

POLICY COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Chair-Scarlett Steinert, Ronnie Beverly, Tim Foster, Burt Jenkins, Joe Poletti **Staff:** Brad Alford

AGENDA ITEM

1. Gender of a Player
Attachment P1

RECOMMENDATION	SUPPORTING INFORMATION
Tabled from Winter 2018 Approve proposed language submitted by Board appointed sub-committee.	Rationale: To become more inclusive relative to students that do not identify based on the certificate of birth. Budget Impact: N/A Educational Impact: N/A Equity Impact: N/A Effective Date: 2019-2020 Academic School Year
Tabled from Winter 2018 Approve proposed language submitted by Board appointed sub-committee.	Rationale: To become more inclusive relative to students that are regularly enrolled in home schools. Budget Impact: N/A Educational Impact: N/A Equity Impact: N/A Effective Date: 2019-2020 Academic School Year

2. Home School Students
Attachment P2

AGENDA ITEM

3. Foreign Exchange Students

4. Scholastic Requirements Attachment P3: NCHSAA Attachment P4: Onslow County Schools

RECOMMENDATION	SUPPORTING INFORMATION
Tabled from Winter 2018 Review and discuss NCHSAA Handbook Rule 1.2.9(i) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-Semester Rule 	***Discussion Only***
Review and discuss NCHSAA Handbook Rule 1.2.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCHSAA A minimum of 70% courses taken previous semester Onslow County Schools A minimum of 66% courses taken previous semester Promotion Standards 	<p>Rationale: Schools today are becoming more creative in the ways they deliver instruction to students and students are offered much more flexibility in scheduling courses than ever before. This proposal would make it much simpler for school-level administrators, as well as the NCHSAA staff, to easily determine a student's athletic eligibility based on his/her academic performance from the previous semester. It would also make it much easier to give students guidance in terms of their scheduling of future courses as it relates to their athletic eligibility. It would create more consistency across the state – regardless of the structure of any school's academic day.</p> <p>Budget Impact: N/A</p> <p>Education al Impact: N/A</p> <p>Equity Impact: N/A</p> <p>Effective Date: 2019-2020 Academic School Year</p>

AGENDA ITEM

5. Transfer Policy Attachment P5

RECOMMENDATION

Review and discuss NCHSAA Handbook Rule 1.2.10

- Following a coach within the LEA
- Ineligible for only sports in which “athletic purposes” was reason for not authorizing
- Review Handbook language as currently written

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Discussion Only

6. Sportsmanship/Ejection Policy

Review and discuss NCHSAA Handbook Rule 2.4.2.a.5

- Leaving the bench area to participate in a fight

Discussion Only

7. Unpaid Fines

Review and discussion options relative to posting unpaid fine to NCHSAA website with member school access only.

Discussion Only

8. Eligibility Summary Reports

Approve moving the deadline for reporting to:

- Fall – September 1
- Winter – December 1
- Spring – March 15

Rationale: Schools still have a month after each sports season start date to submit information. The new deadline would allow staff to prepare for playoff based on member school participation.

Budget N/A

Impact:

Educational N/A

Impact:

Equity N/A

Impact:

Effective 2019-2020 Academic School
Date: Year

AGENDA ITEM9. Non-Athletic Calendar
Attachment P610. Sports Medicine Advisory
Committee Pre-Game EAP
Preparedness Time Out
Attachment P7

RECOMMENDATION	SUPPORTING INFORMATION
Review and discuss the 2019-2020 Non-Athletic Calendar	***Discussion Only***
The NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out Report be used as a record of the Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out prior to athletic events.	<p>Rationale: Effective communication of expectations with all relevant parties is essential to help assure that the best emergency care possible is provided during the most critical moments.</p> <p>Budget Impact: N/A</p> <p>Educational Impact: N/A</p> <p>Equity Impact: N/A</p> <p>Effective Date: 2019-2020 Academic School Year</p>

HANDBOOK VERSION

1.2.4 Gender of Player: The NCHSAA allows participation in interscholastic athletics for all students, regardless of gender or gender identification. It is the intent that all students are able to compete on a level playing field in a safe, competitive and friendly environment, free of discrimination. The following rules and regulations are intended to provide every student athlete with equal opportunities to participate in athletics.

- a) A student may participate based on the gender noted on the student's certificate of birth.
 - I. Women shall not participate on a men's interscholastic athletic team where the school has a women's team in the same sport or where a school sends an entry to the women's state playoffs in the same sport.
 - a) In cases where women are permitted on a men's team, the school forfeits all participation in the women's playoffs in the same sport.
 - b) Men's rules will be used where women play on men's teams.
- b) When a student's gender identity differs from the gender listed on the student's certificate of birth, the Gender Identity Request Form must be submitted by the member school to the NCHSAA prior to any participation by the student under circumstances that would constitute ineligibility. The Request should be based on the gender identification of that student in current school records and daily life activities in the school and community.
 - I. The following information should be submitted with the Request:
 - a) Documentation from individuals such as, but not limited to, parents/legal guardians appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, friends, and/or teachers, which affirm that the actions, attitudes, and manner demonstrate the student's consistent gender identification.
 - b) A complete list of all the student's prescribed, non-prescribed, or over the counter treatments or medications relative to gender identity.
 - c) A complete list of interventions that have happened related to the gender identity of the student.
 - d) Written verification from an appropriate healthcare professional (e.g. physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, school nurse, etc.) of the student's consistent gender identification. Include any other social/emotional information from health-care professionals that would help the Committee make a decision about the student. This information must be submitted on office letterhead of the healthcare professional who provides verification with contact information and professional title of the individual.
 - e) Any other pertinent documentation or information which the student or parent(s)/legal guardian(s) appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction believe relevant and appropriate.
- c) The NCHSAA will refer the Gender Identity Request to the NCHSAA Gender Identity Committee for consideration. The Committee will approve the Request if it finds that the student genuinely identifies as the gender indicated in the Request.

