RULES & REGULATIONS

RULE COVERAGE

The Association Rules and Regulations apply to all athletic, dance, cheerleading, speech arts and music participants in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 who participate in any IHSAA recognized contest, tournament, meet, or competition between member schools or with teams from outside Idaho who are in good standing with their respective state association.

The Association shall provide member schools with access to its by-laws and rules and regulations. Member school administrators are responsible to familiarize themselves, their staff members, school board members, coaches, participants and parents with the Association rules. The rules and regulations shall be available online for reference by the general public.

Listed below are the recognized IHSAA sports and activities:

Boys Cross Country	Dance
Girls Cross Country	Baseball
Football	Softball
Volleyball	Boys Track
Boys Soccer	Girls Track
Girls Soccer	Boys Golf
Boys Swimming	Girls Golf
Girls Swimming	Boys Tennis
Boys Wrestling	Girls Tennis
Girls Wrestling	Drama
Boys Basketball	Debate
Girls Basketball	Speech
Cheerleading	Music

RULE 1 - ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

1-1 GENERAL

1-1-1 The principal of each member school is recognized as the school representative and, as such, is accountable to the Association for the conduct of the activities program of that school.

1-1-2 The principal or an authorized adult representative shall accompany each team to all contests.

1-1-3 The principal has the authority to designate a faculty member employed in that school system to act as activities director of the teams representing the school.

1-1-4 The principal must provide adequate team and crowd control at all contests in which his/her school participates and assure that participants and fans conduct themselves in a proper and sportsmanlike manner. Failure of the principal to provide adequate control or failure of the school's participants and/or fans to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner shall be deemed sufficient reason for disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.

1-1-5 Any school may narrow the scope of its activities and may have rules governing participants in addition to these rules provided the same do not conflict with or violate the Association rules.

1-1-6 The Board of Directors will not overrule a local school policy that is consistent with these rules and regulations.

1-1-7 Mutual agreements that violate the rules of this Association may result in disciplinary action being taken against the schools involved.

1-1-8 All new principals are required to attend annual IHSAA rules and regulations workshops that are held in each activity district at the beginning of the school year.

1-1-9 All new athletic/activity directors are required to attend the IHSAA in-service training at the beginning of the school year.

1-2 CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

1-2-1 The eligibility of all contestants in sports and specific activities shall be certified by the school principal in accordance with the rules hereby adopted. ***Eligibility Verification*** must be submitted with the IHSAA office for each sport and activity in which a school participates.

1-2-2 The submission dates for eligibility verification have been determined by the Board of Directors. A late fee of $5.00 per sport/activity will be charged for late submissions.

RULE 2 – CLASSIFICATION & REPRESENTATION

2-1 School enrollment will be the primary basis for establishing classification. Final placement may be determined by consideration of the following factors:

1. Minimizing loss of instructional time.
2. Reducing travel time and distance.
3. Facilitating equitable scheduling.
4. Evaluating safety concerns relative to competitive scheduling and pairing.
5. Competitive equity of schools' program/s.

2-2 Classifications shall be reviewed every two years. Grades 9-12 enrollment numbers are obtained during the enrollment year from the State Board of Education and as outlined in Rule 8-15, 16, 17. Enrollment numbers for private schools are obtained from the school principal and verified with the school's student management system. Figures are compiled during a one-year period, with a one-year grace period as illustrated below. The average of enrollment figures used in calculating classification shall not be rounded up.

Enrollment Year	Grace Year	Classification Period
2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027 / 2027-2028
2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029 / 2029-2030
2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030 / 2030-2031

2-2-1 Classifications for the current school year:

6A	1400 & over	3A	349-175
5A	1399-700	2A	174-90
4A	699-350	1A	89 & below

2-2-2 All proposals for reclassification shall be reviewed by the IHSAA Classification Committee before being considered by the Board of Directors.

a. The proposal must be submitted to the Classification Committee by September 10 of the enrollment year.
b. The proposal must be submitted as outlined on the IHSAA Classification Guidelines.

2-3 The IHSAA Board of Directors shall make the final determination on all classification petitions during their annual September meeting. Classification petitions will be considered for two-year cycles. Petitions must be submitted to the IHSAA by September 10 of the grace year.

a. Schools may petition to move down a classification in specific team sports (see 2-3-1).
b. Schools may petition to move up a classification in specific team sports (see 2-3-1).
c. Schools may petition to move up a classification in specific individual sports (those not listed in 2-3-1).
d. Schools may petition to move up a classification as a school (all sports/activities).

2-3-1 Cheer, dance, football, boys soccer, girls soccer, volleyball, boys basketball, girls basketball, baseball and softball are considered team sports for the classification petitioning process.

2-3-2 Petitions must include the following to be considered when petitioning down a classification:

a. The IHSAA office will tabulate votes from all superintendents of the classification in which the school wishes to be placed as well as the classification they will be leaving. A simple majority of the superintendent votes, one vote per high school, must be obtained to move the petition to the Board for a final decision.
b. Cover letter and letters of support.
c. Evidence that the varsity, JV, and freshman combined winning percentage is near or below 25% during the most recent two years of competition against their assigned classification.
d. Evidence that the varsity, JV, and freshman teams finished near or below the bottom 33% of their postseason tournaments during the most recent two years of competition.
e. The IHSAA office will organize team sport committees to review all petitions prior to coming to the IHSAA Board of Directors to be used as advisory information.

2-3-3 Petitions must include the following to be considered when petitioning up a classification:

a. The IHSAA office will tabulate votes from all superintendents of the classification in which the school wishes to be placed as well as the classification they will be leaving. A simple majority of the superintendent votes, one vote per high school, must be obtained to move the petition to the Board for a final decision.
b. Cover letter and letters of support.
c. The IHSAA office will organize team sport committees to review all petitions prior to coming to the IHSAA Board of Directors to be used as advisory information.

2-4 When school attendance boundaries change, causing an alteration in the enrollment and classification status of member schools within that school district, the following procedure will be used to determine the classification for the next school year:

a. The Board of Directors, at their December meeting, will review the fall enrollment figures obtained from the State Board of Education of each school in question.
b. The Board will place each school in their proper classification beginning at the start of the next school year.

2-5 REPRESENTATION

2-5-1 State tournament representation in volleyball, soccer, basketball, and softball will be determined for a two-year period based on 40% of schools in each classification.

Note: An alternate 6A bracket was approved.

a. Representation to state play-in games and the state tournament will be determined by the number of teams from each district or region.
   i. 1 school: one automatic berth to the round of 8, if the team is ranked in the top 8 of the final Idaho MaxPreps rankings.
   ii. 2 schools: one automatic berth to the round of 8, if the team is the district champion and ranked in the top 8 of the final Idaho MaxPreps rankings. Note: A team that is a district champion and ranked outside the top 8 of the final Idaho MaxPreps rankings earns a berth in a play-in game.
   iii. 3-5 schools: one automatic berth to round of 8.
   iv. 6-10 schools: one automatic berth to round of 8 and one berth to a play-in game. When 40% results in an 8-team format, an additional automatic berth to the round of 8 will be awarded.
   v. 11 or more schools: one automatic berth to round of 8 and two berths to a play-in game. Except when 40% results in an eight-team format. When 40% results in an 8-team format, additional automatic berths to the round of 8 will be awarded.

1. If rule 2-5-1a. does not accomplish it's intended purpose, the IHSAA executive staff will recommend modifications prioritizing:
   a. Protect conference champions
   b. 40% of teams in the classification will get an opportunity to advance.
   c. Follow rule 2-5-1a.
2. Final representation will be approved by the IHSAA Board.

3. Remaining berths will be filled using the next highest-ranked teams according to final Idaho MaxPreps rankings.
4. State play-in matchups will be determined by the final Idaho MaxPreps rankings.
    a. Higher seeds will host and manage the contest.
        i. Play-in games shall take place on Saturday at 1:00 pm prior to the state tournament unless approved by the IHSAA.
        ii. Officials are assigned by the host district commissioner.
        iii. Financial protocols:
            a. The host school pays all expenses and covers any financial losses.
            b. If gate revenue is sufficient, after expenses are paid, the host school will reimburse up to 100% of the visiting school's travel costs.
            c. Additional revenue will be split between schools.
5. If there is a substantial gap in MaxPreps rankings and overnight travel is necessary, the IHSAA strongly advises bypassing the play-in game and advancing the higher-ranked team. The final decision rests with the traveling team's local school board and/or school administration. If a school chooses not to participate, the game will be considered a forfeit, and the opponent will automatically advance to the round of 8. In baseball, if a school chooses not to participate in a 3-team regional, the remaining teams will play a best 2/3 series.

Note: District representation will be guaranteed for all sports and activities, with each district receiving at least one play-in game opportunity. Representation may be altered periodically to reflect the historical representation of each classification. Single district teams must meet criteria in rule 2-5-1.

2-5-2 State tournament representation in swimming, track, and tennis will be determined for a two-year period based on a percentage of schools with a team in that classification. Wrestling representation will be calculated annually using participation data from January 10 for the current year's state tournament.

2-5-3 State tournament representation in football will be determined for a two-year period based on a maximum number of 12 teams per classification.

