form in that sport.

10.2 Commitment to Participate Form for Team Sports

10.2.1 Commitment Form. 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 biennial basis. A commitment made using this form is for the following two school years.

10.2.2 Signatures Required. A commitment form, to be valid, must bear
the signature of the member school principal and athletic director or FHSAA Representative.

10.2.3 Binding Agreement. 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 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 fine ($500 total) and its program in that sport placed on administrative probation.

10.2.4 Failure to Commit before Deadline. 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 in that sport shall be assigned to the appropriate classification and district and shall be assessed a mandatory, non-refundable $100 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.

10.2.5 Commitment Agreement. 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.

10.3 Notice of Intent to Participate Form for Individual Sports

10.3.1 Commitment Form. 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 biennial basis. A commitment made using this form is for the following two school years.

10.3.2 Signatures Required. An intent form, to be valid, must bear the signature of the member school principal and athletic director or FHSAA Representative.

10.3.3 Non-Binding Agreement. 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 beginning of the fifth (5th) week of competition 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 beginning of the fifth (5th) week of competition, that school shall be assessed a $250 fine and its program in that sport placed on administrative probation.

**10.3.4 Failure to Declare Intention before Deadline.** 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 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 deadline for filing the Official Entry List in that sport.

**10.3.5 Intention Agreement.** 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:

**Submission Required.** 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 online 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. All student-athletes must be eligible in accordance with all FHSAA rules and regulations in order to participate.

**11.1 Requirements.** 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 online database system. Only those student-athletes who are enrolled in, and in attendance at, your school prior to:

**11.1.1 Team Sports.** The last permissible date for a district contest in team sports (i.e. baseball, basketball, competitive cheerleading, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball); or
11.1.2 Individual Sports. 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).

11.2 Number of Participants. 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:

11.2.1 Baseball – 20 student-athletes;
11.2.2 Basketball – 15 student-athletes;
11.2.3 Bowling – Eight (8) student-athletes;
11.2.4 Competitive Cheerleading – 26 student-athletes, depending on squad size;
11.2.5 Cross Country – 15 student-athletes;
11.2.6 Flag Football – no limit;
11.2.7 Football – 60 student-athletes;
11.2.8 Golf – 10 student-athletes, of which any five (5) may participate on a given level of the State Series;
11.2.9 Lacrosse – 25 student-athletes;
11.2.10 Soccer – 22 student-athletes;
11.2.11 Softball – 20 student-athletes;
11.2.12 Swimming & Diving – no limit;
11.2.13 Tennis – 12 student-athletes;
11.2.14 Track & Field – no limit;
11.2.15 Volleyball – 15 student-athletes;
11.2.16 Water Polo – 18 student-athletes;
11.2.17 Weightlifting – three (3) student-athletes in each weight class;
11.2.18 Wrestling – no limit.

The terms and 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.

11.3 Signatures Required. 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.

11.4 Penalties. 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 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 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.

11.5 Changes. 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:

11.5.1 Team Sports. 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.

11.5.2 Individual Sports. 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.

11.5.3 Submission. 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.

11.5.4 Administrative Fee. The member school will be assessed an administrative fee of $50 for each addition or change made to its Official Entry List after the filing deadline. This penalty will increase if it is later determined that the student-athlete(s) added to the school’s Official Entry List was ineligible. This fee will be waived for changes due to academic eligibility changes from the first semester to the second semester.

11.6 Submission to FHSAA. The Event Manager must forward to the FHSAA Office within 10 working days following the conclusion of a district, regional or state finals event: 1). The Official Entry Lists submitted by the participating schools; 2). The Entry List Addition/Change Forms (AT8); and 3). The Entry List log. The minimum fine for noncompliance with this regulation is $100.
11.7 Student Athlete Requirements. 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 Executive Director. 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.

POLICY 12
CLASSIFICATION POLICY

12.1 General
12.1.1 Membership Classification. 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.
12.1.2 Senior High Only. Only senior high schools shall be classified.
12.1.3 Classification Term. Schools shall be classified on a biennial basis for the following two school years.
12.1.4 Each Sport Classified. Each sport shall be classified according to the guidelines and criteria herein.

12.2 Student Populations of Schools
12.2.1 Existing Member Schools. An existing full member senior high school shall be classified on the basis of the school’s student population in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades combined as reported during the week in October 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.
12.2.2 New Member Schools. 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.
12.2.3 New Schools. 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 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.

12.2.4 Significant Increase or Decrease in Student Population. 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.

12.2.5 Missing Grade Levels. 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:

12.2.5.1 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.

12.2.5.2 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.

12.2.5.3 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.
12.2.5.4 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.

12.2.6 Executive Director Powers. The Executive Director, 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.

12.2.7 Geographically Isolated Schools. A school that is geographically isolated from other schools in the classification to which it is assigned may submit in writing to the Executive Director a request that it be administratively reassigned to the next higher classification. The Executive Director 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.

12.2.8 Re-Classification. A school may be reassigned in classification for the subsequent year(s) of the classification term under the following circumstances:

12.2.8.1 A school that reports in the subsequent year(s) of the classification 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:
   (a) the higher student population would place the school into a higher classification; and
   (b) 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.

12.2.8.2 A school that will experience an increase in student population in the subsequent year(s) of the classification term due to the addition of one or more grades shall be assigned to a higher classification if:
   (a) the higher student population computed in accordance with this policy would place the school into a higher classification; and
   (b) 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.

12.2.8.3 A school that reports in the subsequent year(s) of the classification 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:
   (a) the lower student population would place the school into a lower classification; and
   (b) 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.

12.2.8.4 A school that will experience a decrease in student population in the subsequent year(s) of the classification term due to the opening of a new school or the redrawing of school attendance boundaries shall be assigned to a lower classification if:

(a) the lower student population projected by the district school board office would place the school into a lower classification; and

(b) 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.

12.3 Football

12.3.1 Number of Classifications: The FHSAA State Football Series for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years shall be conducted in eight (8) classifications. The eight classifications are 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A, 2B, 1A and 1B.

12.3.2 Division of Classifications:

12.3.2.1 The total number of existing member schools that committed to participate in the FHSAA State Football Series for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years shall be ranked in order of student population and divided across the eight basic classifications (6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A, 2B, 1A and 1B). Schools in the lower four classifications shall be as equal in number as possible so as to limit the number of schools in each of the upper four classifications to a maximum number of 72 schools. Any remainder shall be evenly distributed among the basic classifications beginning with the lowest 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 classification term are determined, they shall not be changed during that classification term.

12.3.2.2 The dividing lines between the classifications for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years are as follows:

(a) Class 6A – schools with 2,363 or more students;
(b) Class 5A – schools with 2,015 to 2,362 students;
(c) Class 4A – schools with 1,740 to 2,014 students;
(d) Class 3A – schools with 1,391 to 1,739 students;
(e) Class 2A – schools with 1,015 to 1,390 students;
(f) Class 2B – schools with 522 to 1014 students;
(g) Class 1A – schools with 259 to 521 students; and
(h) Class 1B – schools with 258 or fewer students.

12.3.2.3 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.
**12.3.3 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. The larger four classifications shall be divided into sixteen (16) districts with the top two teams advancing to the regional complex. Schools in the smaller four classifications shall be divided into eight (8) districts with the top two teams advancing to the regional complex.

**12.4 Baseball, Girls & Boys Basketball, Softball, Girls Volleyball**

**12.4.1 Number of Classifications:** The FHSAA State Series in the sports of baseball, girls basketball, boys basketball, softball and girls volleyball for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years shall be conducted in six (6) classifications. The six classifications are 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A.

**12.4.2 Division of Classifications:**

12.4.2.1 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: shall be ranked in order of student population and evenly divided across the six basic classifications (6A, 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A, and 1A). Any remainder shall be evenly distributed among the basic 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 term are determined, they shall not be changed during that classification term.

12.4.2.2 The dividing lines between the basic classifications for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years are as follows:

(a) Class 6A – schools with 2,193 or more students;
(b) Class 5A – schools with 1,779 to 2,192 students;
(c) Class 4A – schools with 1,306 to 1,778 students;
(d) Class 3A – schools with 522 to 1,305 students;
(e) Class 2A – schools with 186 to 521 students; and
(f) Class 1A – schools with 185 or fewer students.

12.4.2.3 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.

**12.4.3 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.
12.5 Girls & Boys Soccer
12.5.1 Number of Classifications: The FHSAA State Series in the sports of girls soccer and boys soccer for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years shall be conducted in five (5) classifications. The five classifications are 6A, 5A, 4A, 3A and 2A.

12.5.2 Division of Classifications:
12.5.2.1 The basic classifications as developed for baseball, girls & boys basketball, softball and girls volleyball in 12.4.2.1 shall be utilized. Schools assigned to Class 1A in those sports shall be assigned to Class 2A in girls & boys soccer.
12.5.2.2 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.

12.5.3 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.

12.6 Cross Country, Golf, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, Boys Weightlifting, Wrestling
12.6.1 Number of Classifications:
12.6.1.1 The maximum number of classifications in any individual sport shall not exceed four (4).
12.6.1.2 The number of classifications in the FHSAA State Series in the sports of cross country, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, boys weightlifting and wrestling for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 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 classification term.

12.6.1.3 Sports shall be classified together without regard to gender.
12.6.1.4 The number of classifications in each sport for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 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); boys weightlifting, two classifications (2A, A); wrestling, three classifications (3A, 2A, 1A).

12.6.2 Division of Classifications:
12.6.2.1 Once the total number of classifications in a sport is determined ac-
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 classification term are determined, they shall not
be changed during that classification term.

12.6.2.2 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, boys 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.

12.6.3 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.

12.7 Bowling, Competitive Cheerleading, Flag
Football, Girls Lacrosse, Boys Lacrosse, Boys
Volleyball, Water Polo, Girls Weightlifting

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

12.7.2 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, girls and boys lacrosse, girls and boys soccer,
softball and girls and boys volleyball and girls and boys water polo:

13.1 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 Direc-
tors to determine the two schools that shall represent that district in the remainder of the FHSAA State Series.

13.2 District Scheduling/Tournament Planning

13.2.1 District Schedule. 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.

13.2.2 Planning Meeting. 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:

13.2.2.1 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.

13.2.2.2 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. A district coordinator may request of the Executive Director or his/her designee permission to conduct a district scheduling/tournament meeting by teleconference if his/her district is spread over a large geographic area.

13.2.2.3 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 is entered into in advance of the meeting are null and void.

13.2.2.4 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.

13.2.3 Postponed Contests. 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 Executive Director 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.

13.2.4 Satisfaction of Requirements. 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 a 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.