- I. The NCHSAA Gender Identity Committee will consist of the following:
 - a) Current member of the Board of Directors;
 - b) LEA or school administrator;
 - c) Physician with experience in gender identity health care and/or World Professional Association of Transgender Health (WPATH) Standards of Care;
 - d) Psychiatrist, psychologist, or licensed mental health professional familiar with the WPATH.
 - II. The Committee will require that the member school has verified that the student is eligible in all other aspects.
 - III. The Committee will respect and promote the student's privacy and confidentiality rights under HIPPA and FERPA in the process of considering a Gender Identity Request. Information provided to the Committee will be shared only to the extent necessary to decide the Gender Identity Request; provided that, if a Gender Identity Request is approved, the student's school may share the student's gender identity with other schools as necessary to ensure appropriate accommodations when competing at another school.
- d) In cases where a Gender Identity Request has been approved:
- I. The student will be declared eligible to participate based on the student's gender identity.
 - a) 1.2.4.a is not in effect.
 - II. It shall be the responsibility of the school to comply with all state and federal mandates/laws.

1.2 ELIGIBILITY

1.2.1 Initial Entry: A student may participate in athletics at any member school upon initial entry into ninth grade provided they meet applicable NCHSAA and local Board of Education eligibility requirements. Initial entry is defined as the first day of classes that a student is in attendance and counted present or, if sooner, the first day a student practices or otherwise takes part as a member or potential member of a member school's athletic team prior to the start of the academic year (e.g., if a student participates in preseason football workouts prior to the beginning of the ninth grade academic year, this will be deemed the student's initial entry at this member school).

(a) Upon initial entry into ninth grade, transfer and boundary criteria shall apply as follows:

- (1) The student must live within the member school's boundary as established by the local board of education (LEA); or
- (2) If the student's member school does not have a boundary established by an LEA (e.g., charter school, non-boarding parochial school, etc.), after initial entry, the boundary for the member school shall be considered to be:
 - (i) The entire county in which the member school is located; and
 - (ii) Any addresses within a 25-mile radius of the member school as measured by an NCHSAA designated computer program; or
- (3) There will be no boundary limitation if the student is a member of a parochial church affiliated with a non-boarding parochial member school and submits an authorized pastor verification form.

(b) Home school students

- (1) Documentation from the Division of Non-Public Education must be presented upon initial dual enrollment-attendance, immunization, transcript, school number, etc.
- (2) Home school students must communicate athletic intent at a member school in which they are domiciled in the attendance boundary established by the local board of education.
 - (i) Notice to principal must take place within ten days prior to the first practice date of each sports season.

1.2.2 Master Eligibility Sheets: All students must be eligible prior to dressing or participating in any interscholastic contest, whether or not the NCHSAA sponsors a championship in that sport.

- (a) Only those students listed on the master eligibility sheet(s) are covered by catastrophic insurance.
- (b) No student shall be listed on the sheet unless and until documents substantiating eligibility are on file with the school. Such documents shall be available for inspection until the student's eligibility has ended.
- (c) The master eligibility sheet should be used for each sport and shall list all players, varsity and junior varsity, participating in that sport. A copy should be on file at the school prior to the first regular season contest including Endowment games.
- (d) Eligibility sheets are no longer required to be filed with the NCHSAA but must be made available upon request. It is required that eligibility sheets be shared among conference schools in each sport.
- (e) Ineligible players are NOT allowed to participate in practice, but this does not apply to summer workouts or skill development.
- (f) When completing Master Eligibility Sheets, if a student's parent(s) or legal custodian(s) does not live within the LEA, please make all required entries and enter one of the following eligibility criteria on the second page:
 - (1) Any student proposed for a contest is eligible at the school to which the local board of education assigns them within the unit of residence of a parent or legal custodian within this state, subject to the Transfer Policy. (see 1.2.10).
 - (2) When two boards of education within North Carolina by mutual agreement assign a student to a different school, and the NCHSAA has authorized eligibility pursuant to the Transfer Policy. (see 1.2.10)
 - (3) Absent a transfer referenced above, a student is eligible at his or her assigned school if he or she has attended school within that administrative unit the previous two semesters, provided it meets LEA policy.
 - (4) Legal documents signed by a judge (ward of court) or social service (orphanage/foster home) are required to be submitted along with eligibility forms pertaining to students in these circumstances.
 - (5) Foreign exchange students (see 1.2.9.i).

(6) The NCHSAA has approved a Transfer Waiver Request and/or a Hardship Request to waive the residency requirement on the student's behalf.

(g) It shall be the responsibility of the principal, and/or his or her designee, to see that no ineligible player participates. Schools should use the eligibility checklist developed by the NCHSAA and it is recommended that the eligibility power point presentation be made available for athletes, guidance counselors, other administrators and parents, especially at the preseason meeting.

1.2.3 Age of Player: No student may be approved for any athletic contest if his or her 19th birthday comes on or before August 31, 2018; (i.e., the student's date of birth was on or before August 31, 1999).

(a) The principal shall have on file evidence of the legal birth date of each athlete.

(b) Evidence of legal birth date must be established by a copy of the birth certificate or from one of the following: a record from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, Raleigh; a record from the county register of deeds office; an infant baptismal record; a recording from the attending doctor's registry or cash book if specific; a news item at the time of birth from the local newspaper; or an official register sheet from the first grade.

(c) A birth date as shown on a passport is acceptable verification of a foreign student's age.

(d) An eighth-grade student who is overage for middle school competition shall be eligible for high school participation.

1.2.4 Attendance: A student-athlete must meet the LEA attendance policy during the previous semester at an approved high school.

(a) A student must, at the time of any practice and/or game in which he or she participates, be a regularly enrolled member of the school's student body, according to local policy. If there is no local policy, "regularly enrolled" is defined as enrolled for at least one half of the "minimum load."

(b) It is recommended the student be in school the day of the contest.

