

TO: Prospective NCHSAA Member School

FROM: Rick Strunk, Associate Commissioner

SUBJECT: Information about membership application

Thank you for your interest in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

This particular application process is for public and non-boarding parochial schools wishing to join the NCHSAA and there is a one-time, \$1000 application fee for admission. After the application has been completed, it can be submitted to the NCHSAA along with the \$1000 fee. The other financial information on the application is to indicate to the school what its ongoing financial obligation will be.

The deadline for application is November 1 for the Board of Directors to consider at its winter meeting, for admission for the following year. There is also an April 1 deadline for consideration at the spring Board meeting, but that doesn't leave the prospective member nearly as much time to prepare for membership and we do recommend the November deadline if possible.

Schools most often enter as independents and then later may elect to go through the realignment process for conference assignment. The following page outlines specific criteria for conference membership and the timetable. When a school joins the NCHSAA, it is not automatically placed in a conference. Some schools have remained independent and have not sought conference affiliation since there is a mechanism for playoff participation.

Obviously any school that is joining the NCHSAA is expected to abide by any and all of the by-laws and regulations of the organization with respect to eligibility of students, sportsmanship, the non-recruiting of student-athletes, and the other policies and procedures that are enumerated in the Handbook. The NCHSAA web site (www.nchsaa.org) is a great source of information about rules, regulations, policies and special programs which the Association offers.

A cover letter to accompany the application would be helpful, with some narrative about the school, its history, facilities, etc—things that may not be completely self-evident from the application itself. Also please indicate on the application which sports you will be fielding as varsity in the initial year of membership and which programs will have junior varsity, as shown on the form.

All new member schools are required to attend a mandatory new school/new athletic director orientation at a time which will be announced by the NCHSAA. It is usually held in the summer, which gives a school a chance to attend after its application has been approved but before the academic year begins.

Please call if there are any questions.

TO: Prospective NCHSAA Member School
FROM: Rick Strunk, Associate Commissioner
SUBJECT: Membership in NCHSAA

Thank you for your interest in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

We are pleased to report that the Board of Directors has approved your school's membership in the NCHSAA, effective for the academic year of 2014-15.

Schools join as independent members, unless a conference has agreed to accept the school in membership. That information was in the packet with the original application information. Schools may always elect to go through the realignment process at the appropriate time to seek conference membership when that four-year period begins.

Any school that is joining the NCHSAA is expected to abide by any and all of the by-laws and regulations of the organization with respect to eligibility of students, sportsmanship, the non-recruiting of student-athletes, and the other things that are enumerated in the Handbook.

In addition, it is expected to observe deadlines for such things as payment of membership dues and catastrophic insurance, which are referenced on your original application. There are also specific deadlines for entries into playoffs. The NCHSAA web site is a great source for some of this information, in addition to the NCHSAA Handbook.

Each member school is also expected to attend the regional meeting in its respective region and is also invited to participate in a whole host of voluntary programs which are available to it.

We look forward to working with you in the future and please call if there are any questions. We are sending you a couple of additional complementary Handbooks and a Directory for your files. You will also receive some information in the future about a mandatory orientation meeting for new member schools, which has been very helpful in the past.