13.3 Seeding and Bracketing

13.3.1 Bracket Seeding. Each school in a district shall be seeded and placed on the bracket for its district tournament according to the following provisions:

13.3.1.1 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.

13.3.1.2 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 tie 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.

13.3.1.3 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 Executive Director, 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.

13.3.2 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):
13.3.2.1 Won-loss results of head-to-head competition between the two schools;
13.3.2.2 Won-loss record (points in soccer) of the two schools versus the highest-seeded school (and proceeding through the lowest-seeded school, if necessary);
13.3.2.3 Number of victories (points in soccer) on the road in district games/matches;
13.3.2.4 Number of victories (points in soccer) at home in district games/matches; and
13.3.2.5 Coin toss by the district tournament manager.

13.3.3 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):
13.3.3.1 Total won-loss record (points in soccer) of games/matches played among the tied schools;
13.3.3.2 Won-loss record (points in soccer) of the tied schools versus the highest-seeded school (and proceeding through the lowest seeded school, if necessary);
13.3.3.3 Number of victories (points in soccer) on the road in district games/matches;
13.3.3.4 Number of victories (points in soccer) at home in district games/matches; and
13.3.3.5 Draw by the district coordinator.

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

13.3.4 Bracketing. In the sports of baseball, basketball, girls and boys 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 volleyball 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 No. 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 seeds shall be placed in the upper half of the bracket and the No. 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.

13.3.5 Seeding Report. Each school in the district shall report by phone to the district coordinator 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.
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. Schools that cannot meet the specifications can appeal to the Executive Director or his/her designee for relief.

14.1 Basketball
14.1.1 The facility must be adequately constructed to control the entry and exit of spectators for the purpose of charging admission.
14.1.2 The facility must have a minimum of two restrooms (one male and one female) for public use.
14.1.3 The facility must have an electronic clock and scoreboard clearly visible to both team bench areas and spectators.
14.1.4 The facility must have a public address system.
14.1.5 The facility must have separate dressing rooms for both home and visiting teams, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.
14.1.6 The facility must have a separate dressing area for officials, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.
14.1.7 The facility must have a playing surface which is not fewer than 84 feet from end line to end line and not fewer 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.
14.1.8 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.
14.1.9 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:
14.2 Football
14.2.1 The facility must be adequately constructed to control the entry and exit of spectators for the purpose of charging admission.
14.2.2 The facility must have a minimum of two restrooms (one male and one female) for public use.
14.2.3 The facility must have adequate artificial lighting to accommodate night games.
14.2.4 The facility must have an electronic clock and scoreboard clearly visible to both team bench areas and spectators.
14.2.5 The facility must have a public address system.
14.2.6 The facility must have separate dressing rooms for both home and visiting teams, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.
14.2.7 The facility must have a separate dressing area for officials, with access to restroom and shower facilities as per Policy 27.
14.2.8 The facility should have a minimum of five yards of unobstructed space outside the playing field along each sideline and end line.
14.2.9 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.
14.2.10 The facility must have bleachers having masonry or metal understructure with footboards and seating properly maintained for both visitor and home fans.
14.2.11 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 1A – 500 seats.

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.

14.3 Girls Volleyball
14.3.1 The facility must have a minimum seating capacity of 300 seats.

14.4 AED Recommended. 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 contest in
Pass Policy for FHSAA State Series Events

15.1 District, Regional Levels. Only the following individuals may be admitted to the facility without charge:
15.1.1 Student-athletes who are members of the team, coaches, managers, etc.;
15.1.2 Cheerleaders in uniform and their sponsor(s);
15.1.3 In football only, band members and drill-team members and their chaperones;
15.1.4 Working news media with appropriate identification;
15.1.5 Broadcast crews from radio and television outlets whose broadcasts have been approved by the FHSAA Office upon payment of the appropriate broadcast rights fees;
15.1.6 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;
15.1.7 Uniformed police or security;
15.1.8 Individuals holding FHSAA Lifetime Passes or FHSAA State Series Passes issued by the Executive Director; and
15.1.9 Member school personnel and registered contest officials with FHSAA State Series Passes upon presentation of a photo I.D.

15.2 State Level. Only the following individuals may be admitted to the facility without charge:
15.2.1 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;
15.2.2 Cheerleaders in uniform and their sponsor(s);
15.2.3 Pep bands who are to perform and their sponsor(s);
15.2.4 In football only, band members and drill-team members and their chaperones (1 chaperon per 10 students);
15.2.5 Working news media with appropriate credentials as issued by the FHSAA Office according to the Media Credentials Policy;
15.2.6 Broadcast crews from radio and television outlets whose broadcasts have been approved by the FHSAA Office upon payment of the appropriate broadcast rights fees;
15.2.7 Uniformed police or security;
15.2.8 Individuals holding FHSAA Lifetime Passes or FHSAA State Series Passes issued by the Executive Director; and
15.2.9 Member school personnel and registered contest officials with FHSAA State Series Passes upon presentation of a photo I.D.

15.3 **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 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 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.

15.4 **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:

15.4.1 1 pass purchased – must be issued in the name of a specific individual;
15.4.2 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;
15.4.3 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;
15.4.4 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
15.4.5 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.

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

15.4.7 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):

15.4.7.1 The school principal or his/her designee shall determine users of generic passes issued in the school’s name within the parameters set forth herein under.

15.4.7.2 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.)
15.4.7.3 All pass users shall be 18 years of age or older.
15.4.7.4 Passes are not intended for use by students and must not be issued to students.
15.4.7.5 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.
15.4.7.6 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.
15.4.7.7 The bearer of the pass must make an entry into a “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.
15.4.7.8 If the manager of a state series event determines the event is sold out, state series passes cannot be honored at that event.
15.4.7.9 Exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the Executive Director.
15.4.7.10 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.

15.5 FHSAA Lifetime Pass. FHSAA Lifetime Passes are issued by the Executive Director 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

16.1 GPA Calculation. No rounding of calculated values will be used in determining the semester GPA.

16.2 Schools with Alternate Scheduling Formats

16.2.1 Grading Period. A grading period is defined as one semester. A semester is defined as one half of a school year (approximately 18 school weeks or 90 school days). This definition is applicable to all member schools regardless of
the type of scheduling format (i.e. block, traditional, trimester, etc.) they use.

16.3 Special Schools and Special Programs
16.3.1 Evaluation of Athletes. 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.

16.3.2 Grade Point Average. 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.

16.4 Home Education Programs
16.4.1 Home Education Student Participation in Athletics at Member Schools:

16.4.1.1 Participation. 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 inter-district controlled open enrollment provisions; or a nonpublic school, provided the nonpublic school will permit the student to participate at that school, provided:

(a) 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;

(b) 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;

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

(d) 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;

(e) the student complies with FHSAA regulations, including eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility, and local school regulations during the time of participation;

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

(g) 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

(h) the student provides to school authorities all required forms and provi-
16.4.1.2 **Ineligibility.** 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.

16.4.2 **Home Education Student Eligibility Upon Enrollment in Member School:**

16.4.2.1 **Eligibility.** 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 previous semester.

16.4.2.2 **Transfer Regulations.** The student is considered a transfer student and is subject to transfer Bylaw 9.3.

16.4.3 **Home Education Program Cooperatives:**

16.4.3.1 **Requirements of Cooperatives.** A cooperative of home education programs may become a member of this Association provided:

(a) 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;

(b) the cooperative pays membership dues and other such fees as established by the FHSAA Board of Directors under the authority of these Bylaws;

(c) each participating student has basic medical insurance coverage and has catastrophic insurance coverage provided by the cooperative or independently secured;

(d) the cooperative purchases and maintains liability insurance coverage which names the FHSAA as an insured party;

(e) the FHSAA representative at the conclusion of each semester certifies to the Executive Director on a form to be provided by the FHSAA Office that each student participating in interscholastic athletics in the cooperative meets the minimum grade point average standards which are required of all students; and

(f) each student participating in interscholastic athletic competition must comply with FHSAA eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility.

16.4.3.2 **Ineligibility.** 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. 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.

16.4.3.3 Athletic Competition. 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 nonmember schools or nonmember 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.

16.5 Charter Schools
16.5.1 Requirements for Participation. A student enrolled in a charter school that 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 inter-district 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.1006.15;
(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.

16.5.2 Transfer Eligibility. A student who transfers from a nonmember 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.

16.5.3 Ineligibility. 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 (formerly Policy 18)

POLICY ON THE ELIGIBILITY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE, INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT STUDENTS

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

17.1 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. The FHSAA will permit a foreign exchange student to participate in interscholastic athletic competition under the following conditions:

17.1.1 Registration through CSIET. 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. A foreign exchange student shall not be selected or placed on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities.

17.1.2 Placement with Host Family. 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.

17.1.3 Visa Requirements. The foreign exchange student must possess a J-1 visa issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS).

17.1.4 Attendance. 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.

17.1.5 Transfer. 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.

17.1.6 Eligibility for One Year Only. 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.

17.1.7 Must not be a Graduate. The foreign exchange student must not have completed the 12th grade (terminal grade) or its equivalent in either the U.S. or his/her home country. Foreign exchange students will not be eligible once they have completed the 12th grade or its equivalent in either the U.S. or their home countries.

17.1.8 FHSAA Eligibility. The foreign exchange student must meet all other eligibility standards of the FHSAA Bylaws while a student at a member school.

17.2 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:

17.2.1 Visa Requirements. The international student must possess, but not limited to, an F-1 Visa issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS). An international student visiting this country on a B-2 tourist visa is not eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition.

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

17.2.3 Must Not Have Been Recruited. 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.

17.2.4 Financial Assistance. 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.

17.2.5 Residence. The international student must not reside with a coach or other individual associated with the school’s athletic interest or 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.

17.2.6 Must not be a Graduate. 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.

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

17.2.8 Reimbursement of Educational Expenses. 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.

17.3 Immigrant Students
A foreign national who resides in the U.S. with his or 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, but not limited to, a F-1 or J-1 visa is considered an immigrant student rather than an international student. It remains the responsibility of the member school 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.

17.4 Registration Procedures
Foreign exchange and international students must complete a form provided by this association for approval prior to participation at a member school. Included with this form must be, but not limited to:

17.4.1 Copy of the student’s passport or birth certificate (including translation, if necessary); and
17.4.2 Copy of the student’s U.S. Visa; and
17.4.3 Copy of the student’s properly signed EL3 – “Consent and Release from Liability Certificate”; and
17.4.4 Original language (un-translated) transcripts of grades since entering the 8th grade (or its equivalent); and
17.4.5 Translated transcripts of grades since entering the 8th grade, including but not limited to analysis and evaluation of transcripts performed 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 foreign exchange or international students.