2-5-4 State tournament representation in baseball will be determined for a two-year period based on 50% of schools in each classification including regional qualifying tournaments.

2-5-5 State tournament representation for cross country, golf, speech, debate, drama, cheer and dance will be determined yearly by the total number of team and/or individual finishers at a district/regional qualifying competition.

2-5-6 State tournament brackets for girls soccer, boys soccer, volleyball, girls basketball, boys basketball, baseball and softball will be seeded using MaxPreps rankings. Each school year, brackets will be flipped to balance the bracket time slots, based on a 4-year rotation. The higher seed will be the home team in all contests.

26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30
2 vs 7	4 vs 5	3 vs 6	1 vs 8
3 vs 6	1 vs 8	2 vs 7	4 vs 5
4 vs 5	2 vs 7	1 vs 8	3 vs 6
1 vs 8	3 vs 6	4 vs 5	2 vs 7

a. MaxPreps rankings will include all regular season games and district tournament games.
b. All regular season and district tournament game scores must be posted by each member school on MaxPreps by midnight, Pacific Time, on the Tuesday preceding the state play in games. Football is due on Saturday preceding the play in games. Schools that fail to meet this deadline will be fined $1500 per sport. Scores submitted or modified after the Idaho rankings have been posted on the IHSAA website will not be included in the final Idaho rankings.
c. Official and final rankings will be published by the IHSAA.

RULE 3 - COACHES

3-1 The head coach of any IHSAA sport or activity must be certified to teach in Idaho or have completed the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching course.

3-1-1 Assistant and sub-varsity coaches need not be certified teachers as long as they have been officially approved by their local Board of Trustees. Assistant and sub-varsity coaches are strongly encouraged to complete a coaching principles course.

3-1-2 All new coaches (includes head coaches, directors, assistant coaches and volunteers) that are not certified to teach in Idaho must take the NFHS Teaching and Modeling Behavior course prior to the first day of practice. This course is only required upon being hired in Idaho for the first time.

3-2 All coaches (includes head coaches, directors, assistant coaches, and volunteers) of IHSAA activities must complete:
a. A First Aid course with a CPR component from a school district-recognized provider. A "recognized provider" is one whose curriculum is similar to the American Red Cross and American Heart Association. New coaches must complete the course during his/her first year of coaching. At no time may a team practice, travel or compete without at least one adult present who has met this requirement.

b. Coaches must take the St. Luke's online concussion course prior to the first day of practice. All coaches are required to review the St. Luke's Online Concussion Course on even numbered years. IHSAA statewide review dates: 2026-27, 2028-29, etc. Only courses completed after May 1 will be accepted. The IHSAA Board of Directors must approve alternative concussion courses or seminars.

c. Coaches must take the NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest course prior to the first day of practice. All coaches are required to review the NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest Course on even numbered years. IHSAA statewide review dates: 2026-27, 2028-29, etc. Only courses completed after May 1 will be accepted.

d. Coaches must take the NFHS Coaching Mental Wellness course prior to the first day of practice. All coaches are required to review the NFHS Coaching Mental Wellness course on even numbered years. IHSAA statewide review dates: 2026-27, 2028-29, etc. Only courses completed after May 1 will be accepted.

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.

3-4 If additional funding sources are used for instructing or coaching any high school team, funding must be approved and distributed through the local Board of Education.

RULE 4 - CONDUCT/DISCIPLINE

4-1 The conduct of participants and school personnel at all IHSAA sponsored activities shall be such that it does not bring discredit to the school or the Association. Such conduct must not disrupt the discipline, order, safety, or educational environment of high school activities. (Also see Rule 1-1-4)

4-2 The member school principal is responsible for initiating appropriate disciplinary measures against students or school personnel for improper or unethical practices. A report of such action shall be forwarded to the Executive Director and the appropriate District Board of Control.

4-3 <u>EJECTIONS</u>

4-3-1 In any athletic contest, including jamborees, any coach or player ejected for an unsportsmanlike or flagrant act will be suspended for the remainder of the contest/game/jamboree – and, will be suspended for the next regularly scheduled contest at that level of competition, and all other games/meets/matches in the interim, in any sport, at any level of competition. Any staff or parent/fan/spectator associated with a member school ejected for an unsportsmanlike or flagrant act will be suspended for the remainder of the contest/game/jamboree – and, will be suspended for the next two regularly scheduled contests at that level of competition, and all other games/meets/matches in the interim, in any sport, at any level of competition. Note: Jamborees shall not be considered a regularly scheduled contest.

a. At the time of ejection, the person/s must leave the field of play and assume a position that will not enable him or her to see or be seen.

b. During the suspension of the next regularly scheduled contest, the player is permitted to watch the contest, but may not participate. The coach is not allowed at the contest. The parent/staff/fan/spectator is not allowed at the next two contests.

c. Players will also be required to take the NFHS free, online sportsmanship course and submit a certificate of completion to school administration prior to reinstatement. The course must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.

d. Coaches will also be required to take the NFHS online Teaching and Modeling Behavior course and submit a certification of completion to school administration prior to reinstatement. The course must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.

e. Parents will also be required to earn the NFHS National Parent Credential which includes the free, online Positive Parenting Within School Programs course and The Parent Seat. Credential Certificate must be submitted to school administration prior to reinstatement. The credential must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.

f. Other Persons (staff/fan/spectators that are not parents) will also be required to take the NFHS free, online sportsmanship course and submit a certificate of completion to school administration prior to reinstatement. The course must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.

4-3-2 A second violation will result in being suspended for the next two (2) regularly scheduled contests. The third ejection will result in suspension for the remainder of that season. If penalties are imposed at the end of the sport season and no contest remains, the penalty is carried over to that particular sport until the next school year. In the case of a senior student, the penalty will continue to the next IHSAA sponsored sport.

4-3-3 The procedure for suspension and notification is:

a. The officiating crew must approve any additional suspension by a majority vote at the conclusion of the contest.

b. The official/commissioner shall report an ejection to the school's principal and athletic director when a player/ coach/staff/parent/fan/spectator is ejected from a competition.

c. The report must be submitted within a 24-hour period of the conclusion of the competition in which the infraction occurred.
d. The game official that disqualifies an individual for an unsportsmanlike act must notify the District Commissioner with a written report by the conclusion of the next day.
e. The District Commissioner, upon receipt of the report, shall notify the District Secretary, President of the District Board of Control, the school, and the IHSAA with a written report of the incident by the conclusion of the next school day.

4-3-4 The responsibility to enforce the penalty for being suspended lies with the school principal. Any dialogue concerning the suspension should come from the school principal and be directed to the President of the District Board of Control of the region in which the contest took place. The President of the District Board of Control (of the region in which the contest took place) may appoint a hearing committee to hear any appeals within 48 hours of the receipt of a complete report of the incident. It is the responsibility of the secretary of the District Board of Control in which the hearing took place, to notify the district Board of Control secretary in which the student athlete or coach resides. Appeals may not deal with decisions made by contest officials.

4-3-5 When an individual is suspended for the next contest, the interpretation of "contest" is as follows:

Football: next game	Volleyball: next match
Basketball: next game	Cross Country: next meet
Wrestling: next contest	Softball: next game
Baseball: next game	Track: next meet
Tennis: next match	Golf: next match
Soccer: next match	Swimming: next meet

4-3-6 Any ejection that is the result of physical contact or excessive verbal abuse by a player/coach on a game official will be referred to the local District Board of Control for review to determine if any additional reprimand or suspension is warranted.

4-3-7 If a coach is ejected from an IHSAA contest, the designated school administrator must appoint an appropriately qualified adult to supervise the remainder of the contest or forfeit the contest.

RULE 5 - CONTESTS

5-1 Interscholastic contests must not be arranged without the knowledge and sanction of the school principal.

5-2 Interschool contests in IHSAA-sponsored activities must be held under the direct supervision and management of the schools involved, with the exception of state competition, which shall be under the supervision and management of the IHSAA.

5-3 A school administrator or his/her appointed adult representative shall accompany participants to all interschool contests. A school representative, if someone other than the coach or director, must check in with the contest manager and must maintain direct supervisory control of students during the event. (Also see Rule 1–Administrative Responsibilities)

5-4 Interschool competition is not allowed against schools that are not regular or associate members of this Association, or of another state high school association. Exception: Associate member schools (not eligible for district / state competition) are allowed to compete against non-member schools.

5-4-1 No interschool competition may be held against a school that is under suspension by the IHSAA.

5-5 Idaho schools may participate in out-of-state competition under the following conditions:
a. Idaho schools comply at all times with the rules and regulations of the IHSAA.
b. All requirements for sanctioning of the competition are met.

5-6 High school events may be sponsored by outside groups, but member school administrators must retain control of school-related events. Use of school programs by non-school sponsors to add dignity and status to an event they are promoting is prohibited.

5-7 IHSAA-sponsored competition may be held on any day of the week if all schools involved approve such play.

5-8 Withdrawal of a school team from an interscholastic contest once the contest has commenced will jeopardize the standing of the school in the Association, unless withdrawal is by consent of competing schools.