(c) At the end of each semester, any participant who has failed to meet the LEA attendance policy of that semester is immediately ineligible.

(d) Home school students:

(1) Must have been enrolled in the registered home school for 365 days prior to being eligible in a member school.

(2) Once deemed eligible at a member school, the student must maintain continuous dual enrollment.

(i) Unenrollment would render the student ineligible for 365 days.

(3) Must participate in a class schedule that is at least one half of the school's instructional day

(i) At least one class must be on campus each semester.

1.2.5 Scholastic Requirements: A student must have passed a minimum load of work during the preceding semester to be eligible at any time during the present semester. The semester is normally considered half of the academic year. All students must also meet local promotion standards, set by the LEA and/or the local school. **Home school students must be on grade level according to a nationally standardized achievement test indicating grade level.**

(a) A minimum load is defined as five courses in the traditional school schedule and three courses for schools on the "block" format. If the school is on an A/B form of block scheduling, a student must pass six of eight courses during what would traditionally be defined as a semester. Any student, including seniors must pass that minimum load, even if they need fewer for graduation. **Home school student must pass all courses in which he/she is enrolled in (public school).**

(1) Traditional: pass five (minimum load)

(2) Block: pass three (minimum load, 90-minute classes)

(3) A/B: pass six

(4) Hybrid Formats:

(i) 3 block, 2 traditional – ("skinnies" is the parlance many systems use), most common hybrids use four blocks as the basis (two skinnies equal a block); must pass equivalent of three blocks. Could fail both "skinnies" but passing three blocks would meet minimum requirements.

(ii) 2 block, 3 traditional – use seven traditional as the basis (block equals two); must pass equivalent of five traditional classes. Could fail one block only and be eligible (minimum requirement) but not more.

- (iii) 2 blocks and 4 traditional (“skinnies”) – Use eight as the basis like an A/B format; (block equals two); must pass equivalent of six A/B classes. Could fail one block only and be eligible (minimum requirement) but not more.
- (iv) 1 block, 5 traditional – use seven as the basis (block equals two); must pass equivalent of five traditional classes. Could fail one block only and be eligible (minimum requirement but not more.)
- (5) Local units may be more restrictive, but not less restrictive.
- (6) Office assistance, teacher assistance or laboratory assistance may not be used toward academic eligibility
- (7) Audited courses may not be used toward academic eligibility.
- (8) No work previously passed by a student may be submitted as part of a minimum load.
- (9) Summer school work used to make up part of the minimum load must be applied to the most recent semester. Credit for summer work is a determination of the local unit.
- (b) A student, upon first entering grade nine, is academically eligible for competition on high school teams.
- (c) A student not academically eligible at the beginning of the semester is not eligible at any time during the semester.
 - (1) Exception: a student who receives an incomplete which causes him or her to fail to meet minimum scholastic requirements or is awaiting a final grade due to any state-mandated testing is ineligible until the course is satisfactorily completed, and eligibility is restored immediately.
- (d) A student academically eligible at the beginning of a semester remains academically eligible throughout the semester.
- (e) Alternative or extended day school students who meet all other eligibility requirements may participate in athletics for the school to which they would normally be assigned if local policy allows it, provided the alternative/extended day school has no athletic program.
 - (1) The alternative schools referenced here are those operated by the school system itself.
 - (2) The principal of the school at which the students play shall be responsible for certifying their eligibility and shall have on file all records, including current attendance data, necessary to verify eligibility.
 - (3) Each such student shall be identified on the eligibility list, which shall be accompanied by a letter from the principal stating that these designated students meet all eligibility requirements.
 - (4) The principal and coach shall have the same authority in player selection and application of team rules and regulations with alternative school students as with those enrolled in the regular school program.
- (f) At the end of the first semester, a superintendent or principal has eight days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) to check grades of students, removing such player immediately upon knowledge of ineligibility and no later than the completion of the eight-day period and restore eligibility to any debarred player after he or she has qualified at the end of a semester.
 - (1) Any student who has his or her eligibility restored may participate the day following the completion of the semester of the ineligibility.
 - (2) The purpose of the eight-day period is to allow schools ample time to check grades. A player should be removed before the eight-day period is up if the school has knowledge and has verified that the student is ineligible.

1.2.6 Eight Semester Rule: No student may be eligible to participate at the high school level for a period lasting longer than eight consecutive semesters, beginning with the student’s first entry into ninth grade or an overaged seventh or eighth grade student’s participation on a high school team, whichever occurs first.

- (a) For students who skip the ninth grade and advance directly to the 10th from the eighth, the year prior to entering the 10th grade is considered the year of first entry into ninth grade for athletics.
- (b) Playing as a member of a private or other non-member school team shall be deemed the same as playing as a member of an NCHSAA member school team. Enforcement of this rule is to begin with entry into the 9th grade.
- (c) The principal shall have evidence of the date of each player’s entry into the ninth grade. The North Carolina cumulative record is sufficient.

1.2.7 Maximum Number of Seasons: No student may be approved for a high school contest if he or she has taken part in contests during four separate seasons in that sport.

- (a) Students may only participate in one season per year, per sport, whether the sport is played in North

Carolina or not.

(b) Playing as a member of a private or other non-member school team shall be deemed the same as playing as a member of an NCHSAA member school team. Enforcement of this rule is to begin with entry into ninth grade.

(c) A student shall not participate in school athletic contests after graduation from high school; however, this does not apply to spring sports playoffs.

1.2.8 Medical Examination: In order to be eligible for practice or participation in interscholastic athletic contests, a student must receive a medical examination once every 395 days by a physician licensed to practice medicine, nurse practitioner or physician assistant and be cleared to play. The current mandatory NCHSAA pre-participation form may be found on the NCHSAA website.

(a) To participate in out-of-season and/or summer workouts, a student must have an up-to-date physical on file.

(b) To participate in out of season and /or summer workouts, the NCHSAA strongly recommends that a student has a signed Gfeller-Waller Concussion Statement on file.