Through the translation, analysis and evaluation of the foreign exchange or 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.

17.5 Returning International Students. Returning, previously approved, International Students are required to only re-submit a copy
POLICY 18 (formerly Policy 19)

GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICES AND SCRIMMAGES

18.1 General Practices
18.1.1 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.
18.1.2 Practice sessions and/or practice games in which students from two or more schools participate are prohibited.
18.1.3 The conduct of practice sessions of any kind on a Sunday is prohibited.

18.2 Spring Football Practice
18.2.1 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, without a corresponding change of address as defined in Bylaw 9.3.2.2, is not eligible to participate in a spring jamboree or spring classic game in the new school.
18.2.2 Spring practice is confined to a maximum of 20 sessions inclusive of the spring jamboree or classic.
18.2.3 Student-athletes who are seniors may not participate in spring football practice.
18.2.4 Students who are not enrolled and in attendance in a school cannot participate in spring football practice at that school.
18.2.5 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:
   18.2.5.1 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.
   18.2.5.2 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 district school superintendent.
   18.2.5.3 The principals of both schools must give their permission in writing to the FHSAA Office for the students to participate in such practice.
   18.2.5.4 The students must have catastrophic insurance coverage for such practice.
   18.2.5.5 The students must have the written permission of their parents or legal guardians to participate in such practice on file in the school office.
   18.2.5.6 The students must have undergone a physical examination within the last calendar year.
18.2.5.7 The students must not suffer any loss of time from school.
18.2.5.8 The students may not participate in a spring football jamboree or spring classic game.
18.2.5.9 The students may not participate in practice or have contact in any manner with student-athletes in the 9th, 10th or 11th grades who are members of the high school team.

18.3 Scrimmages

18.3.1 Bona Fide Students Only. 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.

18.3.2 Multi-Schools Prohibited. Scrimmages and scrimmage games in which students from two or more schools participate are un-contracted interscholastic contests and are prohibited except for FHSAA-sponsored officials clinics. Such scrimmages and scrimmage games may be on an intra-squad basis only.

18.3.3 Non-School Groups Prohibited. 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.

POLICY 19 (formerly Policy 21)

GUIDELINES FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEES

19.1 Advisory Committees. 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:

19.2 Purpose and Authority

19.2.1 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.

19.2.2 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.

19.2.3 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.
19.2.4 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 Executive Director, 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.

19.2.5 Should a vacancy occur in any seat with an unexpired term on an advisory committee the Executive Director shall appoint a qualified individual from the represented group to fill the vacant seat for the duration of the term.

19.2.6 An advisory committee may introduce a proposed amendment to the FHSAA Bylaws for consideration.

19.3 Athletic Directors Advisory Committee
19.3.1 Composition. The Athletic Directors Advisory Committee shall be comprised of 15 individuals – two Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (FIAAAA) District Directors from each of the Association’s four administrative sections; three executive committee members of the FIAAAA (president, president-elect and past president); one Florida Athletic Coaches Association (FACA) athletic director representative; one school district level athletic director/administrator, unless currently elected as one of FIAAAA District Directors positions for which the Executive Director will appoint an additional at-large current, active school athletic director or school district level athletic director/administrator; and two at-large current, active school athletic directors appointed by the FHSAA Executive Director. No member of any sports advisory committee shall be eligible to also serve as a member of the Athletic Directors Advisory Committee, or vice versa.

19.3.2 Elections. Each FIAAAA District Directors representative will be elected by their peers from amongst the four or five FIAAAA District Directors in each of the Association’s four administrative sections. Each FIAAAA District Director is elected by their peers biennially. Elections will be conducted by the FIAAAA.

19.3.3 Term. The eight elected athletic directors from the four administrative sections shall serve a term of three years and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves. A rotation of terms shall be established to ensure that not more than one-half of the elected members’ terms expire concurrently.

19.3.4 Meetings. 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.

19.3.5 Chairperson. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

19.3.6 Quorum. Eight (8) of the voting members of the Athletic Directors
19.4 Sports Advisory Committees
19.4.1 Committees. 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.
19.4.2 Composition. Each sport advisory committee shall be comprised of 10 individuals – two member school head coaches from each of the Association’s four administrative sections, the Florida Athletic Coaches Association (FACA) state chairperson in that sport if he/she is not elected to represent a section, and a member of the Officials Advisory Committee in an ex-officio capacity. In sports in which there are 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.
19.4.3 Elections. Each sport advisory committee member will be elected by their peers from each of the Association’s four administrative sections.
19.4.4 Term. 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.
19.4.5 Meetings. Each sports advisory committee shall meet once annually following the conclusion of its respective State Series to evaluate the FHSAA program for that sport.
19.4.6 Chairperson. The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.
19.4.7 Quorum. Five (5) of the voting members of an advisory committee shall constitute a quorum.

19.5 Officials Advisory Committee
19.5.1 Composition. 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. 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.
19.5.2 Elections. 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.
19.5.3 Term. 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.
19.5.4 Meetings. The Officials Advisory Committee shall meet at least once annually to evaluate the FHSAA officials program.
19.5.5 Chairperson. The committee will elect from among its members a
chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

19.5.6 Quorum. Fourteen (14) of the voting members of the Officials Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum.

19.6 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

19.6.1 Charge. 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.

19.6.2 Composition. The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will be comprised of 16 members: four student-athletes from Administrative Section 1; four student-athletes from Administrative Section 2; four student-athletes from Administrative Section 3; and four student-athletes from Administrative Section 4.

19.6.3 Nominations. 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:

19.6.3.1 Must be an active student-athlete participating in at least one FHSAA-sponsored sport at his/her school;
19.6.3.2 Must be a sophomore (rising junior) or junior (rising senior) in good academic and disciplinary standing;
19.6.3.3 Must show commitment toward representing the interests of all student-athletes;
19.6.3.4 Must display strong character and commitment to sportsmanship and integrity; and
19.6.3.5 Must demonstrate leadership in his/her school.
19.6.3.6 Juniors may serve a second year on the committee if they still fulfill the requirements above.

19.6.4 Selection. 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.

19.6.5 Meetings. The committee will meet once or twice annually.

19.6.6 Quorum. Eight (8) of the voting members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum.

19.6.7 Compensation. The FHSAA will provide lodging for each committee member and his/her adult chaperone, as well as reimbursement for travel and meal expenses.

19.7 Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

19.7.1 Composition. There shall be a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee comprised of physicians and other specialists from the medical community. In comprising this committee, the Executive Director 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.

**19.7.2 Meetings.** 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.

**19.7.3 Chairperson.** The committee will elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall have a vote on all matters coming before the committee.

### 19.8 Public Liaison Advisory Committee

**19.8.1 Composition.** 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:

- The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee;
- A member public school principal;
- A member nonpublic school principal;
- A member school principal who is a member of a racial minority;
- An active athletic director;
- An active coach, who is employed full time by a member school;
- A student athlete;
- A district school superintendent;
- A district school board member;
- A member of the Florida House of Representatives;
- A member of the Florida Senate;
- A parent of a high school student;
- A member of a home education association;
- A representative of the business community; and
- A representative of the news media.

**19.8.2 Restrictions.** 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.

**19.8.3 Authority and Duties.** The authority and duties of the Public Liaison Advisory Committee are as follows:

- **19.8.3.1** To act as a conduit through which the general public may have input into the decision-making 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.

- **19.8.3.2** 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.

- **19.8.3.3** To conduct an annual evaluation of its findings, organization as a whole and recommendations to the Board of Directors, to the Executive Director 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.

**19.8.4 Meetings.** The Public Liaison Advisory Committee shall meet four times annually. Additional meetings may be called by the committee chairperson,
the Association president, or the Executive Director.

19.8.5 Chairperson. The Public Liaison Advisory Committee shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among its members.

19.8.6 Quorum. Eight (8) of the members of the Public Liaison Advisory Committee in attendance shall constitute a quorum.

**POLICY 20 (formerly Policy 22)**

**POLICY ON SUMMER ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION**

20.1 Policy

20.1.1 Not Regulated in Summer. 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.

20.1.2 Football. 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.

20.2 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 5 in the FHSAA standardized calendar for the following school year.

**POLICY 21 (formerly Policy 23)**

**OFF-SEASON CONDITIONING GUIDELINES**

21.1 Definitions.

21.1.1 Off-season. “Off-season” means the period of time during the regular school year but outside the defined sport season for a specific sport.

21.1.2 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

- **21.1.2.1** the last permissible date for a regular season contest (if not participating in state series competition) in that sport; or
- **21.1.2.2** the date of the team’s elimination from state series competition in that sport; or
- **21.1.2.3** the state championship game in that sport, whichever first occurs for that team.

**21.1.3 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.).

**21.2** Off-season conditioning programs conducted by a school shall only be open to participation by all students enrolled in that school or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3 or 9.2.2.4.

**21.3** All preseason and/or postseason conditioning program participants shall file with the school the “FHSAA Consent and Release of Liability Certificate” and the “FHSAA Pre-participation Physical Evaluation” form.

**21.4** Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

**21.5** Supervision by school personnel is required.

**21.6** Schools shall provide information in the following areas:

- **21.6.1** Proper use of weight room equipment;
- **21.6.2** Proper weight training techniques;
- **21.6.3** Proper nutrition;
- **21.6.4** Proper cardiovascular conditioning techniques;
- **21.6.5** Ergogenics.

**21.7** Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 41:

- **21.7.1** Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.
- **21.7.2** Loss of permissible practice time.
- **21.7.3** 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.
- **21.7.4** Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.
- **21.7.5** Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.
POLICY 22 (formerly Policy 24)

NON-SCHOOL TEAMS AND OFF-SEASON PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

22.1 Definitions.
22.1.1 Off-Season. “Off-season” means the period of time during the regular school year but outside the defined sport season for a specific sport.

22.1.2 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

22.1.2.1 the last permissible date for a regular season contest (if not participating in state series competition) in that sport; or

22.1.2.2 the date of the team’s elimination from state series competition in that sport; or

22.1.2.3 the state championship game in that sport, whichever first occurs for that team.

22.1.3 Coach. “Coach” means any person, regardless of whether he/she is employed by the school or volunteer, who instructs, supervises, or otherwise manages student-athletes in conjunction with a practice, tryout, drill, workout, evaluation or competitive activity.

22.1.4 “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.

22.2 During the off-season, a coach shall not have contact with students outside the normal teacher-student classroom environment except to:

22.2.1 make arrangements for and assist in the conduct of physical examinations; or

22.2.2 explain eligibility regulations; or

22.2.3 solve insurance problems; or

22.2.4 review films; or

22.2.5 conduct off-season conditioning as defined in the “Off-Season Conditioning Guidelines” as per Policy 21.