5-9 Contests shall be scheduled primarily on Friday nights and Saturdays. When possible, no more than two additional nights shall be used for interscholastic activities.

5-10 Once a student participates at the varsity level in a district tournament contest, he/she may not compete in the sub varsity level district tournament.

5-11 A member school and its students are not permitted to participate in contests or scrimmages which take place during the time period between district tournaments and state tournaments. Cheer, dance and speech arts are exempt from this rule.

5-12 <u>SCRIMMAGES / PRACTICES</u>

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 8th-9th configuration.

b. In track and field, high school teams may practice with junior high/middle school teams in the same school district.
c. In volleyball and basketball, 1A teams may practice with 8th grade students if they cannot field enough athletes to have an intersquad scrimmage with 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/4A 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.

5-13 **CONTEST LIMITATIONS**

In the event a school or athlete exceeds the game/match limitation the following will apply:

a. Exceeds by one game/match
   1. An IHSAA fine up to $1500.
   2. The head coach shall be suspended for district and state competition.
   3. The program will be placed on probation for three years. Violations during the probation period will result in contestants becoming ineligible for district, state, or any further IHSAA sponsored competition in that activity.
b. Exceeds by two or more games/matches
   1. An IHSAA fine up to $1500
   2. The head coach shall be suspended for district and state competition.
   3. Contestants and coach will become ineligible for district, state, or any further IHSAA sponsored competition in that activity.
   4. The program will be placed on probation for three years.

RULE 6 - CONTRACTS

6-1 The ***Interscholastic Activities Contract*** must be used to arrange varsity contests in football, volleyball, soccer, basketball, wrestling, baseball, softball and tennis. The principal or activities director of each school must sign the contract. When a school has two or more teams competing in the same sport, the teams must be clearly designated as "first", "second", or "third" team. (See contract form for additional information.)

a. A contract would include but is not limited to:
   1. IHSAA Opposing School Activity Contract
   2. IHSAA Schoolwide Activity Contract
   3. Schedule Signature Verification by both schools
   4. School Specific Contract
   5. Electronic Verification

6-2 If the contract is breached by either party, the IHSAA Board of Directors or District Board of Control, whichever is appropriate, will determine reasonable damages to be paid to the contracted opponent by the school that breaches the contract. In no case will the damages exceed three times the Association annual membership fee. The Board will <u>not</u> review oral contracts.

6-2-1 If the District Board of Control determines a breach of contract has occurred, schools will enter a "forfeit" into MaxPreps or Track Wrestling, whichever is applicable.

6-3 Contracts may be cancelled by mutual written consent of the contracting schools.

6-4 The Board of Directors may cancel any contest or contract if the Board determines that the contest should not be held because of death, fire, flood, disease, abandonment of an activity, or other reasons of impossibility of performance. No contest shall be ruled a forfeit until the Board has reviewed the facts of each case.

RULE 7 - COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

7-1 Cooperative programs allow teams or individuals an opportunity to compete in IHSAA sanctioned activities in which they would not otherwise be able to compete. All member schools of the IHSAA are eligible to participate in a cooperative program.

7-2 Cooperative sponsorship of any activity by two or more member schools are permitted in one of the following categories:

a. 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.
b. 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:

a. The sponsoring school shall submit an application for each cooperative program through the IHSAA online cooperative application. The sponsoring school shall identify all participating schools and the activity, program type, and applicable school year(s). Participating schools must approve the application before it advances in the approval process.

b. Following approval by the participating schools, the application shall advance through the approval process, including each participating school's superintendent and the appropriate District Board(s) of Control. If schools are members of different districts, approval is required from each applicable Board of Control. Deadline for fall activities is August 1; for winter activities is October 15; and for spring activities is January 15.

c. After approval by the District Board(s) of Control, the application shall be forwarded to the IHSAA for review and final approval. IHSAA executive staff may approve cooperative programs. Participating schools will be notified of the final decision.

RULE 8 - INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

These rules determine a student's eligibility to participate on a school athletic team or in specific competitive activities.

NON-SPORT ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY

Cheerleading

Students who participate in competitive cheer are subject to rules 8-1 through 8-15, with the exception of Rule 8-4 Amateur Status, 8-5 Awards, and Rule 8-11 Outside Competition. Members of cheer teams that do not compete must be regularly enrolled students at the time of participation. *Non-traditional students – See Rule 8-16.*

Dance

Students who participate in dance competition are subject to rules 8-1 through 8-15, with the exception of Rule 8-4 Amateur Status, 8-5 Awards, and Rule 8-11 Outside Competition. Members of teams that do not compete must be regularly enrolled students at the time of participation. *Non-traditional students – See Rule 8-16.*

Speech Arts

Students who participate in debate, speech and drama competitions are subject to Rules 8-1 through 8-15, with the exception of Rule 8-4 Amateur Status and 8-5 Awards. *Non-traditional students – See Rule 8-16.*

Music

Students who audition for All State or compete in the State Solo Contest are subject to Academic Eligibility Rules 8-1 through 8-1-5 and Enrollment/Attendance Rule 8-8-1. *Non-traditional students – See Rule 8-16.*

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

a. Students participating with a cumulative GPA below 2.0 must have an academic improvement plan in place as developed by the local school district. This plan must include monitoring, additional assistance, time provided for assistance, and an appropriate timeline. The number of students with an academic improvement plan will be reported on the Eligibility Verification submission.

b. Being "on target to graduate by State Board of Education requirements" means: a student not having the necessary number of credits to graduate with their class through the normal school day program, must have a graduation plan that provides for receiving a diploma by the end of the summer following their senior year in order to be eligible for activity participation. The number of students with a graduation plan will be reported on the Eligibility Verification submission.

c. Schools may adopt stricter academic eligibility policies.

8-1-1 Credit is granted for an approved course meeting for five periods a week, for the prescribed 18 weeks (semester) or an approved equivalent. Approved trimester scheduling is acceptable. Approval of equivalent scheduling must be approved by S.D.E. (See 8-1 to determine equivalent scheduling.)

8-1-2 An approved course is one which is taken for credit toward graduation. A college credit course that is also allowed for high school graduation is acceptable.

8-1-3 When a student from a member school enrolls in any college course, summer school, night school course, or correspondence course approved by the Idaho State Department of Education and such student desires to have the credits count toward IHSAA scholastic eligibility requirements, the student must obtain written approval from the high school principal stating that each specific course credit will be accepted and counted toward graduation.

8-1-4 An incomplete or conditional grade received at the end of a semester counts as a failure until the deficiency is removed.

8-1-5 A student must have satisfactorily completed the preceding semester/trimester and the academic eligibility requirements to be eligible for the current semester/trimester.

8-1-6 For students enrolled in an approved special education program in which the IEP is the standard of measurement for progress toward graduation, the district shall verify that the student is making satisfactory progress and meeting the standards of the IEP.

8-2 AGE

Students will not be eligible for the sport season in which they turn twenty (20) years of age.

8-3 ALL-STAR COMPETITION

8-3-1 Only those students who have completed the sport season of their senior year may participate in all-star, benefit, or similar contests. Such contests may not be held during the IHSAA sport season and must be submitted for approval by the IHSAA at least 30 days prior to the contest. All-star competitions held after the first week of June, in which only graduated seniors participate, do not require IHSAA approval. Students, parents, and coaches should examine NCAA regulations prior to participation in any all-star contest.

8-3-2 While the IHSAA allows conferences to select an All-Conference team, the Association does not recognize any type of all-tournament or all-state selections. If school personnel participate in the selection process, they must not do so as a school representative.

8-4 AMATEUR STATUS

8-4-1 A student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social, and pleasure benefits derived therefrom.

a. An athlete forfeits amateur status in a sport by capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money, compensation, endorsements or gifts of monetary value in affiliation or connection with the student's school team, school, league, district or IHSAA (scholarships to institutions of higher learning are specifically exempted).
   1. This provision is not intended to restrict the right of any student to participate in a commercial endorsement provided there is no school team, school, league, district or IHSAA affiliation.

b. An athlete forfeits amateur status in a sport by signing a professional contract in that sport.

c. It is permissible for a player to accept necessary meals, lodging and transportation if such are accepted in service rather than in money or any other material form. Examples of such events include NCAA Academies, McDonald's All-American games, USA Basketball, etc. State or district level all-star games will not be considered for this.

8-4-2 Amateur status will not be jeopardized by accepting a nominal, standard fee or salary for instructing, supervising or officiating in an organized youth sports program (school or non-school) or recreation, playground or camp activities.

8-4-3 A student may receive the benefits of participation in carnival type / luck-of-the-draw / lottery style activity that is open to the general public. This type of competition must be limited to individual type competition and not put one contestant against another.

8-4-4 A high school student who loses amateur status may apply to the Association for reinstatement in the interscholastic program.

8-5 AWARDS

8-5-1 A student may not receive cash of any amount or an award, playing equipment or prize, which exceeds the retail value amount of $300, including, but not limited to, attendance at an instructional camp or all-star game.

8-5-2 A student is governed by IHSAA rules when he or she participates in IHSAA competitions. If a student competes outside the IHSAA sports season, awards are governed by the amateur governing body of that sport. If no regulations exist for that sport, 8-5-1 is in effect.

