

2025-26 ACTIVITY / RULE / BY-LAW CHANGES

As of July 1, 2025

Ticket Price Increase

A ticket price increase was approved for implementation during the 24-25 school year.

Rule 17-2-2 Rewrite

17-2-2 Rule of 2 – During the school year (outside of the season), any member of a school's coaching staff is prohibited from instructing/coaching more than two students from their high school program at one time. The restriction is only for the sport or activity they coach. Note: Different gender teams are not considered the same sport or activity.

- a. Anytime there are more than two students, it is considered an Open Gym/Field/Facility (follow the guidelines in Rule 17-2-3).

Rule 5-11

Cheer, dance and speech arts participants are now exempt from this rule and are allowed to compete between district and state competitions.

Speech Arts Tournament Inquiry Procedure

1. During the preliminary rounds, coaches and judges may submit an inquiry form to the Inquiry desk. These inquiry forms shall be used to direct tournament officials to potential irregularities that may need to be investigated. If no investigation occurs, the filing coach shall be informed. If an inquiry investigation occurs, tournament officials shall notify all stakeholders (relevant competitors, coaches, and/or judges) of the inquiry and the results of the investigation before the start of the next round. The results of an initial inquiry investigation may be considered a formal warning but shall not result in further disciplinary actions. Subsequent inquiries for the same issue shall be elevated to grievances by the inquiry committee.
 - a. Except in the cases of plagiarism and script violations which will be referred directly to the grievance committee.
 - b. Evidence violations in Debate will follow the procedure outlined in the Idaho Debate Code.
 - c. The inquiry process shall be used at district and state tournaments. Inquiries filed at districts shall be submitted with the district manager's report.

Inquiries shall be filed in the following chain of command:

- a. Students will report inquiries to their coach or designated chaperone in the case that their coach is not available.
- b. Judges and coaches will report inquiries to the Inquiry and Information desk.

The inquiry committee will consist of the commissioner and two unaffiliated designated tabroom officials.

2. Concerns regarding possible rules violations by coaches or competitors during state tournaments must be submitted in writing to the tournament manager. The commissioner and manager will review the complaint, and if necessary, a grievance committee will be convened to consider the inquiry and determine dispensation. A decision on all grievances must be reached prior to the next round of competition or prior to the awards ceremony, whichever comes first.
3. A contestant who is found to have violated the rules of an event may be disqualified. Any entry disqualified in the final round of competition will still be able to participate in the awards ceremony as a finalist*. That entry will not place or receive sweepstakes points for their team. **Note: If the disqualification was due to an egregious or unsportsmanlike act, the entry will not be allowed to participate in the awards ceremony.*

Rule 2-2 Private School Enrollment Verification

Add: Enrollment numbers for private schools are obtained from the school principal and verified with the school's student management system.

Rule 7 Cooperative Programs

- 7-2** Cooperative sponsorship of any activity by two or more member schools are permitted in one of the following categories:
- Combined Cooperative Program: Students from more than one school combine to compete as one team. The combined teams' classification is determined by combined enrollments of the member schools involved. Combined enrollment supersedes all classification petitions. This program applies to football, volleyball, soccer, basketball, softball, baseball, competitive cheer, and dance. Note: Failure of a school district to provide a coach or facility will not justify approval of a combined cooperative. For 6A schools, combined enrollment cannot exceed 150% of host school's student enrollment.
 - Collective Cooperative Program: Students from more than one school share resources but must compete as representatives of their home school at district and state competition. School classification remains the same. This program applies to cross country, wrestling, swimming, golf, tennis, track, the individual track event of pole vault, drama, debate and speech.
- 7-3** Cooperative program applications are required at the beginning of each classification cycle and will be in effect for a minimum of two years. Mid-cycle applications will be accepted on a one-year basis.
- 7-4** If the combined enrollments of the schools involved in a combined cooperative program exceeds the minimum number of the next higher classification the combined cooperative team will compete at that higher classification in that activity.
- 7-5** Application process for cooperative programs:
- The primary host school shall submit completed applications for each school involved, including signatures from all participating schools' administration to their District Board of Control for approval. If schools are from different districts, approval is needed from both Boards of Control. Deadline for fall activities is August 1; for winter activities is October 15; and for spring activities is January 15. The Board may, at its discretion, act on applications after these dates.
 - After approval, the District Board of Control shall submit all completed applications for each school involved to the IHSAA for final approval.
 - IHSAA executive staff or Board of Directors may approve cooperative programs.

8-14-1 Rewrite

Move Less Than 50 Miles If the parents of a student move to a new permanent residence within fifty miles of their home, the following documentation is required to confirm eligibility:

- Letters
 - A letter from the parents explaining the reason for the move.
 - A letter of support from the school filing the athletic transfer request.
- Proof of termination of all occupancy of previous address.
 - Escrow closing papers or official signed lease/rental termination document.
 - Evidence of termination of two utilities (e.g., electricity, water, & gas).
- Proof of physical relocation of parents/guardians & students to new permanent address.
 - Escrow closing papers or official signed lease/rental agreement document, minimum 12 months.
 - Evidence of activation of two utilities (e.g., electricity, water, gas).
 - Evidence of auto insurance with new address.
 - Evidence of paystub with new address.
 - Parents and students of driving age must provide updated driver's licenses showing the new address.

If any of the documents are not addressed, an explanation must be provided. The IHSAA Executive staff or Board of Directors may approve or deny varsity competition.

Rule 8-12-1

Modified last sentence to read, "Practice must be conducted under the direct supervision of a coach or supervisor who is both school-specific and sport-specific."

Gem Prep Meridian

Gem Prep Meridian became an associate member school and will compete in speech and debate.

Rule 8-5 Awards

Speech Arts participants are now exempt from this rule and can accept money and other awards without restriction.

Rule 4-3 Ejection Reports

The rule modification eliminated the requirement for officials to give a card to a coach or school representative when they eject someone from a contest. However, they must report the ejection to the school's principal or AD within 24 hours of the conclusion of the competition in which the infraction occurred.

Article VII & X: Music Rules and Regulations

At the request of the IMEA, these rules were reformatted to make them more user-friendly.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy

Approved as a regular member school beginning fall 2025. TVCA will be a District III, 2A school.

Gem State of Mind

The Board approved implementation of this statewide sportsmanship and marketing campaign developed by the IHSAA Student Advisory Council.

Associate Member Application

The change will now allow schools to request associate membership if they are in the candidacy stage of accreditation.

Cross Country Meet Limitation

Cross country teams are now allowed to participate in a maximum of 9 meets during the regular season.

Ball Contract - Baden

The IHSAA entered into a ball contract with Baden for soccer, volleyball, boys/girls basketball and softball. The contract will be in effect for 5 years.

World Schools Debate

World schools will become an event at State Debate in 25-26 and will replace Policy debate.

Officials' Passes

Officials will now be able to purchase an IHSAA pass during the registration process. Cost will be \$35 and the pass will have the same guidelines as the current IHSAA coaches' cards.

Girls Wrestling

Girls wrestling will now expand to use the 14 weight classes determined by the NFHS.

Wrestling – Scratch Weight Requirements

To be eligible for district and state competition, each wrestler must weigh in at scratch weight and be available to compete on three of the sixteen regular season dates. The coach must provide verification that the wrestler has met the three required weigh-ins before the district seeding meeting. Each weigh-in will count toward one of the wrestler's sixteen regular season dates.

Rule 2-5-3b MaxPreps Fine

Schools will be fined \$1500 per sport for failing to post required game scores.