22.3 During the off-season, a coach, prospective coach of any member school or any individual involved in any respect may not be involved with a non-school team in a sport unless the non-school team meets the following requirements:

22.3.1 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
22.3.2 Participation must include competition in the published scheduled events of the outside agency.

22.3.3 Student athletes and coaches, where applicable, are not permitted to wear any portion of a school’s athletic uniform.

22.3.4 All fees or assessment for participation must be documented.

22.3.5 Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

22.3.6 Member schools may make their gymnasiums and other athletic facilities available to outside groups or organizations provided a fully executed usage agreement is provided and available upon request.

22.4 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 evidence 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 Executive Director, the student shall be ineligible to represent that school in interscholastic 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 9.2.4.1).

22.5 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 41:

22.5.1 Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.

22.5.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

22.5.3 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.

22.5.4 Reduced number of regular season home contests.

22.5.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.
POLICY 23 (formerly Policy 25)

OPEN FACILITIES PROGRAM GUIDELINES

23.1 Member schools may open their gymnasiums and other athletic facilities only to their students without being in violation of FHSAA Bylaws under the following guidelines:

23.1.1 The facility must be open to all students who are bona fide students in that school as defined in Bylaw 9.2.1 or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3 or 9.2.2.4. Opening facilities to a select group of students to practice individual skills for a specific sport is a violation of this policy.

23.1.2 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 9.2.1 or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3 or 9.2.2.4.

23.1.3 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 9.2.1 or as per Bylaws 9.2.2.1, 9.2.2.2, 9.2.2.3 or 9.2.2.4 and as defined in 3.2.3.3.

23.1.4 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.

23.1.5 Participation shall be voluntary and shall not be required, either directly or indirectly, for membership on an interscholastic team.

23.1.6 No sport-specific tasks or drills shall be taught or assigned to students to perform during open facility activities.

23.1.7 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.

23.2 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 41:

23.2.1 Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.

23.2.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

23.2.3 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.

23.2.4 Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.

23.2.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.
**POLICY 24 (formerly 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:

24.1 The event is conducted only during the summer as defined in the “Policy on Summer Athletic Participation.”

24.2 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 41:

24.2.1 Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.

24.2.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

24.2.3 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.

24.2.4 Reduced number of regular season home contests.

24.2.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

**POLICY 25 (formerly Policy 27)**

**GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION BY STUDENT-ATHLETES AND TEAMS 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.

25.1 **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:

25.1.1 Students participating in the event do not, in any way, represent their school.

25.1.2 Fees for the students who participate in the event are not paid by the school, coach or school district; however, internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used.

25.1.3 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.

25.2 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:

25.2.1 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.

25.2.2 Fees for the students or team who participate in the event are not paid by the school, coach or school district; however, internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used.

25.2.3 Participation in the event by students is not an actual or implied prerequisite-site to their membership on the team.

25.3 Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the assessment of penalties including, but not limited to, the following as per Policy 41:

25.3.1 Assessment of a minimum fine of $2,500 per violation.

25.3.2 Loss of permissible practice time.

25.3.3 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.

25.3.4 Reduced number of regular season “home” contests.

25.3.5 Loss of privileges to participate in the FHSAA State Series.

POLICY 26 (formerly 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.

26.1 A high school all-star team is a team comprised of athletes who are selected as team members or invited to participate in a tryout for membership on the team as the result of the athletes’ performance as high school athletes. 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.

26.2 Students from FHSAA member schools may participate as individuals in all-star games without jeopardizing their interscholastic athletic eligibility, provided:
26.2.1 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 contest in that sport is scheduled.

26.2.2 The student-athlete has exhausted his/her eligibility in the sport in which the all-star contest is to be conducted.

26.2.3 Fees for the student-athlete who participates in the all-star contest are not paid by the school, coach or school district; however, internal account funds generated from fund-raising activities may be used.

26.3 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 27 (formerly Policy 29)
SCHOOLS’ RESPONSIBILITIES TO FHSAA OFFICIALS

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

27.1 An authorized representative of the host school shall greet the officials upon their arrival.

27.2 The host school should provide a private, secure place for the officials to park.

27.3 The host school should provide a secure dressing facility which affords privacy.

27.4 The host school should provide the officials access to private shower facilities with hot water whenever possible.

27.5 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.

27.6 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.
27.7 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.

27.8 School personnel, including coaches, shall not enter the officials dressing facility while the officials are in attendance except when requested by the officials.

27.9 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 28 (formerly Policy 30)
RULES OF CONDUCT FOR FHSAA OFFICIALS

A violation of any one of these provisions may subject an offending official to a monetary penalty, suspension as an official, or both.

28.1 All FHSAA officials shall 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 shall pursue a course of action which is detrimental to the welfare of the FHSAA or its member schools.

28.2 All FHSAA officials shall comply with all FHSAA guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures as contained in the FHSAA Officials Guidebook.

28.3 All FHSAA officials shall 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.

28.4 All FHSAA officials are expected to arrive on time for the contest as
required by the rules of the applicable sport.

28.5 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.

28.6 No FHSAA official should fraternize with athletes, coaches, or spectators before, during or after a contest.

28.7 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 7 years. No FHSAA official who is employed by a member school shall officiate a contest involving a team from that school except as provided in Article 8.9.5 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.”

28.8 No FHSAA official shall arrive or appear at the contest site with the odor of an alcoholic beverage on his/her breath.

28.9 No FHSAA official shall use tobacco or tobacco-like products during the contest or in the vicinity of the athletic field.

28.10 No FHSAA official shall engage in unsportsmanlike conduct.

28.11 No FHSAA official shall 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.

28.12 No FHSAA official shall 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.

28.13 No FHSAA official shall 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 29 (formerly Policy 31)

POLICY ON CROWD CONTROL

29.1 Home School. 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.

29.2 Visiting School(s). 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.

29.3 Officials. 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. If the home school administration or uniformed security is unwilling or unable to resolve the situation 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.

29.4 Reports. 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 terminated due to interference by a spectator(s).

POLICY 30 (formerly Policy 32)

POLICY ON UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

30.1 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.

### 30.2 Unsportsmanlike Act by a Student-Athlete

#### 30.2.1 Penalties Assessed the Student-Athlete.

Student-athletes who commit unsportsmanlike acts before, during or after a contest will be subject to the following suspension levels as determined by the designee of the Executive Director:

- **30.2.1.1 Level 1 Suspension.** A student-athlete who commits an unsportsmanlike act or a flagrant foul for which he/she is ejected from the contest will be ineligible to compete for the remainder of that contest and for a minimum of the next two (2) contests, at the same level of participation in the sport of the suspension and in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, during the period of suspension, in all sports except football. For football, the student will be ineligible for one (1) football game, at the same level of participation, and any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport during the period of suspension. If the unsportsmanlike act or flagrant foul 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; or

- **30.2.1.2 Level 2 Suspension.** A student-athlete who receives a second Level 1 Suspension or commits an unsportsmanlike act, as defined in Bylaw 7.2.1, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, for a period of up to six (6) weeks; or

- **30.2.1.3 Level 3 Suspension.** A student-athlete who receives a second Level 2 Suspension or commits an egregious unsportsmanlike act, as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive Director, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for a period of up to one (1) year; or

- **30.2.1.4 Level 4 Suspension.** A student-athlete who receives three (3) or more Level 2 Suspensions or commits an egregious unsportsmanlike act, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors, will be ineligible to compete in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for the duration of the student-athlete’s high school career.

- **30.2.1.5** 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 contests.

#### 30.2.2 Penalties Assessed the School:

- **30.2.2.1** In the event that more than three (3) students from the same school have been charged with any suspension level, as defined in 30.2.1, in any one sport, beginning with the fourth suspension, the school 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 suspension in that sport for the remainder of that sport’s season.

- **30.2.2.2** On the first Level 2 suspension or higher, as defined in 30.2.1, of a student in any sport, a written warning shall be issued to the school that each subsequent suspension, at Level 2 or higher, in any sport will subject the school...
to a minimum financial penalty of $250 per occurrence. Beginning with the next suspension of a student, at Level 2 or higher, the minimum financial penalty of $250 will be assessed.

30.3 Unsportsmanlike Act by a Coach

30.3.1 Penalties Assessed the Coach. Coaches who commit unsportsmanlike acts before, during or after a contest will be subject to the following suspension levels as determined by the designee of the Executive Director:

30.3.1.1 Level 1 Suspension. A coach who commits an unsportsmanlike act for which he/she is ejected from the contest, will be ineligible to coach for the remainder of that contest and for a minimum of the next two (2) contests, at the same level of participation in the sport of the suspension and in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, during the period of suspension, in all sports except football. For football, the coach will be ineligible for one (1) football game, at the same level of participation, and any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport during the period of suspension. If the unsportsmanlike act occurs in the last contest of a season, the coach will be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the coach participates; or

30.3.1.2 Level 2 Suspension. A coach who receives a second Level 1 Suspension or commits an unsportsmanlike act, as defined in Bylaw 7.2.1, will be ineligible to coach in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport, at any level, for a period of up to six (6) weeks; or

30.3.1.3 Level 3 Suspension. A coach who receives a second Level 2 Suspension or commits an egregious unsportsmanlike act, as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive Director, will be ineligible to coach in any interscholastic athletic contest in any sport for a period of up to one (1) year.

30.3.1.4 When a coach is disqualified (ejected) from a contest, the coach shall immediately leave the premises or facility (i.e. gymnasium in basketball, volleyball and wrestling; stadium/field 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.

30.3.1.5 A coach who is suspended from the next contest or number of contests after having been disqualified (ejected) from a 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).

30.3.1.6 All coaches who have been disqualified (ejected) from a contest must complete the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Fundamentals of Coaching Course. This course is accessible from the eClassroom logo on FHSAA.org. This course must be completed by the end of the coach’s suspension. A copy of the coach’s certificate of completion must be forwarded to the FHSAA Office.
30.3.2 Penalties Assessed the School:

30.3.2.1 A school whose coach commits an unsportsmanlike act before, during or after a contest shall be assessed a minimum financial penalty of $100. Additional minimum fines may be imposed for unsportsmanlike conduct.

30.3.2.2 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.

30.4 Appeals

The decision to disqualify (eject) a student-athlete or coach from a contest is a decision of the contest official. Any penalties imposed may be appealed to the Executive Director and, from there, through the normal appeals procedures. All periods of ineligibility (suspensions) remain in effect during any such appeal unless and until they are modified or reversed.

POLICY 31 (formerly Policy 33)

POLICY ON THE USE OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER SUBSTANCES

31.1 Use of Alcohol and Tobacco. 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 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.