8-6 ELIGIBILITY RULE WAIVER REQUEST

The Board of Directors has the authority to waive an eligibility rule when, in the opinion of the Board, the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended. This request must be completed and submitted by an administrator of the school in which the student is enrolled and will be attending. The request should include any hardship that has a bearing on the case. The order for review will be as follows:

a. The Executive Director will first consider each case after they receive an Eligibility Regulation Waiver form.

b. If warranted, an eligibility committee of the Board will consider each case after they receive an Eligibility Regulation Waiver form.

c. At the school's request, an appeal committee, consisting of Board and community members who did not hear the first appeal, will then consider the case.

8-6-1 A written notification of the decision will be sent from the Executive Director. The decision of the eligibility is final.

8-7 ENFORCEMENT

8-7-1 The administration of the member schools shall be responsible for administering and enforcing eligibility rules, and shall have the responsibility of educating and guiding students in the rules of eligibility which govern member schools of the Association.

8-7-2 In the event an ineligible student is discovered to have participated, the member school principal shall:

a. Immediately notify the IHSAA office.

b. Send a written report to the Executive Director and the District Board of Control Secretary. The report must include the name of the ineligible student, the cause of ineligibility, dates of contests in which the student participated when ineligible, and how the error was made.

c. Declare the student ineligible for further competition until notification of a decision has been received from the Executive Director.

8-8 ENROLLMENT / ATTENDANCE

8-8-1 A participant shall be enrolled as a full-time student in the school sponsoring the team on which he/she participates unless the school is in an approved cooperative program or the participant is in compliance with Rule 8-16.

8-8-2 A student is entitled to athletic eligibility, providing all other eligibility requirements are met, for eight consecutive semesters after the student first enrolls in the ninth grade. The semesters of eligibility continue to be spent even though a student might not participate every semester.

8-8-3 No student shall be permitted to participate in more than four seasons of any one activity or more at the high school level.

8-8-4 No student shall be permitted to participate in more than one season per sport each school year.

8-8-5 Students who have not entered the ninth grade, but are taking the credit equivalency of a full-time high school student, may compete in interscholastic athletic contests against high school students. If the student does compete, however, that season will mark the beginning of his/her eight semesters of eligibility.

8-9 FOREIGN STUDENTS

A foreign exchange student is a student who is under the auspices of and placed by a CSIET listed exchange program (*see list Rule 8-9-4*). Foreign exchange students may participate in the host high school athletic program provided the ***Foreign Student Transfer Form*** has been submitted and filed by the principal with IHSAA and approved by the Executive Director.

8-9-1 A foreign exchange student is considered to be placed with a host family when written notice of placement is provided by the exchange organization to the student and his/her parents, and to the host family.

a. Neither the school the student attends nor any person associated with the school shall have input into the selection of the student.
b. 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.

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

8-9-3 The foreign exchange student must comply with all eligibility requirements set forth by the IHSAA of which the school he/she attends is a member.

8-9-4 The exchange program must be approved by the Council on Standards for International Education Travel. Current list of approved J-1 programs can be found here: https://www.csiet.org/j1-advisory-list/

8-9-5 An exchange student from any other program is considered a transfer student and must follow the eligibility waiver process to gain eligibility.

8-9-6 Approved foreign exchange students are eligible for athletic competition for a maximum of one school year. The one school year includes enrollment in member schools in Idaho or other states.

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 untranslated 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.

8-10 GRADUATES

8-10-1 A graduate of any high school is ineligible for participation in interscholastic activities. Exception: A newly graduated student who participates in a spring sport will remain eligible until the end of that sport's season.

8-10-2 A student who has earned sufficient credits to graduate in less than eight semesters may remain eligible, providing the student does not actually graduate and is enrolled in and attending the high school as a full-time student.

8-11 OUTSIDE COMPETITION

8-11-1 Outside competition is not allowed and is defined as a student who competes in organized, non-school contests or events during the high school season, except as provided in Rule 12.

8-11-2 Violation of this rule will result in the following:

a. The student will be ineligible for the next regularly scheduled contest plus an additional regularly scheduled contest per infraction. Regularly scheduled contests include: season contest, district, and state.
b. Infractions will be reported to the District Board of Control, who may levy additional fines or penalties.

8-11-3 A second violation during the four years of eligibility by that student of the outside competition rule will result in the following:

a. The student will be ineligible for the school team for the remainder of that sports season.
b. Additional assessments may be possible.

8-11-4 Contests may not be scheduled to create eligibility.

8-12 PRACTICE BEFORE CONTESTS

8-12-1 Practice is defined as a scheduled physical fitness activity designed for the preparation of athletes for the ensuing sports season. Practices must be conducted under the direct supervision of a coach or supervisor who is both school-specific and sport-specific.

8-12-2 A student must have ten days of practice prior to the day of the first contest of an interscholastic athletic competition season. Football and wrestling participants must have ten days of practice in that sport. Golf is exempt from this requirement.

a. The day of the first scheduled contest shall not be allowed to count as one of the ten days in meeting the ten-day practice rule.
b. Athletes who have participated in an IHSAA sanctioned sport during the preceding sport season may count ten days of practice/or games in the previous sport during a three-week period prior to the first contest of the current sport.
c. Participation in physical education classes does not constitute a practice.
d. A student may count only six days of practice in a seven-day calendar week (with the week beginning on Sunday) towards his/her required ten days of practice.

8-12-3 A school team may compete in one officially sanctioned jamboree in each sport during the school year prior to the first competition in that sport.

a. Jamborees must be registered through the Idaho Youth Endowment for Activities Foundation (YEA).
b. In the sport of football, a participant must have ten days of practice before they can participate in a football jamboree.
c. In the sport of wrestling, a participant must have five days of practice before they can participate in a wrestling jamboree. Wrestling jamborees must follow the take-down tournament format. The jamboree may count as one of the wrestlers ten days of practice.
d. In all other sports, a jamboree may be scheduled prior to the first contest in that sport and count as one of the ten days of practice.

8-13 RESTRICTIONS

8-13-1 Moving to another school district or school does not remove an ineligibility ruling by the preceding school or the Eligibility Committee.

8-13-2 A student who becomes ineligible under the rules of another state cannot remove that ineligibility simply by transferring to an Idaho high school.

8-13-3 Ineligible students may practice but must not appear in uniform or represent a school at a competition.

8-14 TRANSFERS

a. A student is eligible at the school the student enters for the first time at the beginning of the ninth grade. A student who changes from one school to another school thereafter is subject to the regulation under this transfer rule.
b. The IHSAA does not recognize transfers for athletic purposes. A student who changes schools for athletic purposes will be ineligible for interscholastic extracurricular activities for one year from the date of initial enrollment and attendance in the new school.

8-14-1 Bona Fide Move If the parents of a student, or legal guardian in case neither parent is living, make a bona fide move to a new permanent residence in the attendance area of a school to which the student transfers, he/she is immediately eligible provided an ***Athletic Transfer Form*** is submitted and approved. A permanent residence is the actual physical relocation by the parents or legal guardians of a student at a new residence and termination of all occupancy of the previous residence. The change in residence must be bona fide and used as the address for utilities, registration for voting, registration for driver's licenses, registration for motor vehicles, identification cards, and the attendance zone for other school aged family members for a minimum of 365 days. For the purpose of eligibility, there can be only one residence.

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:

1. Letters
   a. A letter from the parents explaining the reason for the move.

b. A letter of support from the school filing the athletic transfer request.

2. Proof of termination of all occupancy of previous address.
   a. Escrow closing papers or official signed lease/rental termination or documented lease/rental for a minimum of 12 months in another party's name.
   b. Evidence of termination of two utilities (e.g., electricity, water, & gas).
3. Proof of physical relocation of parents/guardians & students to new permanent address.
   a. Escrow closing papers or official signed lease/rental agreement document, minimum 12 months.
   b. Evidence of activation of two utilities (e.g., electricity, water, gas).
   c. Evidence of auto insurance with new address.
   d. Evidence of paystub with new address.
   e. 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.

Parents, students or schools that provide false or misleading information will be subject to Rule 15-6.

a. A student who transfers to a new school in advance of the parents move will become eligible the day the parents move into the new district, providing all other IHSAA requirements have been met.
b. The student may remain in the old school until the close of the current semester or until the close of the school year and remain eligible at that school.
c. The student may transfer to the new school at the time of moving or any time thereafter during the school year or prior to the beginning of the ensuing school year and be eligible upon enrolling in and attending the new school.
d. If the student does not transfer to the new school within the time periods provided in (a), (b), and (c) above, the student will remain eligible at the original school but is ineligible at the new school unless otherwise approved by the school from which the student transferred and the Eligibility Committee.

8-14-2 Transfer Without a Parental Move.

a. A student who changes schools without an accompanying move on the part of his/her parents will be ineligible for varsity interscholastic extracurricular activities for one year from the date of initial enrollment and attendance in the new school.
b. A student who establishes eligibility outside of his/her resident school attendance zone and later transfers back to the school of his/her resident attendance zone will be ineligible for varsity interscholastic extracurricular activities for one year from the date of initial enrollment and attendance in the new school.

