
2009-2010 PIAA

CONSTITUTION

and

BY-LAWS

Section 5. May 21, 1981.

A student who graduates from high school prior to completion of the athletic season of a sport in which the student is participating remains eligible in that sport for any portion of its athletic season not completed by the time of the student's graduation, provided the student is eligible in all other respects. **NOTE:** This modifies the Interpretation of March 20, 1965.

Sections 1A and 6A. April 14, 1984.

Pregnancy shall be treated as an illness if a physician certifies, in writing, that the student was unable to attend school as a result of pregnancy.

ARTICLE IX REPRESENTATION

Section 1. Eligibility of Students who Participated in a Collegiate Scrimmage or Contest.

No person who has participated in an athletic competition with or against a team sponsored by a college shall be eligible to participate in an interscholastic Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, and/or Contest in that sport. Students do not lose eligibility to participate in an interscholastic Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, and/or Contest in a sport if they, on an individual basis and as a private citizen, enter and participate in an athletic competition which is open to all persons, including collegiate athletes.

Section 2. All-Star Contests .

All-star Contests are those Contests in which students participate as individuals and not as members of their school Teams, and (1) the Contests are advertised or promoted as all-star Contests, and/or (2) the students selected to participate are chosen based upon reputation of the athletes or recommendation and/or referral by other persons. Such all-star Contests are not viewed with favor by PIAA as they promote certain participants to the detriment of others and they tend to arbitrarily and subjectively reward students for performance, both of which are contrary to the objectives of cultivating good sportsmanship and preventing unfair competitive advantages to participants. Therefore, students participating in Contests which are advertised or promoted as all-star Contests and/or in which students are selected based upon reputation of the athletes and/or recommendation or referral by other persons shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics in the involved sport(s) for a period of one year from the date of such participation.

Contests are not considered to be all-star Contests, and participation will not result in a loss of eligibility, if (1) the Contest is not advertised or promoted as an all-star Contest; (2) the Contest is open to all students or to all students in the same grade level or students are selected to participate based upon try-outs or a uniform standard of qualification (such as certified minimum times for a swimming or track event); and (3) students participating in such Contests do not represent their school in the Contests and do not wear any school-affiliated uniform and/or apparel in the Contests.

INTERPRETATION

Section 2. May 12, 2001.

The loss of eligibility in a sport provided under ARTICLE IX, Section 2, does not affect those students who have exhausted their eligibility in that sport at the time the loss provided in ARTICLE IX, Section 2 would otherwise occur. This relates almost exclusively to seniors.

Section 3. Multiple Teams at Same Level of Competition.

If a PIAA member school sponsors more than one Team in a sport at the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, a student is eligible to participate on only one of those Teams in any season. A student may transfer from a Team at one level of competition to a Team at another level of

competition but, after the first Regular Season Contest in that sport, shall not be transferred, either directly or by means of an intermediate transfer between levels of competition, from one Team to another at the same level of competition.

A PIAA member school is not prohibited from temporarily dividing one or more of its Teams into parts, such as (1) to permit participation of members of the Team in a Regular Season Contest or Tournament while the remainder of the Team participates in another Regular Season Contest or Tournament on the same day, or (2) to enter two Teams in the same Regular Season Tournament. Such participation by the temporarily divided Team shall constitute two separate Regular Season Contests or Tournaments and shall count against the maximum permitted number of Regular Season Contests for that Team.

Section 4. Eligibility of Teams and Multiple Individuals for Championship Contests.

A PIAA member school which does not sponsor during the Regular Season a Team which participates in at least 50% of the maximum permitted number of Regular Season Contests in a sport shall be ineligible to enter a Team in that sport in the District or Inter-District Championship Contests, to receive a Team score in that sport in District or Inter-District Championship Contests, and to enter in that sport in the District or Inter-District Championship Contests any Athletic Event which requires the participation of more than one individual, including but not limited to relay Teams and doubles tennis Teams.

This provision is waived if (1) the school scheduled at least 50% of the maximum permitted number of Regular Season Contests in a sport; and (2) the Team ultimately participated in at least 33.3% of the maximum permitted number of Regular Season Contests in a sport.

Section 5. Eligibility of Students for Championship Contests.

A student who participates as an individual or as a member of a Team in a sport in an athletic program other than that of the student's school, who is enrolled at a school having a Team in that sport, shall be ineligible to participate in the District or Inter-District Championship Contests in that sport unless the student has been in uniform and available to participate as a member of the student's school Team in that sport for at least 75% of the Contests occurring within the period of time beginning with that Team's first Regular Season Contest and ending with its last Regular Season Contest. Where the failure to meet the 75% requirement results, in part, from reasons other than participation on the non-school Team, the Principal may waive such absences, provided that the student was otherwise in uniform and available to participate in at least 50% of the total number of the Team's Regular Season Contests.

With regard to Practices for the period of time beginning with the Team's first Contest and ending with its last Contest of the Regular Season, the Principal of each school shall determine whether Practice in the athletic program other than that of the student's school meets the Practice requirements of that school. If it does not, the student shall be ineligible to participate in the District or Inter-District Championship Contests in that sport.

ARTICLE X CURRICULUM

Section 1.