31.2 Use of Steroids and Performance Enhancing Drugs. 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 unsportsmanlike 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 32 (formerly Policy 34)
INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY FOR OUTDOOR CONTESTS

32.1 Storms. 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 contest should be played as scheduled, delayed, suspended or postponed. If the principal or his/her designee of either of the schools involved requests that the contest be interrupted or postponed, the officials must immediately honor such request. If the principal or his/her designee of only one of the competing schools is available, his/her request must be honored.

32.2 Safety is Paramount. 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.

32.3 Suspended Contests. A suspended contest shall be resumed from the point of interruption. Otherwise, National Federation Rules regarding the resumption of suspended contests will apply.

POLICY 33 (formerly Policy 35)
CHEERLEADING GUIDELINES

As per s.1006.18, Florida Statutes, the “Spirit Rules,” published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, shall be the statewide uniform safety standards for cheerleading.

33.1 General Regulations
33.1.1 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.
33.1.2 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.
33.2 Indoor Contests

33.2.1 Cheerleaders must remain in their seats along the sidelines at all times when the ball is alive or a match is in progress.

33.2.2 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 34 (formerly Policy 36)

GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHING, FILMING AND VIDEOTAPING ATHLETIC CONTESTS

34.1 Regular Season Contests

34.1.1 Representatives of a school’s athletic interest, as defined in Policy 36.2.1.1, of a visiting school may not photograph, film or videotape their team’s or contestants’ performance in a contest without first obtaining permission from the host school principal or his/her designee. Photographers, videographers and their equipment must be positioned so that they do not block the view of any spectator.

34.1.2 No representative of a school’s athletic interest 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 or his/her designee of each school that is participating in the contest.

34.2 State Series Contests

34.2.1 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.

34.2.2 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 event for their own personal use – not for the purposes of commercial resale 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.

34.2.3 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.
34.2.4 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.

34.3 Penalty

34.3.1 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.

34.3.2 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 35 (formerly Policy 37)

POLICY ON BOARDING SCHOOLS

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.

35.1 Boarding School Defined. 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 herein below.

35.2 Requirements. 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.

35.3 Must be Recognized. A boarding school must be recognized as a boarding school in its own literature and must be verified as such by the Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools (FAANS), Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS) and/or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

35.4 Per Week Living Requirements. 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.
35.5 **Sport Eligibility.** 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.

35.6 **Supervisors.** 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.

35.7 **Financial Assistance.** 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.

35.8 **Compliance Issues.** A school that satisfies the requirements of sections 35.2 – 35.7 above, but cannot satisfy the requirements of section 35.1 above, shall comply with the following additional requirements:

35.8.1 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;

35.8.2 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;

35.8.3 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

35.8.4 The FHSAA at any time may disqualify the students enrolled in the school’s boarding program from further interscholastic athletic participation should the Executive Director determine that the school is using the boarding program for any improper athletic purpose.

**POLICY 36 (formerly Policy 38)**

**POLICY ON ATHLETIC RECRUITING**

36.1 **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

36.1.1 **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 6.3).

36.1.2 **Scope of School’s Responsibility.** A school’s responsibility for the conduct of its interscholastic athletic program includes responsibility for:

36.1.2.1 The acts of any employee or athletic department staff member;

36.1.2.2 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
36.1.2.3 The acts of any other independent person, business or organization acting at the request, direction, or otherwise on behalf of any employee or representative of the school’s athletic interests.

36.1.3 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 impermissible acts when they are discovered to have occurred.

36.1.4 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.

36.1.5 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.

36.1.6 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.

36.1.7 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.

36.2 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

36.2.1 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.

36.2.1.1 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.

36.2.2 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.

36.2.3 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.

36.2.4 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.

36.3 IMPROPER CONTACT
36.3.1 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.

36.3.2 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:

36.3.2.1 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.

36.3.2.2 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.

36.3.2.3 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.
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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

36.4.2 Specific Prohibitions. Specifically prohibited arrangements, assistance or benefits include, but are not limited to, the following:

36.4.2.1 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.

36.4.2.2 Cash or like items, such as credit cards, debit cards, gift cards, gift certificates, coupons or vouchers.

36.4.2.3 Gift of clothing, equipment, merchandise or other tangible items.

36.4.2.4 Loans or assistance in securing a loan of any kind.

36.4.2.5 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.

36.4.2.6 Free or reduced-cost transportation.

36.4.2.7 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.

36.4.2.8 Free or reduced-cost rent for housing, vehicles or other items.

36.4.2.9 Full or partial payment of moving expenses or assistance of any kind with an actual physical move.

36.4.2.10 Employment or assistance in securing employment or contractual arrangement of any kind for which compensation may be paid.

36.4.2.11 Promise of a position on an interscholastic athletic team or playing time as a member of the team.

36.4.2.12 Promise of guaranteeing a college athletic scholarship.

36.4.2.13 Free or reduced costs to attend a sport or skills camp.

36.4.2.14 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.

36.5 ACADEMIC RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

36.5.1 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.

36.5.2 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.

36.6 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

36.6.1 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.

36.6.1.1 Criteria for Providing Financial Assistance. School-based financial assistance 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.

36.6.1.2 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.

36.6.1.3 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.

36.6.1.4 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
36.6.1.5 **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 Executive Director or his/her designee for inspection upon request.

36.6.1.6 **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, any athletic department staff member or 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.

36.6.1.7 **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.

36.6.2 **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:

36.6.2.1 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.

36.6.2.2 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.

36.6.2.3 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.

36.6.3 **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.

### 36.7 COMPLIANCE DOCUMENTS

#### 36.7.1 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 and 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.

#### 36.7.2 Affidavit of Compliance.
A student who for any reason changes schools after beginning the 9th 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.

### 36.8 PENALTIES

#### 36.8.1 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.

#### 36.8.2 Disciplinary Measures.
In addition to the mandatory forfeiture of contests and awards, any one or more of the penalties described in Article 10 of the FHSAA Bylaws may be imposed against a school for violating any provisions of this policy. These include:

- **36.8.2.1** Public reprimand;
- **36.8.2.2** Financial penalty;
- **36.8.2.3** A form or combination of forms of probation (administrative, restrictive and/or suspension) for one or more years;
- **36.8.2.4** 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;
- **36.8.2.5** Prohibition against participating in any interscholastic competition for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
36.8.2.6 Restricted membership for one or more years during which time some or all of the school’s membership privileges may be restricted or denied; and

36.8.2.7 Expulsion from membership in the Association for one or more years.

POLICY 37 (formerly Policy 40)

LICENSING AND ROYALTY POLICY

37.1 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,” “Sport the ‘Tude!,” and “Play Strong. Play Hard. Play Fair.” 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.

37.2 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 Policy.”

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.

37.3 Licensing
37.3.1 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.
37.3.2 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.

37.3.3 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.

37.3.4 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.

37.3.5 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.

37.3.6 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.”

37.3.7 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.

37.3.8 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 are 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.

37.3.9 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.

37.4 FHSAA State Series Events

37.4.1 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 includes 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.

37.4.2 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(s) 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:

37.4.2.1 Wholesale – The sale of merchandise by an outside vendor to a member school for resale by the member school.

37.4.2.2 Retail – The sale of merchandise by the outside vendor, or member school if member school-created, directly to the customer.

37.4.3 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).

37.4.4 No royalty fee will be due to the FHSAA for use of the FHSAA’s protected identification marks on printed material as detailed in 37.3.1. However, failure to properly display the FHSAA’s protected identification marks on all printed materials as required in 37.3.1 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.

37.4.5 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 38 (formerly Policy 41)

NEWS MEDIA GENERAL POLITICS AND PROCEDURES

38.1 General Information

38.1.1 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.

38.1.1.1 For regulations concerning media credentials to FHSAA State Series contests see the “FHSAA Policy on Media Credentials.”

38.1.1.2 For regulations concerning broadcast rights to FHSAA State Series contests see the “FHSAA Broadcast Policy.”

38.2 Providing Information

38.2.1 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:

38.2.1.1 Those meetings of the Board of Directors and other FHSAA com-
mittees 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;

38.2.1.2 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).

38.2.2 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.

38.2.3 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.

38.2.4 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 FHSAA.org the same day on which they are e-mailed.

38.2.5 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 FHSAA.org on an occasional basis throughout the school year.

38.2.6 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.

38.2.7 Tournament pairings for each level of each FHSAA State Series in all team sports will be posted on FHSAA.org immediately after such pairings have been completed and verified by the FHSAA Office.

38.2.8 Telephone calls from the news media to the FHSAA Office, in general, will be directed to the communications department. 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).
38.3 Eligibility Decisions, Investigations of Alleged Violations of FHSAA Regulations and Legal Proceedings

38.3.1 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.

38.3.2 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.

38.3.3 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.

38.3.4 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 39 (formerly Policy 42)

MEDIA CREDENTIAL POLICY FOR FHSAA STATE SERIES EVENTS

The following media credential policy was established to provide a clear understanding 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.

39.1 Making a Request. Requests for media credentials for each FHSAA Finals state championship event must be submitted online via the FHSAA media site (www.fhsaa.org/media) 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.

39.2 Issuance. 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.

39.3 Procedures. 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.

39.4 Credential Limits. Credentials to an FHSAA Finals event will be issued on a space-available basis only to:

39.4.1 Representatives of daily newspapers who are covering the event (limit of four (4));
39.4.2 Television personnel who are directly involved in covering the event for a newscast production (limit of three (3));
39.4.3 Broadcast crews of a radio station self-originating an approved play-by-play broadcast of the event (limit of three (3));
39.4.4 Non-daily newspapers whose primary circulation area includes a school participating in the event (limit of two (2));
39.4.5 Non-originating radio stations providing on-air updates of the event (limit of one (1));
39.4.6 Student-based media of member schools participating in the event (limit of one (1));
39.4.7 Internet sites, specialty publications and out-of-state media subject to additional restrictions below (limit of one (1)).

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.

39.5 Internet Site Requirements. 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:

39.5.1 Internet sites must update news content daily and have a demonstrated record of sustained coverage of high schools sports.
39.5.2 Internet sites must have a unique registered domain name ending in one of the recognized extensions (.com, .cc, .edu, .net, .org).
39.5.3 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. 