8-14-3 Independent Student A student who is "on his/her own" and not dependent upon parents or a guardian for a home, and wants to transfer eligibility of a prior residence, is required to attend one calendar year from the initial date of enrollment and attendance in the new school before becoming eligible.

8-14-4 Transfers between Public and Private Schools A student who transfers to, from or between a public and private school is ineligible for varsity interscholastic extracurricular activities for one year from the date of initial enrollment and attendance in the new school, unless there is a corresponding bona fide change of residence of the student's parents to the school attendance area to which the student is transferring.

8-14-5 Transfer Due to Parental Divorce or Legal Separation

a. A student whose parents have a court decree of divorce or a court decree of legal separation (Idaho Code 32-704(2)) may establish eligibility in the school district of either parent but not of both parents. After establishing initial residency with one parent, two subsequent transfers will be permitted, one to the other parent and one return.
b. Any transfer after two without a change of residence of that parent will require submission and approval of an Eligibility Regulation Waiver.

8-14-6 Dependent Student The eligibility of a student who moves with a family upon whom the student has been continuously dependent for at least one year and with whom the student has made a home, requires approval of the Board of Directors.

8-14-7 Non-Member School A student who transfers from a school which is not a member of the IHSAA or an association of any state must have his eligibility approved by the Board of Directors.

8-14-8 Discontinued Schools A student transferring from a closed or discontinued school is eligible for interscholastic activities upon enrollment in another school, provided the student attends a school in the vicinity of his or her home which is close enough so the student may continue to reside at home.

8-14-9 Official Change in School Boundaries A student who transfers to another school as a result of official change in the school boundary shall be eligible provided the transfer is made to the school into which boundaries the student's home has been annexed and that enrollment in that school is not later than the opening of the school year following the official change of school boundaries. The student must have been attending school in his or her home district at the time of the change of the boundaries.

8-14-10 Parent Move to Create Eligibility A student who transfers from one school to another before or without regard to a move on the part of the student's parents does not become eligible if the parents move later for the purpose of making the student eligible.

8-14-11 Waiver of Transfer A student who transfers schools under conditions which do not meet the terms of the IHSAA transfer standards may be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics or specific activities, except varsity level, in activities in which he/she competed, tried out for, or participated on any organized club, school or otherwise scheduled team during the 12 calendar months preceding the date of transfer, provided eligibility is approved by the principals of both the sending and receiving schools and the Board of Directors, and further provided that there is no participation purpose involved in the transfer. If either principal or the Board decline to approve eligibility, the student shall be ineligible for all activities for one calendar year from the date of transfer. This rule applies to all public to public, private to private, private to public, public to private school transfers and transfers from schools outside the U.S. to any school in Idaho. A student who is eligible for non-varsity competition only is ineligible for district and state competition.

8-14-12 Waiver of Eligibility Regulation (Hardship) If a student finds it necessary to change schools due to unusual circumstances that are unforeseen, unavoidable, or uncontrollable, and wishes to participate at the varsity level of a sport or activity in which he/she tried out for, participated on or competed for, during the twelve calendar months preceding the date of such transfer, the student may apply for a hardship waiver of the transfer rule to the Board of Directors. The Board may approve eligibility for varsity competition, if circumstances warrant.

8-14-13 Definitions in Transfer Rule

a. District — "District' refers to the school district boundaries where there is only one high school located within a school district; and to the attendance boundaries established for a high school by the district school board in which there is more than one high school.
b. Guardianship — The term "guardianship" is not recognized for eligibility while either parent is living. If both parents are deceased, only a court appointment to a full, personal and estate guardianship is recognized for eligibility.
c. School Attendance Area — The "school attendance area" is the official district of a high school where there is only one high school within a district or, in the case of multiple high schools within a school district, it is the defined geographical attendance area designated by the school district for that school.

8-14-14 Transfer Forms An applicable transfer form must be submitted to the IHSAA.

Athletic Transfer Form — This form is to be used for each student who transfers to a member or associate member school, moves with his/her parents, and meets all other academic eligibility requirements.

Foreign Student Transfer Form — This form is to be used for each foreign exchange or international student who desires eligibility at a member or associate member school. (See Rule 8-9)

Waiver of Transfer Rule — This form is to be used for each student who transfers to a member or associate member school under conditions that do not meet the transfer standards set forth in Rule 8-14-11. The student may be eligible to participate in interscholastic activities, except varsity level competition in activities in which the student competed, tried out for, or participated on any organized club, school or otherwise scheduled team during the twelve calendar months preceding the date the transfer.

a. In cross country, golf, track, swimming and tennis, the student may compete at the varsity level during the regular season but shall be ineligible for district and state competition.
b. In wrestling the student may compete at the varsity level during the regular season under the following conditions:
   1. If the student competes at the varsity level in any dual meet or dual tournament, the match shall be considered a forfeit.
   2. The student may compete at the varsity level during the regular season at an individual tournament.
   3. The student shall be ineligible for district and state competition.
c. A student who is declared eligible for JV only, but participates at a school that does not have a JV team, will be allowed to participate at the varsity level during the regular season but will not be allowed to play in district or state competitions.

Eligibility Regulation Waiver — This form is to be used for each student who:

a. Transfers without a corresponding move by his/her parents and desires varsity eligibility in sports he/she played in the previous 12 months.
b. Does not meet criteria for eligibility as outlined in the Rules and Regulations.

8-15 ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

Students enrolled in and attending an alternative school program, who compete in IHSAA sponsored athletic programs, must comply with the IHSAA Individual Eligibility Rule.

General guidelines for students attending alternative programs:

a. The student must comply with the eligibility requirements of the member school along with the eligibility requirements of the IHSAA.
b. A student attending a cooperative alternative program of which his/her home school is a member would be eligible to participate in the school of his/her home (attendance) district.
c. A student wishing to compete for another member school of the cooperative alternative program must request a waiver of the transfer rule.

8-16 NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT

8-16-1 To be in compliance with the section of Idaho Code 33-203 that provides for dual enrollment, the following interpretation will be used:

Students who are enrolled in a nonpublic school shall be allowed to enroll in a public school for dual enrollment purposes. To be eligible for athletics or specific activities in the public school, the dual enrolled student must meet the following criteria:

a. The student must reside with a parent or guardian in the attendance area of the public school for which the student will participate.
b. The student must comply with the same rules and requirements that apply to any student's participation in the same activity with the exception of Rule 8-1 -Academic and Full Time Enrollment.
c. In order for any nonpublic school student or public charter school student to participate in nonacademic public school activities for which public school students must demonstrate academic proficiency or eligibility, the nonpublic school or public charter school student shall demonstrate composite grade-level academic proficiency on any state board of education recognized achievement test, portfolio, or other mechanism as provided for in state board of education rules. Additionally, a student shall be eligible if he achieves a minimum composite, core or survey test score within the average or higher than average range as established by the test service utilized on any nationally-normed test. Demonstrated proficiency shall be used to determine eligibility for the current and next following school year. School districts shall provide to nonpublic students who wish to take state tests or other standardized tests given to all regularly enrolled public school students.

   Definition of Portfolio: A collection of materials that documents and demonstrates a student's academic and work-based learning. Although there is no standard format for a portfolio, it typically includes many forms of information that exhibit the student's knowledge, skills, and interests. By building a portfolio, students can recognize their own growth and learn to take increased responsibility for their education. Teachers, mentors, and employers can use portfolios for assessment purposes and to record educational outcomes. An example of a portfolio evaluation instrument, is on the IHSAA website, idhsaa.org
d. It shall be the responsibility of the student to make all arrangements to take the required test and provide the principal of the school with the results of the test prior to being granted athletic eligibility at the public high school.

8-16-2 Public Charter Schools that participate in approved IHSAA activities shall be allowed to enroll non-traditional students for dual enrollment. The following interpretation will be used:

a. Public charter schools must establish an attendance zone in the public school district in which it resides. For activity purposes, the public charter school attendance zone cannot extend outside the school district in which it resides.
b. If a school district has a public school and a public charter school, non-traditional students may dual enroll in either the public school or public charter school.
c. If a school district has two public schools and one public charter school, the public charter school will establish its attendance zone in conjunction with the nearest public school with both schools having the same attendance zone. Example: Public School A and Public School B. If school A's attendance zone is used then non-traditional students who reside in that attendance zone may dual enroll in either public school A or the public charter school. If a non-traditional student resides in public school B's attendance zone, he/she could only attend public school B for dual enrollment.
d. For establishing attendance zones and dual enrollment in school districts that have multiple public schools and multiple public charter schools, interpretation (c) under Rule 8-16-2 will be used.
e. Rule 8-16-1 applies to all public charter schools for dual enrollment purposes.

8-16-3 A member school student who is academically ineligible and withdraws from school to gain athletic eligibility as a non-traditional will be ineligible for the duration of that school year and the following academic year.

8-16-4 Students who are enrolled in a private or public charter IHSAA member school are ineligible for dual enrollment in sports or activities the school offers.