(c) Students absent from athletic practice for five (5) or more days due to illness or injury shall receive a medical release by either a physician licensed to practice medicine or his/her designee (nurse practitioner, physician's assistant or licensed athletic trainer) before readmittance to practice or contests.

(1) Students with potential head injuries must receive a medical release by a licensed health care provider before readmittance to practice or contests (see 2.3.7).

(d) It is recommended that players be covered by adequate medical and accident insurance, and that medical aid be immediately available at all times.

(e) Schools should have medical release forms on site at athletic events in the event medical treatment is required.

1.2.9 Residence: A student is eligible to participate at the school to which he or she is assigned by the local board of education, within the administrative unit of residence. "Residence" as used for athletic eligibility purposes is defined as the equivalent of the term "domicile" as applied by the courts of North Carolina.

(a) It is the obligation of the school to know the residence status of each athlete and to require compliance with these requirements.

(b) Except as otherwise provided, the residence of any student shall be deemed to be:

(1) That of his or her parents (if he/she lives with both parents).

(2) That of the sole parent (if he/she lives with only one parent).

(3) That of the parent with whom he/she begins the school year's first semester (if he/she has two parents who do not live together).

(4) That of the legal custodian if his/her custody has been awarded to a non-parent by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) In the event the parents are separated or divorced, the residence of the student shall be that of the parent or other adult to whom primary physical custody has been awarded by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) If no custody order has been entered, the residence shall be deemed to be that of the parent with whom the student begins the school year's first semester.

(e) Any change in residence must be bona fide, which means made, done, or presented in good faith; without deception or fraud. Determination of what constitutes a bona fide or authentic and true change of residence depends upon the facts of each case. In order for a change of residence to be considered bona fide at least the following facts must exist:

(1) The original residence must be abandoned as a residence; that is sold, rented or disposed of as a residence, and must not be used as residence by any member of the family.

(2) The entire family must make the change and take with them the household goods and furniture appropriate to the circumstances.

(3) The change must be made with the intent that it is permanent.

(4) The change must not be made solely for athletics purposes

(f) No non-parental guardianship will be recognized where a student has a living parent unless:

- (1) There has been a determination of abandonment of the student by such parent(s) or a determination that the student is a dependent juvenile as defined in G.S. 7B-101(9) or comparable statute by a court of competent jurisdiction,
 - (2) The student has been judicially declared a ward of the court, has been identified as an orphan or placed in a foster home by the Division of Social Services (or a comparable agency if out of state) and custody (not guardianship) has been determined by the court or social service agency.
 - (3) A student whose custody has been established by court order or social services agency decision is eligible for participation at the school to which he or she is assigned by the Board of Education of the local unit where his or her custodian resides.
- (g) The residence of a student who is emancipated shall continue to be his or her residence as of the time of emancipation, unless an exception is granted under the procedures established by the Hardship Rule.
- (1) Emancipation for athletics purposes is when a student-athlete by legal determination or otherwise is freed from control by his or her parent(s) or guardian(s), and the parent(s), guardian(s), or other individual(s) are free from any and all responsibility for the student-athlete.
- (h) A student who resides out of state but attends a member high school could be eligible if:
- (1) The student attends a member non-boarding parochial school or is a member of a parochial church and submits an authorized pastor verification form.
 - (2) The out-of-state student is attending a member school as an employee benefit because a parent is working at the school, the school must request a hardship waiver of the residence rule with appropriate documentation as a result of the employee status.
- (i) The residence of a student who is in an organized and recognized foreign exchange program shall be considered to be the place to which he or she is assigned by that program, and is eligible to participate at the school to which he or she is assigned by the LEA.
- (1) Foreign students who are not part of an organized and recognized foreign exchange program must present extenuating circumstances through the procedure established in the Hardship Rule.
 - (2) A foreign exchange student is eligible only during the first year of residence in the United States.
 - (3) With the exception of this residence rule, foreign exchange students are subject to all other eligibility requirements, including but not limited to, the prohibition on participation after graduation or eligibility for graduation from high school.
- (j) In no case will any exception be made to the following principles:
- (1) No student may participate at a second school in the same sport during the same sport season, except in the event of a bona fide change in residence of the parent(s) or legal custodian.
 - (2) Change of schools must be contemporaneous with the change in residence.
 - (3) Documents purporting to establish guardianship or custody issued by a notary public, an attorney, a clerk of court, or any entity other than a court of record with competent jurisdiction will not be accepted. Note: The acceptance of a document from a court of competent jurisdiction does not automatically render a student eligible.

1.2.10 Transfer Policy: After initial entry into the ninth grade, and absent a bona fide move as provided in the Residence section of this Handbook (See 1.2.9):

(a) A student transferring from one member school to another member school within the same LEA must sit out 365 days for athletic participation. The LEA can create criteria for immediate athletic eligibility for transfers (assignments) within the LEA.

(b) A student transferring from one member school in one LEA to another member school in a different LEA must sit out two consecutive semesters, or 365 days, whichever is less, for athletic participation.

NOTE: A student's participation in cheerleading is not subject to the NCHSAA Transfer Policy.

(1) By mutual agreement that the transfer is not for athletic purposes, a student's first transfer from LEA to LEA, and absent a bona fide move, is not subject to the NCHSAA Transfer Policy.