**39.5.4 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.

**39.6 Specialty Publications Requirements.** 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.

**39.7 Out-of-State Media Organization Requirements.** 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.

**39.8 Freelance Media Requirements.** 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.

**39.9 Prohibited Organizations.** The following organizations and/or individuals will not be granted credentials:

**39.9.1 Publications or Internet sites** operated by recruiting or scouting services.
**39.9.2 Personal page Internet site publishers.**
**39.9.3 Internet sites** with content that is subscription-based or that require paid membership to view content.
**39.9.4 Internet sites** intending to merely report information already available on FHSAA.org.
**39.9.5 Specialty publications** that provide only recruiting lists or lists of outstanding teams.
**39.9.6 Any publication or Internet site** deemed to be in poor taste or incompatible with the mission of interscholastic athletics as determined by the FHSAA.
39.10 **Commercial Photographers.** 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. The 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.

39.11 **Guests of Credentialed Media.** 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.

39.12 **Non-Transferable.** 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.

39.13 **Grounds for Revocation.** Credentials, once issued, remain the property of the FHSAA and are subject to revocation and confiscation at the discretion of the FHSAA Executive Director 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.

39.14 **Personal Conduct Policy.** 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.

39.15 **Assumption of the Risk.** 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.
39.16 Conditions. 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 40 (formerly Policy 43)

BROADCAST POLICY

40.1 Regular Season
40.1.1 Rights Held by Host/Home School. 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.

40.1.1.1 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.

40.1.1.2 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.

40.1.2 Liability Waiver. 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 any nature.

40.2 FHSAA State Series
40.2.1 Rights Held by FHSAA. 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.

40.2.1.1 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.

40.2.1.2 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.

40.2.2 Live and Tape Delay Broadcasts. 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 Executive Director’s discretion.

40.2.2.1 Delaying a Contest is Prohibited. 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 40.2.2.2 below.

40.2.2.2 Exception for Live Telecasts. Live telecasts of football and basketball games, when permitted, may operate under the following guidelines upon approval of the Executive Director:

(a) 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;

(b) 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

(c) All charged timeouts called by either team will be a full 60 seconds in dura-
tion.

(d) It will be the responsibility of the referee to see that these guidelines for television timeouts are strictly adhered to.

40.2.3 Minimum Tape-Delay Requirements. 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.

40.2.4 Approved Use Only. 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.

40.2.5 FHSAA Approval is Final. 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.

40.2.6 Seating and Equipment Setup. 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.

40.2.7 Seating Policies. 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.

40.2.8 Limited Seating Areas. 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.

40.2.9 Camera Positioning. 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.

40.2.10 Required FHSAA Announcements. The outlet must incorporate into its broadcast of each FHSAA State Series contest a minimum of two (2) announcements concerning the FHSAA and its athletic programs. Script for these
announcements and/or cassette copies of professionally pre-produced spots will be provided by the FHSAA.

40.2.10.1 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.

40.2.10.2 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.

40.2.11 Disclaimer. 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.

40.2.12 Announcer Conduct. 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.

40.2.13 Use of Terms Implying Sponsorship. 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 40.5.9 elsewhere in this policy).

40.2.14 Failure to Comply. 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 Executive Director. 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.

40.2.15 Unauthorized Broadcast. 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 Executive Director. 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 per game broadcast.

40.2.16 Liability Waiver. 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.

40.2.17 Civil Venue. Venue of any civil action arising out of this policy will lie in Alachua County, Florida.

40.2.18 Reserved Rights. 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.

40.3 Obtaining Broadcast Rights

40.3.1 Application Form. Application to broadcast an FHSAA State Series contest must be made on the FHSAA Broadcast Application Form, a copy of which is provided on FHSAA.org. An application also may be obtained by contacting the FHSAA communications department at (352) 372-9551 ext. 170.

40.3.1.1 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.

40.3.1.2 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.

40.3.2 Deadline. 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 faxed to the FHSAA Office at (352) 244-5055.

40.3.3 Late Filing Fee. A late filing fee of $25 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.

40.3.4 Blanket Broadcast Rights. 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 broad-
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.

40.3.5 Notification of Approval. Upon approval of an outlet’s broadcast application, the FHSAA will fax to the outlet the approved application form signed by the Executive Director 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.

40.4 Payment of Rights Fees

40.4.1 Rights Fees. An outlet granted broadcast rights to an FHSAA State Series contest must pay rights fees as follows:

- 40.4.1.1 Live or tape-delay radio broadcast – $50 (per event).
- 40.4.1.2 Tape-delay telecast – $250 (per contest).
- 40.4.1.3 Live telecast – to be determined by Executive Director.

An outlet must pay all rights fees, both for itself as well as $25 for each outlet to which it feeds its signal, to the FHSAA. Payments 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 late fee shall be assessed if payment is not received by the 30-day deadline.

40.4.2 Feeder Fee. An outlet which feeds its broadcast to another outlet(s) is solely responsible for collecting reimbursement for its $25 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.

40.4.3 Returned Checks or Payment Fees. A $30 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.

40.4.4 Collection Costs. 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
40.5 Commercials and Sponsors

40.5.1 Disclosure. 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.

40.5.2 Reserved Rights. The FHSAA reserves the right to reject any and all applications for broadcast rights, whether sponsored or unsponsored. The FHSAA reserves the right to approve or reject the product or service which desires to sponsor the broadcast.

40.5.3 Prohibited Advertisements. Advertisements for the following are prohibited:

- **40.5.3.1** Promotions for the possession, use or sale of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, harmful drugs, firearms and contraceptives;
- **40.5.3.2** Bars, taverns and cocktail lounges or other establishments that serve alcoholic beverages;
- **40.5.3.3** Exotic dance clubs;
- **40.5.3.4** Political issues;
- **40.5.3.5** 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 Athletic Association;
- **40.5.3.6** Pari-mutuels, excluding the Florida Lottery; and
- **40.5.3.7** 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.

40.5.4 Combination Business Exception. 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.

40.5.5 Political Advertisements. While advertisements for political issues are prohibited by this policy, political candidates may be acceptable as sponsors provided no part of their political advertisements raise controversial political issues.

40.5.6 Pre- and Postgame Show Prohibitions. Advertisements of the type prohibited in 40.5.3 above are prohibited from use at any time during the broadcast from the time the pregamen 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 sponsors be read which includes the name of such business, product or service listed in 40.5.3 above and referred to in this note.

40.5.7 Banner Displays. 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.

**40.5.8 Commercial Announcements.** 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.

**40.5.9 Implied Sponsorship.** 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.

**40.5.10 Broadcast Cancellation.** 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.

### 40.6 News Film Crews

**40.6.1** 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.

**40.6.2** 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.

### 40.7 Credentials

**40.7.1** 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.

**40.7.2** 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 41 (formerly Policy 45)

Penalty Code

Article 10.1 of the FHSAA Bylaws establishes penalties that may be assessed a member school for violations of FHSAA Bylaws, regulations, policies, procedures and guidelines, and Article 10.4 establishes a school’s or individual’s right to appeal any penalty assessed it.

41.1 Penalties

41.1.1 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.

41.1.2 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.

41.1.3 FORFEIT – The surrender of a victory due to the violation(s).

41.1.4 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:

41.1.4.1 Administrative Probation – The least severe is simply a period of warning.

41.1.4.2 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.

41.1.4.3 Suspension Probation – The most 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.

41.1.5 SUSPENSION – Temporary revocation of all membership privileges.

41.1.6 RESTRICTED MEMBERSHIP – Restriction on one or more membership privileges for one or more years.

41.1.7 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
41.2 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 Executive Director 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.

**MINIMUM DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION**  
**AMOUNT**

1. Failure of head coach to attend mandatory rules clinic ..................$ 50.00
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 .................................................................$ 50.00
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 .................................................................$ 50.00
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 .............................................................$ 50.00
5. Failure of school to have representative present at District Tournament/Meet Planning Meeting .........................................................$ 100.00
6. Use of tobacco or tobacco-like products by a coach during a contest or in the vicinity of the court or playing field .........................................$ 100.00
7. Conduct of an illegal practice session, illegal scrimmage or other illegal practice contest during a sport season .......................................................$ 250.00
8. Illegal filming or videotaping of an athletic contest ..........................$ 100.00
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 ..........................................................$ 50.00
10. Suspension of a coach for unsportsmanlike conduct ......................$ 100.00
11. Use or profanity or other such gutter language by a coach, per occurrence .........................................................................................$ 150.00
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 ................................................................. $ 100.00

13. Pursuit of officials with intent following a contest by a coach or other school personnel ......................................................... $ 150.00

14. Refusal of an ejected coach to leave the court, playing field or team area ........................................................................ $ 100.00

15. Physical contact by a coach or other school personnel with an official .................................................................................... $ 250.00

16. Suspension of a student-athlete at the Level 2 Suspension level for unsportsmanlike conduct, beginning with second incident during a school year .............................................................................. $ 250.00

17. Suspension of a student-athlete for unsportsmanlike conduct, beginning with fourth incident during a sports season .................. $ 100.00

18. Participation by one or more student-athletes on the bench in an altercation and entering the court or playing field (i.e., bench-emptying), per student ........................................................................ $ 100.00

19. Removal by a coach or school personnel of a team or individual from an athletic contest prior to its normal conclusion .............. $ 250.00

20. Premature termination of a contest by an official due to unsportsmanlike conduct by student-athletes, coaches, other school personnel spectators in attendance ........................................................................ $ 250.00

21. Actions which may not be regarded as unsportsmanlike which result in a contest being prematurely concluded ......................... $ 100.00

22. Failure to contract with sanctioned local officials associations for registered officials at all interscholastic home contests .............. $ 100.00

23. General failure to comply with FHSAA policies and procedures .... $ 100.00

24. Failure to submit team photo and data for publication in FHSAA Finals official souvenir program by deadline ......................... $ 50.00

  If team advances to FHSAA Finals ($100 photo, $100 any item of information such as roster, schedule, statistics, etc.) .................. $ 300.00

25. Exceeding the number of contests allowed in a tournament or withdrawing from a tournament to avoid exceeding number of contests allowed .............................................................................. $ 250.00
26. Violation of the “Policy on Recruiting” which results in the successful recruitment of a student-athlete ..............................................$2,500.00

27. Violation of the “Sanction Policy” other than late filing of application ..........................................................................................$100.00

28. Withdrawal from state series commitment to participate in team sport after deadline for filing of official entry list (in addition to $250 fee) ..............................................................$250.00

29. Withdrawal from state series intent to participate in individual sport after the 5th week of competition .................................................$250.00

30. Storming the playing field, court, or pool by spectators and students at the conclusion of an athletic contest (may be increased depending on severity of the incident)
   Indoor ..............................................................................................$250.00
   Outdoor .............................................................................................$500.00

32. Allowing students to participate without a completed EL2 form, per student ...............................................................................$500.00

33. Allowing students to participate without a completed EL3 form, per student .................................................................$500.00

34. Use of an ineligible player when not self-reported, per contest ........$2,500.00

35. Violating Policies 21, 22, 23, 24 or 25 ..............................................$2,500.00

41.3 ADMINISTRATIVE FEE SCHEDULE
The following fees are generally assessed member schools for failure to file necessary forms or other paperwork by the appropriate deadline, or for other administrative services.