8-17 CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENTS

Students enrolled in and attending a charter school that is a regular member in good standing of the Idaho High School Activities Association may participate in IHSAA athletic programs, and are eligible under Rule 8 – Individual Eligibility. The charter school must have paid required membership dues and activity fees in those activities offered by the charter school.

A student attending a charter school, that is not a member of the IHSAA, may be eligible to compete in IHSAA activities under the regulations of a dual enrolled student. (See Rule 8-16 – Non-Traditional Student)

8-18 UNDUE INFLUENCE

8-18-1 Definition of Undue Influence: The use of influence by any person connected directly or indirectly with an IHSAA member school, to induce a student to transfer from one member school to the other, or to enter the ninth grade at a member school for athletic competition purposes, whether or not the school presently attended by the student is a member of the IHSAA. (Recruiting)

8-18-2 The use of undue influence to secure or retain a student for competitive purposes is prohibited, shall cause the student to be declared ineligible for high school athletics for a period of up to one calendar year, and may jeopardize the standing of the high school in the Association.

8-18-3 Evidence of undue influence includes, but is not limited to, personal contact by coaches and sponsors in an attempt to persuade transfer by gifts or money, jobs, supplies, coaching, free transportation, admission to contests, invitation to attend practices and or games, free tuition or any other considerations not accorded to other students similarly situated.

8-18-4 Complaints or reports of violations of this rule will be investigated and handled on a case-by-case basis by the District Board of Control. Any school permitting such participation shall, upon satisfactory evidence submitted to the District Board of Control, be suspended from membership in the Association for a term not to exceed one calendar year.

RULE 9 – GAME MANAGEMENT

9-1 Students, parents and fans are not allowed on the playing surface during game time or after the game until the opposing team and officials have left the playing area. Administration, or their designees, from each school is responsible for keeping their fans off the playing surface and in their designated seating areas. Rushing the court or field after games or interfering or attempts to interfere with any contest is not allowed.

9-2 Host school administrators are responsible for getting officials to, and from, the officials dressing areas before, during and after contests. Host school administrators are also responsible for letting the visiting teams and fans know where their seating sections will be.

9-3 Any conduct or violation of this rule may subject actors to any and all remedial measures available to the local District Board of Control and the IHSAA.

RULE 10 – OFFICIALS

10-1 GENERAL

10-1-1 The officials for all interscholastic contests must be on the IHSAA list of approved officials. All contests in which unapproved officials are used may be declared "no contest", and schools will be subject to fine and/or suspension.

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 five years thereafter. 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.

d. Officials are required to immediately report to the IHSAA any arrest, charge, or conviction related to criminal conduct. Failure to self-report such incidents may result in suspension or revocation of officiating privileges.

10-1-3 A coach may not officiate in varsity games in which students from his/her school may be contestants, except by mutual consent in writing by both coaches prior to the contest.

10-1-4 The IHSAA will not consider protests of sports officials' contest decisions. The correction of any errors will be done in accordance with National Federation rules.

10-1-5 Game officials may not declare a forfeit of a state tournament game prior to consulting with the tournament manager.

10-1-6 All play in game officials in the sports of soccer, volleyball, basketball and softball will be selected and assigned by the host district.

10-1-7 Neutral officiating crews will be assigned in the sport of football for all semifinal games. District crews will have equal representation when possible.

If neutral officials are requested for the 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A quarterfinals, the requesting school will pay all additional expenses or $250, whichever is greater, to the IHSAA. Such requests must be submitted by the school in writing to the IHSAA by the Monday prior to the contest.

The neutral crew would come from the district closest to the game site. Example: A school from District V requests their football play-off game involving District IV use officials from a neutral district. If the game is played in District IV, District III officials would be used. If the game is played in District V, District VI officials would be used.

If circumstances exist where officials are not available from a neutral district, the officials will be assigned under the IHSAA standard policy for assigning officials to play-off games.

10-2 CERTIFICATION OF OFFICIALS

All officials must be at least 16 years old.

10-2-1 There are two classes of certified officials:

a. Varsity officials are eligible to officiate interscholastic contests, grades 9-12.
b. Non-varsity officials are eligible to officiate non-varsity contests only.
c. In situations where there is a lack of sufficient number of available varsity officials, non-varsity officials may be allowed to officiate varsity contests with permission of both the district commissioner and the IHSAA.

10-2-2 Registration procedures

a. District commissioners/interpreters will forward an IHSAA email in June of each year to all previously registered officials in their district containing registration requirements and dates/sites of the State Rules Clinics. This information is also posted on the IHSAA website, idhsaa.org.
b. First and second year officials' registration fees will be waived.

10-3 CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

10-3-1 Varsity officials must:

a. Attend a state rules clinic, or make arrangements with the district commissioner for a make-up session in cases of emergency or previously approved circumstances.
b. Attend a minimum of two local meetings in addition to the state rules clinic.
c. Score 80 or better on the required NFHS test the previous year and the current year.
d. Receive a recommendation from the district commissioner upon completion of a background check.
e. Complete the St. Luke's Concussion Course before officiating a regular season contest. All officials are required to review the St. Luke's Online Concussion Course on even numbered years. The IHSAA Statewide Concussion Review dates: 2026-27, 2028-29, etc. The IHSAA Board of Directors must approve alternative concussion courses or seminars.
f. Take the NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest course prior to officiating a regular season contest. All officials are required to review the NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest Course on even numbered years. IHSAA Statewide S. C. A. Review dates: 2026-27, 2028-29, etc. Only courses completed after May 1 will be accepted.

10-3-2 Non-varsity officials must:

a. Attend a state rules clinic, or make arrangements with the district commissioner for a make-up session in cases of emergency or previously approved circumstances.
b. Score 70 or better on the required NFHS test for the current year.
c. Receive a recommendation from the district commissioner upon completion of a background check.
d. Complete the St. Luke's Concussion Course and NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest course as outlined above. If you are a new official in an odd year, you must take the course in that year and then again on even numbered year. The IHSAA Board of Directors must approve alternative concussion courses or seminars.

10-3-3 Testing

Part I is required for soccer, swimming, basketball, softball, baseball and track; Part II is required for all other sports. Required tests will be administered online through the NFHS during the testing window.

a. Tests may be taken open book.
b. Tests may be retaken up to five times during the testing period.

10-3-4 All sports officials used in contests involving grades 9-12 must be certified by the IHSAA. While the IHSAA has established minimum requirements that all officials must fulfill, the IHSAA is not responsible for the assigning or rating of officials during the regular season, and cannot guarantee that all officials will be assigned to officiate interscholastic contests. These responsibilities are retained by the district Board of Control in each activity district. The sports commissioner in each district usually assigns all officials for varsity contests. Officials for non-varsity contests may be assigned through appointed persons or secured independently. Selection and assignment of officials for state level competitions are administered by the IHSAA.

10-3-5 The district representation of officials to state tournaments shall be based upon the number of schools within an activity district that offer that sport.

Example:

	Volleyball 24 Officials	Basketball 36 Officials	Wrestling 24 Officials
Dist. I	4	4	3
Dist. II	3	4	2
Dist. III	7	12	7
Dist. IV	4	6	4
Dist. V	3	4	4
Dist. VI	3	6	4
			+4 at larges

10-3-6 In the following sports, certified officials need not be used: cross country, swimming, tennis, golf, track (except for district and state swim and track).

10-3-7 In order to be eligible to officiate state tournaments, athletic officials must meet the varsity requirements and attend one additional clinic once every three years.

10-4 SCHOOLS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Each school shall administer the necessary procedures to ensure that officials will be able to officiate athletic competition in a supervised and safe environment.

10-4-1 Pre-Game Procedures

a. A designated school official shall be available to direct officials to their assigned dressing room and shower facilities. Schools should provide towels for the officials, if possible.
b. Officials' facilities should not be located where the officials would have to pass through a player locker room or coach's office, if possible.
c. Officials should be paid by the school prior to the contest, if possible.

10-4-2 Procedures During Contest

a. Home management shall escort officials to and from dressing room during halftime.
b. Water or refreshments should be provided for the officials.
c. Restroom facilities shall be available for officials during halftime.
d. Home management is responsible for fan behavior and for removing individuals from the area for unacceptable actions towards officials.

10-4-3 Post Game Procedures

a. Arrangements shall be made by the host school management to escort officials from the playing area to their dressing room.
b. Measures shall be taken to prevent unauthorized individuals from entering the officials' dressing room after the game.
c. Adequate security must be provided for official in traveling from dressing room to their vehicles.

RULE 11 - NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

11-1 A school may sponsor separate teams for girls and boys in a sport if team selection is based on competitive skill or if the sport is a contact sport. Contact sports include football, basketball, wrestling.

11-1-1 If a sport is offered for both boys and girls, girls must play on the girls team and boys must play on the boys team.

11-1-2 Teams of the opposite sex shall not compete against each other in any interscholastic athletic contest.

11-2 A school may sponsor only one team in a sport for members of one sex and not sponsor a team in that sport for members of the opposite sex.

11-2-1 If a school sponsors only a single team in a sport:
a. Girls are eligible to participate on boys teams.
b. Boys are not eligible to participate on girls teams.

11-3 TRANSGENDER STUDENT PARTICIPATION
The IHSAA will comply with Idaho Code, Title 33, Chapter 62, as enacted by the Idaho Legislature.