- (i). Absent mutual agreement, and in consideration of the above, exceptions for immediate athletic eligibility for transfers from one LEA to a different LEA will first be considered by the NCHSAA Staff, then by the NCHSAA Transfer Committee, if necessary.
- (ii) The NCHSAA Transfer Committee will be composed of the NCHSAA Executive Committee and at least one (1) non-district affiliated member school representative.
- (2) The two-consecutive semester application occurs when a student is enrolled for at least 50% of the semester in which the student initially enrolled and all of the following semester.
- (3) Students transferring to the same member school where the student's coach has relocated within a calendar year will be deemed ineligible in any sport in which the coach is involved.
- (4) A student may not participate in practices or workouts, in-season or out-of-season, until the student's transfer has been validated by the NCHSAA.
- (c) If a member school is not part of a defined LEA (e.g., charter school, non-boarding parochial school, etc.), then the member school itself will be considered its own LEA for purposes of this policy (i.e., exceptions involving these member schools will fall under subsection (b) above).
- (d) If a student transfers from a NCHSAA member school to a non-member school (including a transfer to a DPI-approved home school) and then attempts to transfer to any NCHSAA member school within a 365-day period, such initial transfer will be disregarded for purposes of this transfer rule and the subsequent transfer will be treated as if it were an NCHSAA member school to NCHSAA member school transfer and evaluated by the NCHSAA as provided in section (b) above.
- (e) Students transferring into the North Carolina School of Science & Math are exempt from the Transfer Policy upon their initial entry into the school.

1.2.11 Felony Policy: Any student who is subject to the NCHSAA eight semester rule who (1) is convicted of a crime classified as a felony under North Carolina or federal law; or (2) is adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult, is not eligible to participate in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association sports program.

(a) Such ineligibility shall be immediate and shall prohibit participation in the NCHSAA sports program from the date of conviction or adjudication of delinquency through the end of the student's high school career.

(b) Appellate or other post-conviction review of the conviction or adjudication of delinquency does not affect the student's immediate ineligibility.

(c) "Convicted" and "conviction," for the purpose of this policy, includes the entry of:

- (1) A plea of guilty; or
- (2) A plea of no contest, nolo contendere, or the equivalent; or
- (3) A verdict or finding of guilty by a jury, judge, magistrate, or other duly constituted, established, and recognized adjudicating body, tribunal, or official, either civilian or military.
- (4) A person is "convicted" or "adjudicated delinquent" for the purposes of this policy, in North Carolina state courts, the courts of the United States, another state, the armed services of the United States, or another country.

1.2.12 Dressing for Game or Practicing: A player shall not dress for a game or scrimmage when he or she is not eligible to participate in the game.

(a) Dressing and being in the designated team area shall be interpreted as participating in the game.

(1) Exception: Football, Eight Quarter Rule. Athletes who are disqualified or ejected during a contest will remain in the team area for supervision. (Reference 2.4.3.i).

(b) Ineligible players are not allowed to participate in practice, but this does not apply to summer workouts or skill development. (See also 1.2.8 (a)).

1.2.13 Uniforms: School uniforms may not be used for any outside organization competition or by athletes performing "unattached" during the academic school year, inclusive of weekends, holidays, workdays, etc. except:

(a) During the summer, outside the dead periods, school uniforms may be worn for school-related activities.

(b) Students may be allowed to wear school uniforms, including protective equipment, in outside organization competition, so long as the student has exhausted athletic eligibility in that sport and received permission from the member school. Approval from the LEA is strongly recommended.

1.2.14 Amateur Rule: Money or awards having utilitarian value (Example: golf balls, clubs, tennis balls, racket, etc.) may not be given to students for participation in athletics except as noted in the following paragraphs.

- (a) A student may receive merchandise, etc., if it does not exceed \$250 value per sports season.
- (b) Students may not accept items by virtue of being on a “free list” or “loan list.” Enforcement of this rule by the NCHSAA begins with a student’s entry in the ninth grade, so to participate as a member of a high school tennis team, for example, an athlete may not receive racquets, warm-ups, etc., by virtue of being on a free list or loan list.
- (c) A player may accept a gift provided it meets each of these conditions: is available to every member of the team, is totally consumable and nontransferable (e.g., meals, trips, etc.) or is labeled in a permanent manner (i.e., monogrammed, engraved, etc.) and is approved by the local principal and superintendent.
- (d) A student may accept a medal, trophy, ribbon, pin, high school letter, sweater, jacket, blazer or blanket. Sweaters, jackets, blazers, and blankets must carry the high school letter or other appropriate school emblem. None of the approved awards shall be accepted from an individual or non-school organization unless the giving of such an award has been approved by the principal and superintendent of the school the athlete attends.
- (e) Acceptance of money or a forbidden award will cause an athlete to lose athletic eligibility for all sports for 365 days.
- (f) A member school which has any connection with the presentation of a forbidden award, including but not limited to assisting in the selection of the person to receive the award, permitting the award to be given at a school function, or holding the award for a student until he or she has graduated, shall be subject to penalty.
- (g) Accepting a nominal, standard fee or salary for instructing, supervising, or officiating in an organized youth sports program or recreation, playground, or camp activities shall not jeopardize amateur status. An “organized youth sports program” includes both school and non-school programs.
- (h) A student is entitled to receive “essential expenses” for any particular game or games, in which he or she participates as a player, which includes meals, lodging and transportation for each particular game. Any remuneration beyond these essential expenses shall debar a student from future contests.
- (i) No student shall be eligible for any contest if he or she competes under a false name.

1.2.15 All-Star, Bowl and Benefit Games: (See also Uniform Rule 1.2.13)

- (a) No student shall be permitted to participate in an all-star or bowl game unless he or she has completed high school eligibility in that sport;
- (b) An all-star/bowl game is defined as any contest where admission is charged, either directly or indirectly, and one or both teams is composed of players selected from two or more regularly constituted teams. This regulation does not apply to summer baseball and softball.
- (c) Other information regarding this topic may be found on the NCHSAA website.
- (d) Teams authorized to participate in benefit/fund-raisers (student/faculty game, alumni game, etc.) must be composed exclusively of players from the same high school. Outside the sports season, an existing team may not play an outside team in a benefit game and may not be coached by their coaching staff. A benefit game played during the sports season must count as an official contest.
- (e) Any student who fails to comply with the preceding requirements loses athletic eligibility for a period of time to be determined by the Board of Directors.