MINIMUM DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE ................................................. FEE

1. Filing of an Annual Eligibility List after the deadline .......................$50.00

2. Filing of a Request for Football Schedule after the deadline ............$50.00

3. Filing of an Official Entry List after the deadline .............................$50.00
   If filed later than Friday prior to the week of the district tournament/meet the fee increases to$100.00
   If not filed at time of first competition (will increase if student(s) is later found to be ineligible) ................................................. $250.00

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4. The addition of or change in a name to/on an Official Entry List
   after filing (will increase if student(s) is later found to be ineligible) $ 50.00

5. Late filing of an Application for Sanction
   Less than 30 days prior to first date of event $ 50.00
   Less than 10 days prior to first date of event $ 100.00
   After first date of event $ 200.00

6. Late filing of financial report
   30 to 60 days late $ 50.00
   60 to 90 days late $ 75.00
   More than 90 days late $ 100.00

7. Filing of request to participate in state series after specified
deadline $ 100.00

8. Withdrawal from State Series Commitment Form in Team Sports
   by deadline for filing of official entry list $ 250.00
   After deadline for filing official entry list (includes $250 fine) $ 500.00

9. Failure to file membership renewal application by April 30
   deadline $ 50.00
   By May 31 final deadline 50% of membership dues

10. Failure to pay membership dues by August 31 deadline $ 50.00

11. Application fee for first time membership $ 150.00

12. Application fee for approved nonmember school status $ 150.00
**Listing of Full Member Schools by Administrative Section/Legislative Division**

(778 Full Member Schools as of July 1, 2009)

This listing of the 778 full member schools as of July 1, 2009 is divided into Administrative Section, Legislative Division and County. For the most up-to-date list of member schools, please see FHSAA.org.

### Administrative Section 1

(179 Schools)

#### Legislative Division 1

(24 schools)

**Escambia County**
- Dr. Ruby J. Gainer School (Pensacola)
- Escambia High School (Pensacola)
- Escambia Charter School (Gonzalez)
- Northview High School (Bratt)
- Pensacola High School
- Pensacola Catholic High School
- Pensacola Christian Academy
- Pine Forest High School (Pensacola)
- Tate High School (Cantonment)
- Washington High School (Pensacola)
- West Florida Technical High School (Pensacola)

**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

#### Legislative Division 2

(20 schools)

**Bay County**
- Arnold High School (Panama City Beach)
- Bay High School (Panama City)
- Bozeman Learning Center (South Port)
- Mosley High School (Lynn Haven)
- Rutherford High School (Springfield)

**Holmes County**
- Bethlehem High School (Bonifay)
- Bonifay Middle School
- Holmes County High School (Bonifay)

**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

(21 schools)

**Calhoun County**
- Altha High School
- Blountstown High School
- Blountstown Middle School

**Franklin County**
- Franklin County High School (Eastpoint)

**Gadsden County**
- East Gadsden High School (Havana)
- Havana Middle School
- Munroe Day School (Quincy)
- Shanks Middle School (Quincy)
- West Gadsden High School (Greensboro)

**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)

**Legislative Division 4**
(19 schools)

Jefferson County
Aucilla Christian Academy (Monticello)
Jefferson County High School (Monticello)

Leon County
Chiles High School (Tallahassee)
Community Christian School (Tallahassee)
FAMU High School (Tallahassee)
Florida 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**
(24 schools)

Columbia County
Columbia High School (Lake City)
Fort White High School (Lake City)
Lake City High School
Richardson Middle School (Lake City)

Dixie County
Dixie County High School (Cross City)
Rains Middle School (Cross City)

Gilchrist County
Bell High School
Trenton High School

Hamilton County
Hamilton County High School (Jasper)

Lafayette County
Lafayette High School (Mayo)

Levy County
Bronson High School
Cedar Key High School
Chiefland High School
Chiefland Middle School
Williston High School
Williston Middle School
Madison County
Madison County Central Middle School (Madison)
Madison County High School (Madison)

Suwannee County
Branford High School
Melody Christian Academy (Live Oak)
Suwannee High School (Live Oak)
Suwannee Middle School (Live Oak)

Taylor County
Taylor County High School (Perry)
Taylor County Middle School (Perry)

**Legislative Division 6**
(24 schools)

Alachua County
Buchholz High School (Gainesville)
Cornerstone Academy (Gainesville)
Eastside High School (Gainesville)
Gainesville High School
Hawthorne High School
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)

Baker County
Baker County High School (Glen St. Mary)
Baker County Middle School (Macclenny)

Bradford County
Bradford High School (Starke)
Bradford Middle School (Starke)

Nassau County
Callahan Middle School
Fernandina Beach High School
Fernandina Beach Middle School
Hilliard High School
West Nassau High School (Callahan)
Yulee High School
Yulee Middle School

Union County
Lake Butler Middle School
Union County High School (Lake Butler)

**Legislative Division 7**
(24 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 Baptist Academy (Jacksonville)
First Coast High School (Jacksonville)
Fletcher High School (Neptune Beach)
Hendricks Day School (Jacksonville)
Lutheran High School (Jacksonville)
Mandarin High School (Jacksonville)
Mandarin Christian School (Jacksonville)
North Florida Educational Institute (Jacksonville)
Providence School (Jacksonville)
Raines High School (Jacksonville)
Ribault High School (Jacksonville)
Sandalwood High School (Jacksonville)
Seacoast Christian Academy (Jacksonville)
Stanton College Preparatory School (Jacksonville)
Terry Parker High School (Jacksonville)
University Christian School (Jacksonville)
Wolfson High School (Jacksonville)

**Legislative Division 8**
(23 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 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)
Robert E. Lee High School (Jacksonville)
Trinity Christian Academy (Jacksonville)

**Legislative Division 9**
(23 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 Home School Academy (Merritt Island)

**Legislative Division 10**
(24 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)
Creekside High School (St. Johns)
Florida School for the Blind (St. Augustine)
Florida School for the Deaf (St. Augustine)
Menendez High School (St. Augustine)
Nease High School (St. Augustine)
Ponte Vedra
St. Augustine High School
St. Joseph Academy (St. Augustine)

**Legislative Division 11**
(21 schools)

**Flagler County**
Flagler Palm Coast High School (Palm Coast)
Heritage High School (Bunnell)
Matanzas High School (Palm Coast)

**Volusia County**
Atlantic High School (Port Orange)
Calvary Christian Academy (Ormond Beach)
DeLand High School
Deltona High School
Father Lopez High School (Daytona Beach)
Halifax Academy (Ormond Beach)
Lighthouse Christian School (DeLand)
Mainland High School (Daytona Beach)
New Smyrna Beach High School
Pine Ridge High School (Deltona)
Riverbend Academy (Ormond Beach)
St. Barnabas Episcopal School (DeLand)
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**
(22 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**
Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School (Spring Hill)
Central High School (Brooksville)
Challenger K-8 School (Spring Hill)
Crews Lake Middle School (Spring Hill)
Explorer K-8 (Spring Hill)
Floyd Middle School (Spring Hill)
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)
Anclote (Holiday)
Bayonet Point Middle School (New Port Richey)
Centennial Middle School (Dade City)
Chasco Middle School (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)
Rushe Middle School (Land O'Lakes)
Saddlebrook Academy (Wesley Chapel)
Seven Springs Middle School (New Port Richey)
Stewart Middle School (Zephyrhills)
Sunlake High School (Land O'Lakes)
Weightman Middle School (Wesley Chapel)
Wesley Chapel High School
Wiregrass Ranch High School (Wesley Chapel)
Zephyrhills High School

**Legislative Division 14**
(26 schools)

**Lake County**
Carver Middle School (Leesburg)
Clermont Middle School
East Ridge High School (Clermont)
East Ridge Middle School (Clermont)
Eustis High School
Eustis Middle School
First Academy-Leesburg
Gray Middle School (Groveland)
Leesburg High School
Montverde Academy
Mount Dora Bible School
Mount Dora High School
Mount Dora Middle School
Oak Park Middle School (Leesburg)
South Lake Charter School (Clermont)
South Lake High School (Groveland)
Tavares High School
Tavares Middle School
Umatilla High School
Umatilla Middle School
Windy Hill Middle School (Clermont)

**Sumter County**
The Villages High School
The Villages Middle School
Wildwood Middle/High School

**Legislative Division 15**
(20 schools)

**Orange County (North)**
Apopka High School
International Community School (Winter Park)
Ocoee High School
Orangewood Christian School (Maitland)
Trinity Preparatory School (Winter Park)
Victory Prep (Orlando)
Wekiva High School (Apopka)
Winter Park High School

Seminole County
Crooms Academy (Sanford)
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)
Dr. Phillips High School (Orlando)
East River High School (Orlando)
Edgewater High School (Orlando)
Evans High School (Orlando)
Faith Christian Academy (Orlando)
First Academy (Orlando)
Foundation Academy (Winter Garden)
Freedom High School (Orlando)
Jones High School (Orlando)
Lake Highland Preparatory School (Orlando)
Lake Nona High School (Orlando)
Oak Ridge High School (Orlando)
Olympia High School (Orlando)
Orlando Christian Prep School
Orlando Lutheran Academy
Pine Castle Christian Academy ( Orlando)
Timber Creek High School (Orlando)
University High School (Orlando)
West Orange High School (Winter Garden)
Windermere Preparatory School

Administrative Section 3
(196 Schools)

Legislative Division 17
(27 schools)

Pinellas County
Academy Prep Center (St. Petersburg)
Admiral Farragut Academy (St. Petersburg)
Boca Ciega High School (Gulfport)
Calvary Christian High School (Clearwater)
Canterbury School (St. Petersburg)
Clearwater Central Catholic
Clearwater High School
Country Side High School (Clearwater)
Dixie Hollins High School (St. Petersburg)
Dunedin High School
East Lake High School (Tarpon Springs)
Gibbs High School (St. Petersburg)
Indian Rocks Christian School (Largo)
Keswick Christian School (St. Petersburg)
Lakeside Christian School (Clearwater)
Lakewood High School (St. Petersburg)
Largo High School
Northeast High School (St. Petersburg)
Northside Christian School (St. Petersburg)
Osceola High School (Seminole)
Palm Harbor University High School
Pinellas Park High School (Largo)
Seminole High School
Shorecrest Preparatory School (St. Petersburg)
St. Petersburg Catholic High School
St. Petersburg High School
Tarpon Springs High School

