2019-20 ACTIVITY / RULE / BY-LAW CHANGES
As of July 1, 2019

5-12 SCRIMMAGES / PRACTICES
5-12-1 An organized scrimmage, drill or practice by teams or individual students with or against other member school teams or players is considered a contest, and counts toward the total number of contests a team is allowed.

5-12-2 Member school teams and individuals are prohibited from scrimmaging or practicing with or against non-member/non-high school teams, non-high school players or coaches in a team sport, except in the following situations:
   a. Practice is allowed between 9th and 8th grade in a junior high that has an 8-9 configuration.
   b. In the sport of track, high school teams may practice with junior high/middle school teams in the same school district.
   c. In the sports of volleyball and basketball, 1A Div. II teams may practice with 8th grade students if they cannot field enough athletes to have an intersquad scrimmage in game type conditions. The 8th graders must meet all other IHSAA requirements.
   d. No more than two district-approved coaches may participate, as a player, in practice at one time. 1A schools are exempt from Rule 5-12-2d.
   e. 1A/2A/3A teams may practice together in the pole vault. Proof of insurance/liability must be given to the host school administration by the sending school administration before athletes can vault at the host school.

8-1 ACADEMIC
To be academically eligible for athletics, a student must be enrolled full-time in his/her school, on target to graduate based on State Board of Education graduation requirements, and have received passing grades and earned credits in the required number of courses during the previous reporting period. Equivalency is determined by the following: criteria:
   - 3 classes attempted: must pass all three
   - 4 classes attempted: must pass at least three
   - 5 classes attempted: must pass at least four
   - 6 classes attempted: must pass at least five
   - 7 classes attempted: must pass at least five
   - 8 classes attempted: must pass at least six

Coach Remuneration/Reimbursement
3-3 No coach or athletic director may accept remuneration or reimbursement of any kind from sources outside the local board of education in return for services rendered in instructing, coaching or chaperoning any member of the high school athletic/activity team. Coaches may receive appreciation gifts from team members, parents or community organizations that do not exceed the value of an IHSAA player award ($300). Appreciation gifts may not include cash of any value or reimbursement for travel/chaperoning expenses.

Activity Card Protocol
The card is non-transferable and admits the person whose name is on the card and one guest to any interschool activity sponsored by the IHSAA or by any member school. If the card is presented by a guest of the person whose name is on the card, only the guest will be admitted.

Foreign Exchange and International Student Eligibility
8-9-2 The foreign exchange student must possess a current visa issued by the US State Department.
   a. J-1 Visa: Student may be granted varsity eligibility for one year.
   b. J-1 Visa Direct Placement: Student may be granted junior varsity eligibility for one year. Direct placement is reported to the IHSAA by the NFHS.
   c. F-1 Visa: Student may be granted junior varsity eligibility for one year.
   d. F-1 Visa, Non Foreign Exchange International Student: see Rule 8-9-7.

8-9-7 Non-Foreign Exchange International Students
International students who are not under the auspices of, and placed by, a CSIET-listed exchange program will be ineligible for varsity interscholastic extracurricular activities for one year from the date of initial enrollment and attendance in the new school. International students must meet the following requirements in order to be considered for interscholastic athletic/activity eligibility:
   a. Must file a Foreign Student Transfer Form with the IHSAA Office and be approved.
   b. The student must possess a current F-1 visa, issued by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.
   c. The student must provide to the principal of the school he/she attends an official untranslanted transcript and a transcript that is translated into English, by an acceptable agent or agency, which indicates work taken in all grades in which the student was enrolled.
   d. The international student must pay tuition to the high school he/she attends as prescribed in Section 625 of U.S. Public Law 104-208. A receipt of their paid tuition must be included in the paperwork.
e. No member of the school’s coaching staff, paid or voluntary, shall/can serve as the host family unless the student is participating at the JV level or lower.

f. The international student must comply with all eligibility requirements set forth by the state high school association of which the school he/she attends is a member.

Non-compliance with one or more of the foregoing provisions shall render the international student ineligible for interscholastic athletics at any high school that is a member of any NFHS member state high school association.

**District Speech Entry Limitations**

At district tournaments, schools may enter up to six entries per event, with a maximum of 56 entries total.

**Soccer Roster Size**

At all play-in and state tournament games, varsity teams are limited to twenty-two students in uniform at the start of the contest.

**Additional Dead Period**

**17-2-4 Coaching Limitations**

a. Coaches are not allowed to coach students of the school competitively (during competition) from August 3 to the start of that sport season during the school year. Coaches, athletic trainers, or other school personnel cannot contact students during that same time. Winter and spring activities can contact students after the last starting date for fall activity practices.

b. Schools will determine a 3-day, consecutive no contact period over winter break and notify the IHSAA of those dates through their fall School Directory update.

**Background Check for Officials* (Pending final Board approval, fall 2019)**

**10-1-2 Code of Ethics and Background Checks for Officials**

a. The Association reserves the right to suspend or drop from the approved list any official who does not comply with the Code of Ethics for Athletic Officials, whose conduct on or away from the area of competition indicates the official is unfit to serve, or who does not wear the official uniform as prescribed by the Association.

b. All officials must pass a criminal background check conducted by the Association upon registering and every odd-numbered year of continued service. Officials cannot have been convicted of:

1. A felony involving the use, possession or sale of a controlled substance within the last 10 years. The 10-year period of ineligibility to officiate shall commence from the date of suspension from officiating duties or from the date of conviction, whichever occurred first, or
2. A crime involving the use or threatened use of violence against a person within the last 10 years. The 10-year period of ineligibility to officiate shall commence from the date of suspension from officiating duties or from the date of conviction, whichever occurred first, or
3. A crime involving a minor child at any time.

c. Officials will be suspended during any and all formal investigations.

**Procedures for Non-IHSAA Play-off Football Games**

The IHSAA Board of Directors has developed guidelines and procedures for non-IHSAA playoff football games. Schools should refer to the football page of the IHSAA website for the full policy.

**Foreign Exchange/International Student Host Family Limitations**

8-9-1b and 8-9-7e

No member of the school’s coaching staff, paid or voluntary, shall/can serve as the host family unless the student is participating at the JV level or lower.

**Swimming Alternates**

Schools shall be limited to the following number of alternates at the State Championship meet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Relays Qualified</th>
<th>Number of Alternates Allowed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4 maximum</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 or more (regardless of gender)</td>
<td>8 maximum</td>
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*Alternates MUST be gender specific

**Classification Appeal Requirements**

2-3-2 Schools may use ONE of the follow to petition up or down:

a. Receive a simple majority vote from all voting superintendents of the classification in which the school wishes to be placed.

b. Complete and submit the Competitive Equity Forms, and additional documentation requested on the forms. This includes but is not limited to the schools’ varsity, JV and freshman team statistics, superintendents’ advisory vote and additional information pertinent to the request.