1.2.16 Professionals/Colleges: No student who has signed a professional contract will be eligible for high school competition in that sport.

- (a) No student who has played on a college team is eligible to play on a high school team.
- (b) A regularly enrolled high school student who is taking courses for advance credit (e.g. community college course, college courses) will be eligible for high school competition.

1.2.5 Scholastic Requirements:

- a) Courses:
 - a. A student must have passed a minimum of 70% of the Courses for Credit (CCRE) taken during the preceding semester to be eligible at any time during the present semester.
 - i. Course for Credit (CCRE) is defined by DPI as high school courses included in the NC Standard Course of Study, including those provided by the NC Virtual Public School; Advanced Placement courses; International Baccalaureate courses; Cambridge International Examination courses; locally developed high school courses; and public university, community college, and private college courses.
 - 1. Office assistance, teacher assistance or laboratory assistance may not be used toward academic eligibility.
 - 2. Audited courses may not be used toward academic eligibility.
 - ii. Course passed in a semester other than the previous semester may not be applied to the previous semester.
 - 1. Summer school work used to make up part of the minimum load must be applied to the most recent semester. Credit for summer work is a determination of the local unit.
- b) Promotion:
 - a. A student must be promoted based on standards set by the LEA and/or the local school.
- c) Local units may be more restrictive, but not less restrictive.
- d) A student, upon first entering grade nine, is academically eligible for competition on high school teams.
- e) A student not academically eligible at the beginning of the semester is not eligible at any time during the semester.
 - a. Exception: a student who receives an incomplete which causes him or her to fail to meet minimum scholastic requirements or is awaiting a final grade due to any state-mandated testing is ineligible until the course is satisfactorily completed, and eligibility is restored immediately.
- f) At the end of the first semester, a superintendent or principal has eight days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) to check grades of students, removing such player immediately upon knowledge of ineligibility and no later than the completion of the eight-day period and restore eligibility to any debarred player after he or she has qualified at the end of a semester.
 - a. Any student who has his or her eligibility restored may participate the day following the completion of the semester of the ineligibility.
 - b. The purpose of the eight-day period is to allow schools ample time to check grades. A player should be removed before the eight-day period is up if the school has knowledge and has verified that the student is ineligible.

NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Meeting of the Board of Directors – Agenda Item Submission

Name(s): Greg Grantham, Steve Clarke (Dixon HS), Darin Cloninger (Jacksonville HS), Lynn Jackson (Northside HS), Brad Staley (Richlands HS), Tim Foster (Southwest HS), Helen Gross (Swansboro HS), Chris Barnes (White Oak HS)

LEA/Conference/Group: Onslow County Schools

We/I request that the following item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the NCHSAA Board of Directors:

Recommendation/Proposal: (State in detail the recommendation/proposal)

The Principals and member schools in Onslow County respectfully request that the Board of Directors change the definition of “a minimum load of work” as currently defined in Handbook rule 1.2.5 Scholastic Requirements under [a] 1, 2, 3 and 4. Rather than trying to list all of the possible combinations of courses and schedules that might be considered a “minimum load of work”, we proposed that the rule define a minimum load of work passed from the previous semester as 66% or more of the course opportunities the student attempted during the previous semester. All students should be required to be enrolled in at least 3 courses. These should be courses that would earn the student credit towards graduation. We would suggest that rules 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 under 1.2.5 [a] remain in place.

- Rationale: (Why should the board consider and possibly pass this recommendation?)

Schools today are becoming more creative in the ways they deliver instruction to students and students are offered much more flexibility in scheduling courses than ever before. With the advent of NCVPS courses, Virtual Academies, dual enrollment courses at Community Colleges, etc. it has become impossible to even imagine all of the variations of potential schedules that students may have at one high school, much less across the entire district and state-wide. This proposal would make it much simpler for school-level administrators, as well as the NCHSAA staff, to easily determine a student's athletic eligibility based on his/her academic performance from the previous semester. It would also make it much easier to give students guidance in terms of their scheduling of future courses as it relates to their athletic eligibility.

It would create more consistency across the state – regardless of the structure of any school's academic day.

- Budget Impact: (What does this mean to a school's/athletic department's finances?)

This proposal would have no financial impact on schools.

- Educational Impact: (Does this mean loss of school time? Does it interfere with study time?)

This proposal would not interfere with, nor cause the loss of any instructional time. It would provide a more consistent method of determining athletic eligibility as it pertains to academic performance without forcing students to opt out of certain course offerings as they might jeopardize the student's athletic eligibility.

- Gender Impact: (Is this proposal fair to males and females?)

It would apply equally to males and females.

- Effective Date: (When would this go into effect?)

We ask that this Handbook change and rule revision go into effect for the 2019-20 Academic year

Signatures ~~Greg Grantham~~ Coordinator of Athletics Date: 3/28/2019

~~Steve Clarke~~ – Principal, Dixon HS

~~Darin Cloninger~~ Principal, Jacksonville HS

~~Lynn Jackson~~ Principal, Northside HS

~~Brad Staley~~ Principal, Richlands HS

~~Tim Foster~~ Principal, Southwest HS

~~Helen Gross~~ Principal, Swansboro HS

~~Christopher Barnes~~ White Oak HS

1.2.10 Transfer Policy: After initial entry into the ninth grade, and absent a bona fide move as provided in the Residence section of this Handbook (See 1.2.9):

(a) A student transferring from one member school to another member school within the same LEA must sit out 365 days for athletic participation. The LEA can create criteria for immediate athletic eligibility for transfers (assignments) within the LEA.

(b) A student transferring from one member school in one LEA to another member school in a different LEA must sit out two consecutive semesters, or 365 days, whichever is less, for athletic participation. **NOTE:** A student's participation in cheerleading is not subject to the NCHSAA Transfer Policy.

(1) **Upon authorization of the Transfer Certification Form by the NCHSAA, students are not subject to 1.2.10(b).** By mutual agreement that the transfer is not for athletic purposes, a student's first transfer from LEA to LEA, and absent a bona fide move, is not subject to the NCHSAA Transfer Policy.