Legislative Division 18
(24 schools)

Hillsborough County (South and West)
Alonso High School (Tampa)
Berean Academy (Lutz)
Brooks-DeBartolo Collegiate High School (Tampa)
Cambridge Christian School (Tampa)
Carrollwood Day School (Tampa)
Chamberlain High School (Tampa)
Citrus Park Christian School (Tampa)
Freedom High School (Tampa)
Gaither High School (Tampa)
George Steinbrenner High School (Lutz)
Hillsborough High School (Tampa)
Jesuit High School (Tampa)
King High School (Tampa)
Leto Comprehensive High School (Tampa)
Middleton High School (Tampa)
Odessa Christian School
Pepin Academy High School (Tampa)
Quest Middle School (Tampa)
Sickles High School (Tampa)
Tampa Bay Christian Academy
Tampa Bay Technical High School
Tampa Catholic High School
Tampa Christian Community School
**Legislative Division 19**  
(21 schools)

**Hillsborough County (North and East)**
- Armwood Senior High School (Seffner)
- Bayshore Christian School (Tampa)
- Berkeley Preparatory School (Tampa)
- Blake High School (Tampa)
- Bloomingdale High School (Valrico)
- Brandon High School
- Durant High School (Plant City)
- East Bay High School (Gibsonton)
- Faith Baptist Christian School (Brandon)
- Holy Names (Tampa)
- Jefferson High School (Tampa)
- Lennard Senior High School (Ruskin)
- Newsome High School (Lithia)
- Plant High School (Tampa)
- Plant City High School
- Riverview High School (Riverview)
- Robinson High School (Tampa)
- Seffner Christian Academy
- Spoto High School (Riverview)
- Strawberry Crest High School (Dover)
- Tampa Preparatory School

**Legislative Division 20**  
(24 schools)

**Charlotte County**
- Charlotte High School (Punta Gorda)
- Community Christian School (Port Charlotte)
- Lemon Bay High School (Englewood)
- Port Charlotte High School

**DeSoto County**
- DeSoto County High School (Arcadia)

**Hardee County**
- Hardee High School (Wauchula)

**Manatee County**
- Bayshore High School (Bradenton)
- Braden River (Bradenton)
- 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

**Legislative Division 21**  
(23 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)
- Tenoroc High School (Lakeland)
- Vanguard School (Lake Wales)
- Victory Christian Academy (Lakeland)
- Winter Haven High School

**Legislative Division 22**  
(26 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)

**Highlands County**
- Avon Park High School
- Heartland Christian School (Sebring)
- Lake Placid High School
- Sebring High School
- Walker Memorial Academy (Avon Park)

**Okeechobee County**
- Okeechobee High School
- Osceola Middle School (Okeechobee)
- Yearling Middle School (Okeechobee)

**Osceola County**
- Celebration High School
- City of Life Christian (Kissimmee)
- Gateway High School (Kissimmee)
- Harmony High School
- Kissimmee Christian Academy
Liberty High School (Kissimmee)
Life Christian Academy (Kissimmee)
New Dimensions School (Kissimmee)
Osceola High School (Kissimmee)
Poinciana High School (Kissimmee)
Southland Christian School (Kissimmee)
St. Cloud High School

**Liberty High School (Kissimmee)**

**Life Christian Academy (Kissimmee)**

**New Dimensions School (Kissimmee)**

**Osceola High School (Kissimmee)**

**Poinciana High School (Kissimmee)**

**Southland Christian School (Kissimmee)**

**St. Cloud High School**

**Legislative Division 23**

(31 schools)

**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)
Immacalee High School
Lely High School (Naples)
Naples High School
Palmetto Ridge High School (Naples)
Seacrest Country Day School (Naples)
St. John Neumann High School (Naples)

**Lee County**
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)
Ida Baker High School (Cape Coral)
Island Coast High School (Cape Coral)
Lehigh High School (Lehigh Acres)
Mariner High School (Cape Coral)
North Fort Myers High School
Oasis High School (Cape Coral)
Riverdale High School (Fort Myers)
South Fort Myers High School
Southwest Florida Christian Academy (Fort Myers)

**Legislative Division 24**

(20 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**
Community Christian School (Stuart)
Jensen Beach High School
Martin County High School (Stuart)

**Pine School (Stuart)**
South Fork High School (Stuart)

**St. Lucie County**
Centennial High School (Port St. Lucie)
Fort Pierce Central High School
Fort Pierce Westwood 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**

(173 Schools)

**Legislative Division 25**

(26 schools)

**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)
Everglades Preparatory Academy (Pahokee)
Forest Hill High School (West Palm Beach)
Glades Central High School (Belle Glade)
Glades Day School (Belle Glade)
Gold Coast Community School (West Palm Beach)
Inlet Grove High School (Riviera Beach)
Jupiter Christian School
Jupiter High School
King’s Academy (West Palm Beach)
Pahokee Middle-Senior High School
Palm Beach Central High School (Wellington)
Palm Beach Day Academy
Palm Beach Gardens High School
Palm Beach Lakes High School (West Palm Beach)
Roosevelt Community High School (West Palm Beach)
Royal Palm Beach High School
Seminole Ridge High School (Loxahatchee)
Summit Christian School (West Palm Beach)
Suncoast High School (Riviera Beach)
Wellington Christian School
Wellington High School

**Legislative Division 26**

(23 schools)

**Palm Beach County (South)**
American Heritage School (Delray Beach)
Atlantic High School (Delray Beach)
Boca Raton Christian School
Boca Raton Community High School
Boca Raton Preparatory School
Boynton Beach High School
Donna Klein Jewish Academy (Boca Raton)
Florida Atlantic University High School (Boca Raton)
Grandview Prep (Boca Raton)
Hillel Day School of Boca Raton
John I. Leonard High School (Greenacres)
Lake Worth Christian School (Boynton Beach)
Lake Worth Community High School
Olympic Heights High School (Boca Raton)
Park Vista High School (Lantana)
Pope John Paul II High School (Boca Raton)
Santaluces High School (Lantana)
Spanish River High School (Boca Raton)
St. Andrew's School (Boca Raton)
Trinity Christian Academy (Lake Worth)
Village Academy (Delray Beach)
West Boca Raton Community High School
Yeshiva High School (Boca Raton)

Legislative Division 27

(32 schools)

Broward County (North)
Abundant Life Christian Academy (Margate)
Blanche Ely High School (Pompano Beach)
Boyd Anderson High School (Lauderdale Lakes)
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)
Eagle Charter Academy (Lauderdale Lakes)
Fort Lauderdale Christian School
Fort Lauderdale High School
Highlands Christian Academy (Pompano Beach)
Lighthouse Christian School (Pompano Beach)
Monarch High School (Coconut Creek)
North Broward Preparatory School (Coconut Creek)
Northeast High School (Oakland Park)
Ply's Academy Prep School (Lauderdale Lakes)
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 28

(28 schools)

Broward County (South)
American Heritage School (Plantation)
American Preparatory Academy (Davie)
Archbishop McCarthy High School (Southwest Ranches)
Beacon Hill School (Hollywood)
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 (Southwest Ranches)
McArthur High School (Hollywood)
Miramar High School
Nova High School (Davie)
Parkway Academy (Miramar)
Parkway Christian School (Davie)
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)
West Broward High School (Pembroke Pines)
Western High School (Davie)
Weston Christian Academy
Woods Haven Preparatory School (Dania Beach)

Legislative Division 29

(23 schools)

Miami-Dade County (North)
American High School (Hialeah)
Belen Jesuit Preparatory School (Miami)
Champagnat Catholic School (Hialeah)
Community Education (Coral Gables)
Dade Christian School (Miami)
Doral Academy (Miami)
Goleman High School (Miami)
Greater Miami Academy (Miami)
Hialeah Educational Academy
Hialeah Gardens High School
Hialeah High School
Hialeah-Miami Lakes High School
Horeb Christian School (Hialeah)
Mater Academy Charter School (Hialeah Gardens)
Mater Gardens Academy (Miami)
Mater Lakes Academy (Miami)
Miami Carol City Senior High School
Miami Coral Park Senior High School
Miami Douglas MacArthur North High School
Miami Springs Senior High School
Monsignor Pace High School (Miami)
Reagan Senior High School (Doral)
Westland Hialeah High School
Legislative Division 30
(23 schools)

Miami-Dade County (East)
Archbishop Carroll High School (Miami)
Center of Life Academy (Miami)
Cushman School (Miami)
Design & Architecture High School (Miami)
Doctors Charter School (Miami Shores)
Dr. Krop Senior High School (Miami)
Hebrew Academy (Miami Beach)
Hillen Community Day School (North Miami Beach)
Mater Academy East Charter High (Miami)
Miami Beach Senior High School
Miami Central Senior High School
Miami Christian School
Miami Country Day School
Miami Edison Senior High School
Miami Jackson Senior High School
Miami Norland Senior High School
Miami Northwestern Senior High School
Miami Senior High School
Mourning Senior High (North Miami)
North Miami Beach Senior High School
North Miami Senior High School
Northwest Christian Academy (Miami)
Washington High School (Miami)

Legislative Division 31
(23 schools)

Miami-Dade County (West)
Archbishop Curley High School (Miami)
Archimedeans Upper Conservatory (Miami)
Braddock Senior High School (Miami)
Brito Miami Private School
Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart (Miami)
Christopher Columbus Catholic High School (Miami)
Coral Gables Senior High School
Ferguson Senior High School (Miami)
Florida Christian School (Miami)
Gulliver Preparatory School (Miami)
Immaculata-LaSalle High School (Miami)
International Studies Charter (Coral Gables)
Our Lady of Lourdes Academy (Miami)
MAST Academy (Key Biscayne)
Miami Douglas MacArthur South High School
Miami Sunset Senior High School
Ransom Everglades High School (Miami)
South Miami Senior High School
Southwest Miami Senior High School
Saint Brendan High School (Miami)
TERRA Institute (Miami)
Felix Varela Senior High School (Miami)
Westwood Christian School (Miami)

Legislative Division 32
(23 schools)

Miami-Dade County (South)
Barrington Christian Academy (Florida City)
Calusa Preparatory School (Miami)
Choice Preparatory Academy (Miami)
Colonial Christian School (Homestead)
Coral Reef Senior High School (Miami)
Cutler Ridge Christian Academy (Cutler Bay)
Heritage School (Miami)
Homestead Senior High School
Miami Killian Senior High School
Miami Palmetto Senior High School
Miami Southridge Senior High School
Palmer Trinity School (Miami)
Princeton Christian School
Redland Christian Academy (Homestead)
Somerset Academy Charter High (Homestead)
South Dade Senior High School (Homestead)
Westminster 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)
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