RULE 12 - PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL EVENTS

12-1 Exceptional student-athletes may participate in a maximum of three* special events where participation is by invite-only, earned by the athlete, or will create future participation opportunities without loss of eligibility provided:

12-1-1 Approval is obtained from the school principal and the IHSAA at least 30 days prior to the event.

12-1-2 The student has made prior arrangement to complete all missed academic obligations before the end of the grading period in which the absence will occur.

12-1-3 The student will miss no school-sponsored or association-sponsored event in that sport without permission of the IHSAA.

*Note: The third event request within the same season will be approved or denied based on the level of the event which must be a national-level event or equivalent.

RULE 13 - PHYSICAL EXAMS

13-1 Students are required to undergo a physical examination (9th and 11th grade) or complete an *Interim Questionnaire* (10th and 12th grade), and have it on file with the school prior to their first practice in any IHSAA sponsored sport, cheerleading, or dance activity. Forms are available online at idhsaa.org.

13-2 Physical exams must be taken and on file with the school prior to the first day of practice in the 9th and 11th grades. Any physical taken before May 1 of the 8th grade year will not be accepted.

13-3 Physicals are required in the 9th and 11th grade year. Students who have a physical in their 10th grade year must have another for the 11th grade. Students will not be required to take an additional physical examination during the 10th and 12th grades unless:

1. The physician recommends the student have an additional examination.
2. The parents request an examination via the *Interim Questionnaire.*
3. Affirmative answers on 1-10 of the *Interim Questionnaire* indicate a possible need for a repeat physical examination.
4. A student transferred from another state or country but submitted a physical form that does not meet IHSAA participation standards.

13-4 Physical exams must be conducted by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner.

13-5 The *Interim Questionnaire* must be completed by the parents/guardians of the athlete during the 10th and 12th grade years. The form must be on file in the administrator's office prior to the first day of practice.

13-5-1 It is the principal's responsibility to consult with the physician regarding any answers to questions on the *Interim Questionnaire* that may indicate a possible need for a repeat physical examination.

RULE 14 - PROTESTS

14-1 Contest decisions made by sports officials are final and may not be protested.

14-2 If an administrative decision, guideline, rule, the use of a specific contestant or specific official is protested in an interscholastic contest, the contest shall be completed as scheduled. Then, a formal protest containing all available evidence must be submitted to the Executive Director. If deemed necessary, the Executive Director may submit the protest to the Board of Directors for decision.

14-2-1 Protests must be filed with the Executive Director no later than the end of the semester following the semester in which the offense was committed. Once a protest has been filed it may not be withdrawn by the protesting school. The principal of the school involved must furnish the Executive Director with all pertinent information that is required.

RULE 15 - RULE VIOLATIONS

15-1 School administrators are responsible to familiarize their staff members, school board members, coaches, participants and parents with the IHSAA rules. The rules and regulations are available online at idhsaa.org.

15-2 When it comes to a principal's attention that an IHSAA rule may have been violated, the principal will conduct an investigation to determine if, in fact, a violation has occurred.

15-2-1 The principal will determine if a violation has occurred, and if so, notify the Executive Director.

15-2-2 If the principal determines that he/she is unable to conduct the investigation and decide the matter, he/she shall refer the matter to the Executive Director.

15-2-3 The Executive Director shall examine the facts and review information submitted by the principal of the school involved and other persons. The Executive Director shall then refer the matter to the Board of Directors or, if appropriate, to the District Board of Control for further review and determination.

15-3 Violations at State Tournaments

The IHSAA shall have the right to initiate and conduct an investigation into reported violations of its by-laws or rules and regulations by a member school, its employees, coaches, officials, students or any other party subject to the rules and regulations at playoffs and state tournament events.

a. If the violation comes to the attention of tournament management after the tournament has begun, but before the conclusion of the tournament, the following guidelines shall be used:
   1. For individual sports/activities (i.e. cross country, wrestling, swimming, tennis, golf, track, speech arts), the individual(s) shall be deemed ineligible for the remainder of the tournament. Any team points earned by ineligible participant(s) shall be vacated, and brackets (if applicable) will move forward with a bye. No games/contests will be replayed.
   2. For team sports/activities (i.e. soccer, football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, cheer, dance), the team will forfeit the last game played, and the team will be able to continue without the ineligible player(s). The ineligible player(s) shall be removed from further competition in the tournament. No games/contests will be replayed. No team or individual awards shall be given to the violating team.

15-3-1 The Executive Director will provide a written notice of the alleged violation to the accused party. The notice shall contain a statement of the alleged violation and provide a date that the matter will be discussed by the Board of Directors. The accused party will be given the opportunity to be heard by the Board before a penalty, if any, is assessed. Following the hearing, the party shall be promptly notified in writing of the Board's decision.

15-3-2 If the accused party does not appear before the Board on the designated date, the Board of Directors or its authorized designee, shall determine the merits of the alleged violation. The party shall be promptly notified in writing of the Board's decision.

15-4 For violation of the rules, a student may be declared ineligible for participation in IHSAA sports/activities for such period as deemed appropriate, not to exceed one calendar year; a coach may be temporarily barred from coaching if the violation reflects an unethical, unsportsmanlike or general disregard of Association rules; a member school may be warned, fined, or suspended from membership, or placed on probation for a period deemed appropriate in the particular case.

15-5 If a student is ineligible according to IHSAA rules but is permitted to participate in interscholastic competition contrary to such rules, but in accordance with the terms of a court restraining order or injunction against his/her school and/or the IHSAA, and said injunction is subsequently voluntarily vacated, stayed, reversed, or finally determined by the courts that injunctive relief is not or was not justified, the Board may take one or more of the following actions against such school in the interest of restitution and fairness to competing schools:

a. Require that individual or team records and performances achieved during participation by such ineligible students shall be vacated or stricken.
b. Require that team victories shall be forfeited to opponent.
c. Require that team or individual awards earned by ineligible students be returned to the Association.

15-5-1 If a student is found to be ineligible according to IHSAA rules after the IHSAA sport season, but was allowed to participate in state and post district competition without a court order, the Board shall review the findings and may take action against the school and/or student in accordance with IHSAA Rules 15-3 and 15-4. The penalties assessed, if any, will be based on the merits of each individual case.

15-6 If a school, parent/guardian or student provides false information that creates eligibility for an individual in IHSAA competition, the IHSAA Board or District Board of Control shall review the findings and take action against the school and or student in accordance with IHSAA Rule 15-4. The penalties assessed, if any, will be based on the merits of each individual case.

15-7 Official interpretations of the rules and regulations shall be in writing from the Executive Director.

RULE 16 - SANCTIONING

16-1 Athletic Sanctioning

Interscholastic competition in football, boys cross country, girls cross country, girls soccer, boys soccer, tennis, volleyball, boys basketball, girls basketball, swimming, wrestling, boys track, girls track, girls golf, boys golf, baseball, softball, may require district and state sanctioning. Athletic sanctioning requirements are as follows:

16-1-1 Any interstate athletic competition in which an Idaho school is host for a Canadian school that must travel 300 miles or more one way.

16-1-2 Any interstate athletic competition involving two or more schools which is cosponsored by an organization outside the high school community (e.g., a university, a theme park, a shoe company), in addition to being sponsored by a member school, requires sanctioning by the IHSAA and NFHS. Go to nfhs.org for details.

16-1-3 Any interstate athletic competition involving non-bordering states if either:

a. Eight or more schools, at least one of which is from a state that does not border Idaho; or
b. Five or more states, at least one of which does not border Idaho.

Both (a) and (b) require NFHS approval 90 days prior to event. Go to nfhs.org for details.

16-2 All sanctioning requests must be initiated at least 90 days in advance of the contest.

16-3 Non-athletic Sanctioning

In-state competitions or events in cheerleading, dance, music or speech arts that are sponsored or co-sponsored by an organization other than an IHSAA member school or activity district must be sanctioned. More information can be found on the IHSAA website (Rules – General Information).

RULE 17 - SEASONS

17-1 **SPORT SEASONS**

Seasons have been established for sports and activities sponsored by the IHSAA. A season will begin with the first allowed day of practice and will end with the completion of the state championship in that sport, or other date established by the Board of Directors.

17-1-1 The School Year

The school year is considered to begin 7 days prior to the fall sports start date (first day of the fall no-contact period) and conclude after the final IHSAA spring sport state championship. Coaching restrictions are in effect during the school year.

17-1-2 Regular Season

Practices are held during the sport season and include items that are not allowed at any other time.

The following are usually a part of regular season practice:

a. Publicized announcement of the start of practice.
b. Restricted attendance according to school boundaries, age, sex, abilities, etc.
c. Required attendance.
d. Intra-squad scrimmages.
e. Teaching team concepts as well as individual techniques and skills through the use of drill, "chalk talks", film sessions, etc.
f. The use of school uniforms and/or protective equipment.