(i) **Transfer from LEA to LEA is the student's first transfer.**

~~Absent mutual agreement, and in consideration of the above, exceptions for immediate athletic eligibility for transfers from one LEA to a different LEA will first be considered by the NCHSAA Staff, then by the NCHSAA Transfer Committee, if necessary.~~

(ii) **By mutual agreement, the transfer is not for athletic purposes.**

~~(iii) The NCHSAA Transfer Committee will be composed of the NCHSAA Executive Committee and at least one (1) non-district affiliated member school representative.~~

(2) The two-consecutive semester application occurs when a student is enrolled for at least 50% of the semester in which the student initially enrolled and all of the following semester.

(3) Students transferring to the same member school where the student's coach has relocated within a calendar year will be deemed ineligible in any sport in which the coach is involved.

(4) A student may not participate in practices or workouts, in-season or out-of-season, until the student's transfer has been validated by the NCHSAA.

(5) Appeal of a NCHSAA decision will be heard by the NCHSAA Transfer Committee.

(i) The Transfer Committee will be composed of the NCHSAA Executive Committee and at least one (1) non-district affiliated member school representative.

(c) If a member school is not part of a defined LEA (e.g., charter school, non-boarding parochial school, etc.), then the member school itself will be considered its own LEA for purposes of this policy (i.e., exceptions involving these member schools will fall under subsection (b) above).

(d) If a student transfers from a NCHSAA member school to a non-member school (including a transfer to a DPI-approved home school) and then attempts to transfer to any NCHSAA member school within a 365-day period, such initial transfer will be disregarded for purposes of this transfer rule and the subsequent transfer will be

treated as if it were an NCHSAA member school to NCHSAA member school transfer and evaluated by the NCHSAA as provided in section (b) above.

(e) Students transferring into the North Carolina School of Science & Math are exempt from the Transfer Policy upon their initial entry into the school.

DRAFT

2019-2020 KEY DATES FOR NCHSAA NON-ATHLETIC EVENTS

2019	
JUNE	11-14 Piedmont Student Athlete Summer Institute (SASI) 15 Officials' Registration Deadline for football, soccer, and volleyball 16-19 Central Student Athlete Summer Institute (SASI) 18-21 Mountain Student Athlete Summer Institute (SASI) 23-26 Southeastern Student Athlete Summer Institute (SASI) TBD NCHSAA Hall of Fame Committee Meeting at NCHSAA
JULY	10 New Schools/New AD Orientation 14-16 NC Athletic Directors Association Leadership Academy, Greensboro 15 Deadline for Scholar-Athlete second semester (Spring Sports) nominations 15-18 NC Coaches Association Clinic, Greensboro Coliseum
AUGUST	10 Hall of Fame Banquet, Class of 2019 15 Catastrophic Insurance Application available to print invoice
SEPTEMBER	1 Deadline to submit School Information Sheet online to NCHSAA 15 Fall Eligibility Summary Deadline 15 Officials' Registration Deadline for basketball and wrestling 16-26 Regional Meetings 16 Region 6 Charlotte, Ovens Auditorium 17 Region 8 Asheville, Asheville Event Center 18 Region 7 Wilkesboro, Stone Performance Art Building 19 Region 5 Greensboro, Greensboro Coliseum 23 Region 4 Fayetteville, Educational Resource Center 24 Region 2 Kenansville, Duplin Commons 25 Region 1 Greenville, Murphy Center, East Carolina University 26 Region 3 Cary, Embassy Suites 30 Deadline for submission of the fall Scholar-Athlete Essay Contest
OCTOBER	1 Deadline to submit Catastrophic Insurance Premium 8 Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting 15 Schools submit winter sports schedule to regional supervisors of officials 20-21 NC Athletic Directors Fall Symposium, Winston-Salem 23 Education and Athletics Committee Meeting 24 City/County Athletic Directors Meeting – Cabarrus Schools Ed Center 25-27 Coach & Captain Retreat
NOVEMBER	1 Deadline for NCHSAA Board Agenda Items submission 15 NCHSAA Cheerleading Scholarship deadline
DECEMBER	1 Deadline to submit NCHSAA Membership Dues 3 New Board Orientation 4-5 Winter Board of Directors Meeting 15 Winter Eligibility Summary Deadline

	15	Officials' Registration Deadline for baseball, lacrosse, softball, w. soccer, and track & field
		2020
JANUARY	4	Deadline for NCHSAA Spirit of Sport Award nominations
	15	Schools submit spring sports schedule to regional supervisors of officials
FEBRUARY	7	Deadline for scholarship applications (Clary Medal, Charlie Adams Endowed Scholarship, Gainey Award, Willie Bradshaw Memorial Endowed Scholarship, Tony Cullen Memorial Scholarship & Lacrosse Scholarship)
	11	City/County Athletic Directors Meeting
	25	Submission of basketball playoff information online
MARCH	1	Deadline for "Heart of a Champion" Nominations
	7	NCHSAA State Basketball Championship Press Conference
	13	Deadline for Jerry McGree Endowed Scholarship
	15	Deadline for Scholar-Athlete first semester (Fall & Winter Sports) nominations
	TBD	Student Leadership Conference
APRIL	1	Deadline for "Eight Who Make a Difference" Nominations
	1	Deadline for NCHSAA Board Agenda Items submission
	1	NCHSAA Hall of Fame nomination deadline
	1	SAAC Applications Due
	1	Spring Eligibility Summary Deadline
	3	Deadline for Toby Webb Coach of the Year Award
	3	Commissioner Cup deadline
	3-7	NC Athletic Directors Conference, Winston-Salem
	16	Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
	18	Hall of Fame Banquet, Class of 2020
	25	Performance of the Week Luncheon
	30	Deadline for submission of the spring Scholar-Athlete Essay Contest
	TBD	"Heart of a Champion" Luncheon
MAY	5-6	Spring Board of Directors Meeting
	7	NCHSAA Annual Meeting
	15	School submit fall sports schedule to regional supervisors



Purpose of the *NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out*

Effective communication of expectations with all relevant parties is essential to help assure that the best emergency care possible is provided during the most critical moments. The NCHSAA *Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out* provides the platform to establish this effective communication as the venue specific Emergency Action Plan (EAP), required by the Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act, is reviewed prior to the game beginning. The Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Card provides guidance for the *Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out* that is convened and supervised with the Gameday Administrator, lead official, and the Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT) and/or First Responder (FR) from the competing schools (if required to be present at the event). Communication of expectations ascertained during the *Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out* helps generate a focused, coordinated emergency response and outcome during the most critical moments when the EAP is activated.



NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out Card



All Events

1. Name and contact information of Gameday Administrator, Licensed Athletic Trainer, and/or First Responder communicated.
2. Emergency Action Plan (EAP) reviewed and location of posted venue specific EAP identified.
3. What emergency equipment is available at venue and where is it located? (e.g., AED/CPR equipment, spinal injury stabilization equipment, exertional heat illness management equipment, etc.)

Outdoor Events

1. Who will be monitoring environmental and field/facility conditions during the event? (e.g., thunder and lightning, Wet Bulb Globe Temperature)
2. Who will notify officials of unsafe environmental or field/facility conditions?
3. Lightning or thunder disturbances safe shelter and evacuation route identified.
4. What is the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature?



NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out Report

(This information should be completed by the Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT) and/or First Responder (FR), or their designee, for events requiring their attendance. You are encouraged to complete as much of the information possible in advance of the game. Please retain this report for a period of one month after the school year concludes and provide it to the NCHSAA upon request.)

All Events

1. Sport/Date: _____ / _____
2. Gameday Administrator Name: _____
Gameday Administrator Cell Number: _____
3. Competing Teams: Home _____ Visiting _____
4. Home LAT/FR: Name: _____ Cell Number: _____
Home LAT/FR: Name: _____ Cell Number: _____
5. Visiting LAT/FR: Name: _____ Cell Number: _____
Visiting LAT/FR: Name: _____ Cell Number: _____
6. Additional medical personnel attending event is established. (e.g., EMS, MD, DO, PA)
Name(s): _____
7. EAP Reviewed: ____ Yes ____ No EAP location identified: ____ Yes ____ No

Outdoor Events

1. Lightning or thunder disturbances safe shelter and evacuation route identified: ____ Yes ____ No
2. Individual designated to monitor environmental and field/facility conditions.
(e.g., thunder and lightning, WBGT, field/facility)
Name: _____ Title: _____
Cell Number: _____
3. Individual designated to notify lead official regarding unsafe environmental and field/facility conditions. (e.g., thunder and lightning, WBGT, field/facility)
Name: _____ Title: _____
Cell Number: _____
4. What is the WBGT, if available, at the beginning of the contest? _____



***NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out
supervision and instructions for completion of the
NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out Report***

1. Gameday Administrator provides their contact information to appropriate home and visiting team personnel for use during event.
2. Name and contact information of Licensed Athletic Trainer and/or First Responder are recorded (if required to be present at the event).
3. Additional medical personnel attending event is established and recorded. (e.g., EMS, MD, DO, PA)
4. Methods of communication that will be used during the athletic event is established. (e.g., cell, voice commands, radio, hand signals)
5. Emergency Action Plan (EAP) specific to the venue reviewed and location of posted venue specific EAP identified. The NCHSAA recommends that a copy, hard or electronic, be provided to the lead official and visiting team personnel.

Dedicated consideration should be allocated to each of the following during the EAP review:

- Roles and locations of persons established should the EAP need to be activated
 - Person designated to provide immediate care of the athlete
 - Person designated to activate Emergency Medical System (EMS)
 - Person designated to retrieve emergency equipment
 - Person designated to meet EMS and direct them to the emergency scene
 - Person designated to control the emergency scene (e.g., limit emergency scene to those providing first aid and move bystanders away from area).
 - Emergency equipment availability and location at venue. (e.g., AED/CPR equipment, spinal injury stabilization equipment, exertional heat illness management equipment etc.)
 - Lightning or thunder disturbances safe shelter and evacuation route identified
 - Emergency transportation (e.g., What is the planned route for entrance/exit and is the route unencumbered? Is the ambulance a dedicated unit or on stand-by? If an ambulance is not on site, what is the mechanism for calling one? What is the designated hospital?)
 - Address issues that could potentially impact the EAP. (e.g., construction, weather, crowd flow)
6. Name of individual monitoring environmental conditions and field/facility conditions is identified and recorded. (e.g., thunder and lightning/wet bulb globe temperature)
 7. Name of individual who will notify lead official of unsafe environmental and field/facility conditions is recorded.
 8. Review criteria that will be used to determine if unsafe environmental conditions are present. (e.g., methods to monitor for potential thunder and lightning disturbance)
 9. Communicate name and contact information for SRO or whomever is responsible for security during event.



Expectations of Gameday Administrators **Specific to Health and Safety**

1. Convene and supervise the *NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Preparedness Time Out* prior to the event beginning. Persons required to attend the include Gameday Administrator, Lead Official, Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT)/First Responder (FR) from competing schools (if required to be present at the event).
2. Establish what means of communication will be used during event.
(e.g., cell phone, radio, voice, hand signals)
3. Identify individual(s) responsible for monitoring environmental and facility/field conditions. (e.g., thunder and lightning/WBGT, field/facility).
4. Identify individual(s) designated to notify lead official regarding unsafe environmental and/or field/facility conditions (e.g., thunder and lightning/WBGT, field/facility).
5. The Gameday Administrator is required to be on field/court at ALL TIMES during event. The Gameday Administrator must be available and able to receive and send communicate immediately in “real time”.