To be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition, a student must pursue a curriculum defined and approved by the Principal as a full-time curriculum. Where required, this curriculum or its equivalent must be approved by, and conform to, the regulations of the State Board of Education and the Pennsylvania School Code, as well as any local policies established by the local School Board. The student must be passing at least four full-credit subjects, or the equivalent. Eligibility shall be cumulative from the beginning of a grading

period, shall be reported on a weekly basis, and shall be filed in the Principal's office. Where a student's cumulative work from the beginning of the grading period does not as of any Friday meet the standards provided for in this Section, the student shall be ineligible from the immediately following Sunday through the Saturday immediately following the next Friday as of which the student's cumulative work from the beginning of the grading period meets the standards provided for in this Section. Where a school is closed on a Friday for any reason, the Principal may, at the Principal's election, determine whether the student as of that day meets the standards provided for in this Section.

Section 2.

To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must have passed at least four full-credit subjects, or the equivalent, during the previous grading period, except as provided in Section 5.

Back work may be made up, providing it is in accordance with the regular rules of the school.

INTERPRETATIONS

Section 2. July 22, 1982; as amended December 7, 1985.

A student who has passed subjects which, in the aggregate, total at least four credits has passed the equivalent of four full-credit subjects.

Section 2. July 21, 1983; as amended December 7, 1985; and May 11, 2002.

ARTICLE X, Section 2 sets only the minimum academic standards for interscholastic athletic eligibility. Since the standards are minimum ones (passing "at least" four full-credit subjects), PIAA member schools may adopt higher or more stringent academic standards, but may not have lower academic standards.

Sections 1 and 2. October 6, 2001.

Whenever students spend approximately double the amount of time in class under "block" scheduling in comparison to "traditional" scheduling, a credit that a student is carrying under "block" scheduling would be the equivalent of two credits under "traditional" scheduling in determining athletic academic eligibility, except when eligibility is determined by final credits at the end of the school year.

Section 3.

In cases where a student's work in any preceding grading period does not meet the standards provided for in Section 2, said student shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for at least fifteen (15) school days of the next grading period where the school has four (4) grading periods per school year, or for at least ten (10) school days of the next grading period where the school has six (6) grading periods per school year, beginning on the first day report cards are issued, except as provided in Section 5.

Section 4. New Students Must Meet Eligibility Requirements On Curriculum.

Students who are enrolled for the first time must comply with the requirements of the curriculum rules. The standing required for the preceding week, the preceding grading period or the preceding year shall be obtained from the records of the last school which the student has attended.

Section 5. Use of Final Credits at End of School Year.

At the end of the school year, the student's final credits in the student's subjects rather than the student's credits for the last grading period shall be used to determine the student's eligibility for the next grading period.

INTERPRETATION

December 7, 1985; as amended May 11, 2002.

Students whose work does not meet the standards provided for in ARTICLE X, who attend summer school and correct their deficiencies, shall be eligible.

ARTICLE XI ASSUMED NAME

A student who participates in an Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, or Contest under a name other than the student's own shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for one year from the date of such participation under an assumed name.

ARTICLE XII ATHLETIC RELATIONS

Section 1. Teams which PIAA Member Schools may Play.

A. No Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, or Contest may be played with a Team not sponsored and controlled by a public school or Private School nor any school not belonging to PIAA, unless the non-PIAA member school's eligibility rules for school, Team, and contestants meet the requirements of PIAA.

All Contests shall be played pursuant to ARTICLE XVIII, Official Rules for Sports. This requirement does not apply to Contests played outside of Pennsylvania where the opponent school is not a member of PIAA.

B. Regular Season Scrimmages and/or Contests with alumni where authorized by the school are permitted in all sports except in Football and Wrestling. Such Scrimmages and/or Contests shall count against the maximum permitted number of Regular Season Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests in the applicable sport.

INTERPRETATIONS

Section 1-A. May 11, 2002.

Where it is deemed necessary by the respective School Boards, and/or Boards having jurisdiction over the schools, for students and/or Teams from different schools to share facilities at the same time, those students and/or Teams are not considered to be engaging in a Contest, Scrimmage, or Inter-School Practice so long as the students and/or Teams do not interact by competing against or Practicing with each other.

Section 1-A. July 27, 2006.

PIAA member senior high schools may participate in Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests against New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Inc. (NYSPHSAA) member senior high schools that have on their Teams' rosters junior high or middle school students enrolled in the 7th and/or 8th grades. However, PIAA member senior high schools are not permitted to use junior high or middle school students enrolled in the 7th and/or 8th grades on their Teams in such Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests, unless otherwise authorized under these By-Laws.

Section 1-B. July 24, 2009.

Except as provided in ARTICLE XII, ATHLETIC RELATIONS, Section 1B and ARTICLE XIV, COACHES, Section 2, what constitutes Coaching of the PIAA By-Laws, no person who has graduated or withdrawn from high school is eligible to participate in Practices, Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests.

Section 2. Practices, Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and Contests Limited to Six Days Per Calendar Week During Regular Season.

No Team, no individual member or members of such Team, and no individual representing any PIAA member school, may Practice or participate in an Inter-School Practice, Scrimmage, or Contest on more than six days in any Calendar Week during the Regular Season.

Section 3. Requirements of Written Contract.

Except where scheduling is done by or pursuant to the authority of the District Committee, all schools shall enter into either paper or electronic contracts for all Contests in which they participate. All contracts shall be on the official contract form entitled "Contract for Contests Under PIAA Rules" or its equivalent electronic version thereof. Where the opponent is not