17-1-3 Summer Programs

Summer programs must be voluntary and must be terminated by the fall no-contact period. The IHSAA supports member schools' involvement in voluntary summer programs. However, the IHSAA believes that students need time off during the summer and strongly recommends that member schools schedule at least ten days of non-student contact during the summer each year.

a. Coaching restrictions are suspended during the summer (the day after the spring state tournaments through the beginning of the fall no-contact period). A high school coach can coach his/her players anytime, anywhere, during this period. During this period a team can scrimmage against another team without violating the out-of-season contest requirements (renting facility etc.). Practice, competition and facility use during the summer, is not covered by IHSAA insurance (liability, catastrophic, concussion etc.).
b. A high school coach who coaches a team during the summer that advances to a regional or national qualifying event can continue to coach after the fall no-contact period until the completion of the tournament/s. IHSAA must approve a written request prior to participation.
c. Students will only be allowed to attend team camps during the summer, not during the school year.
d. Member schools are prohibited from hosting

athletic camps involving students from IHSAA member schools once the fall no-contact period has begun. Coaches from member schools are prohibited from working in or hosting athletic camps involving students from IHSAA member schools once the fall no-contact period has begun.

17-1-4 Protective Equipment

No school-owned uniforms and/or protective equipment may be used without written permission from the IHSAA. With that permission, schools may use their own protective equipment in a camp or clinic for a period of seven days within a ten, consecutive day period upon written request from the trustees of the school. Included in the request shall be a statement of recognition that IHSAA sponsored catastrophic insurance provides no coverage for the activity and any and all liabilities rest solely with the school, camp, or clinic. Individual students from a specific school are not required to use the school's protective equipment in the same camp as other team members. Each individual student will only be allowed to use an IHSAA member school's protective equipment by renting or loaning for a period of seven days within a ten-day period.

17-2 PRE & POST SEASON REGULATIONS

Only in certain circumstances may school personnel be involved in practice or competition for IHSAA sponsored sports outside the sport season. The regulations listed below are in effect for any program in which students are instructed in the skills and techniques of a specific sport.

a. Attendance is limited to non-school time.
b. Participation is strictly voluntary and is open to all high school students that are currently enrolled at the school.
c. All fees and expenses are provided by the student or his/her parents. No school funds, booster club funds (except those raised by the student and his/her parents for that specific activity/event) or other such funds can be used for entry fees, equipment, uniforms or transportation.
d. Spectators are admitted without charge.
e. Award limits and amateur regulations of the IHSAA are followed.
f. Students cannot be required to attend out-of-season practices, camps or contests.
g. Sport-specific or athletic classes offered during the regular school day must meet the following criteria:
    1. Must be open to all students.
    2. Must be a class for credit.
    3. If the coach is teaching the class, he/she must be the teacher of record for that class.

17-2-1 Coaching

Certified coaches are defined as any individuals (paid, non-paid, or volunteer as approved by the local school board) who are part of the school's current coaching staff in the following sports; baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track, volleyball, and wrestling.

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).

17-2-3 Open Gym/Field/Facility

Open Gym/Field/Facility does not violate IHSAA rules if the following conditions are met:

a. Coaches supervise only. Coaches may NOT instruct/plan/organize/teach or coach.
b. Coaches are allowed to coach/instruct any number of students on individual skills and development specific to their sport. Maximum of 10 hours per school year.
c. Sessions do NOT count as required practice time prior to the season.
d. Scrimmages and/or team competition against anyone that is not enrolled at the school are NOT allowed.
e. Schools may petition the IHSAA to allow coaches to coach individuals during competitions that are qualifying events.
f. Participants, coaches and/or schools are NOT covered under IHSAA catastrophic insurance plan.
g. Administrative approval of Open Gym/ Field/Facility hours and weeks is required from the school Principal or Athletic Director.

17-2-4 No-Contact Period

The intent of IHSAA no-contact periods is to allow students and teachers/coaches quality time with their families without the pressure of losing a level playing field.

a. Coaches are not allowed to coach students from their school during the following times:
    1. Fall No-Contact Period: The 7-consecutive days prior to the fall practice start date listed in the IHSAA calendar.
    2. Winter No-Contact Period: The 3-day, consecutive no contact period during the winter break as determined by each school.

    *Note: Winter and spring activity coaches may contact students after the fall no-contact period.
b. Sport specific activities lead by coaches, captains, volunteers or parents such as practices, retreats, camps, weight room and conditioning/workouts are prohibited during the fall no-contact period.
c. Meetings with medical professionals, parent meetings, registration, equipment handout and fundraising are allowed. These meetings shall be non-mandatory.

17-3 **FOUR-SPORT SEASON**

Junior high school leagues are allowed to offer four seasons of play in sports. Athletes are still restricted to one season in each sport.

17-3-1 In the event a ninth-grade athlete wishes to compete on a high school team, in addition to the junior high program, the following conditions must be met:

a. The athlete must not exceed either the allowed number of a contests or weeks per season.
b. The athlete must not compete following the completion of the regular high school season.

RULE 18 - APPEALS

18-1 Any student, his/her parent or guardian, or any member school aggrieved by a decision of the Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, or the Eligibility Committee of the IHSAA, local Board of Control or any of its officers or employees, may appeal the decision to the IHSAA Board of Directors for a review and hearing. All appeals must originate with, and go through, the member school.

18-2 Within ten (10) days of the decision, the member school principal may request an appeal in writing to the Executive Director.

18-3 The appeal will be scheduled for a hearing before the Board at its next regular meeting. Information for the appeal must be turned in two weeks prior the board meeting. If any student, his/her parent or guardian, or any member school wishes to proceed with the appeal before the next regular meeting, the information will be sent out electronically. If an electronic appeal is used, the hearing process in front of the board will be waived and the electronic appeal will be considered the final appeal.

18-3-1 The President of the Board will preside at the hearing, or he/she may appoint a hearing officer to hear the matter. An agenda may be prepared for the hearing and, if so, a copy thereof shall be furnished to the parties.

18-3-2 All parties are entitled to attend hearings and be represented by counsel of their choice, and present all pertinent facts. Counsel for IHSAA may attend the hearing and assist the hearing officer in the conduct of the hearing.

18-3-3 In support of the finding and decision appealed from, the Executive Director or an assistant may present, either orally or in written form or both, a report of the investigation and findings.

18-3-4 The technical rules of evidence will not be applicable.

18-3-5 When more than one party has requested an appeal, and where the facts are substantially the same for all parties, a single hearing may be conducted when deemed advisable by the hearing officer.

18-3-6 The Board shall make its decision in the matter based upon the facts and information presented and such decision shall be shared with all parties.

RULE 19 - TEAMS/INDIVIDUALS UNABLE TO ARRIVE AT STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

19-1 Competing school(s) must notify the IHSAA office or the state tournament manager if the school is having difficulty traveling to the event site and may not arrive in time for the scheduled event(s). Notification shall be made as soon as possible after it becomes evident that the team/individual is having difficulty.

19-2 Specific circumstances not covered by this policy are left to the discretion of the Executive Director and/or the IHSAA Board of Directors.

19-3 If a team/individual is unable to arrive at a site for their scheduled competition due to circumstances beyond their control, that team/individual will be allowed to participate in their scheduled event provided they arrive at the event site and are able to compete in the first round on the day of their scheduled event. The Executive Director, in cooperation with the event manager, shall adjust the schedule of the event for the purpose of allowing maximum participation for all schools.

19-4 If the team/individual is unable to arrive to compete during the first round of its event, a forfeit is recorded and that team/individual shall move into the consolation bracket or be dropped from competition, whichever is applicable to the particular event.

19-5 When the number of teams/individuals unable to reach the event site for their scheduled event exceeds 25% of those participating, the event manager, the IHSAA Executive Director, shall consider postponement or cancellation of all or part of the day's activities. An alternative schedule shall be set by the events manager after consultation with the Executive Director and a representative of the participating schools.

19-6 For the purpose of this rule, the total number of teams/individuals scheduled to attend the event shall be the number used to obtain the percentage of those needed, regardless of the number of classifications scheduled to attend the event. For example, if a tournament will include 16 teams with each IHSAA classification participating, the number 16 will be used to determine the procedure to follow.

19-7 For the purpose of this rule, when the percentage used results in less than a whole number, it shall be rounded up to the next whole number. For example, if a tournament is being held for 30 teams, 25% of the total would be 7.5 which would be rounded up to 8.

19-8 In football, should one team be unable to arrive at a culminating site due to circumstances beyond its control, the contest shall be re-scheduled to allow maximum participation for all qualified schools.

RULE 20 - RESCHEDULING SUSPENDED STATE COMPETITION

20-1 When state competition cannot be completed due to weather or conditions beyond the control of the host facility, the following procedures will be followed:

a. Reschedule the event at a site that is in the general vicinity of the scheduled contest. Resume play as soon as possible (same day).
b. Consolidate the schedule where the tournament can be completed in the normal time frame by eliminating the consolation game(s).

20-2 If the championship game cannot be played during the normal tournament time frame, the following procedures will be followed:

a. Consult the administration of both schools and the IHSAA to determine if the contest can be played.
b. If the contest cannot be played, both teams will be declared co-state champions.
c. If the contest can be played, it should be resumed at the earliest possible time with the least amount of travel. If a team refuses to play for reasons that are not school related, the game shall be forfeited.