



TO: Board of Directors and District Chairpersons
FROM: Jeff Stauss, Assistant Director
SUBJECT: Legislative Commission Meeting
DATE: January 29, 2024

The Legislative Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m. CST, Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at the NSAA office.

The Legislative Commission shall consider and screen the proposals for changes in the Constitution and Bylaws submitted by the districts to set the agenda for the Representative Assembly.

Proposals for changes in the Constitution and Bylaws that passed three or more districts **OR** six or more of the fourteen votes of the members of the Legislative Commission shall be placed on the Representative Assembly agenda.



Legislative Commission Agenda

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – 8:30 a.m. CST

NSAA Office

- I. Call to Order – Kara Graham, NSAA Board of Director Chairperson
- II. Introduction of Committee Members
 - District I – Kara Graham, Lincoln Southeast, Board of Director
 - District I – Dr. Dana Wiseman, Sutton, Board of Director
 - District I – Dr. JJ Toczek, Lincoln Public Schools, Chairperson District Managing Committee
 - District II – Dr. Nick Wemhoff, Fort Calhoun, Board of Director
 - District II – Thomas Lee, Omaha Westview, Board of Director
 - District II – James Shada, Arlington, Chairperson District Managing Committee
 - District III – Dr. Jon Cerny, Bancroft-Rosalie, Board of Director
 - District III – Jeff Bellar, Norfolk Catholic, Chairperson District Managing Committee
 - District IV – Darren Tobey, Broken Bow, Board of Director
 - District IV – Phil Truax, Lexington, Chairperson District Managing Committee
 - District V – Robert Drews, Arapahoe, Board of Director
 - District V – Sam Dunn, Loomis, Chairperson District Managing Committee
 - District VI – Dr. Troy Unzicker, Alliance, Board of Director
 - District VI – Kari Gifford, Banner County, Chairperson District Managing Committee
- III. Screen the Constitution & Bylaw Proposals
- IV. Discussion
- V. Adjournment



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Home School Transfer Bylaws**

Author: NSAA Board of Directors

NSAA District: All

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: All

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-06-01

Sections affected
in Constitution &
Bylaws:

Page
26

Article
2

Section
7.6.1,2,5,6,7

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	44	0	1
District 2	74	3	2
District 3	51	0	0
District 4	53	3	0
District 5	21	0	0
District 6	24	1	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			

Summary: During the last state legislative session, an amendment to Nebraska State Statute 79-2,136 was passed, which now allows home school/part-time/exempt students to participate in NSAA sanctioned activities by virtue of enrolling in no more than or no less than 5 credit hours per semester at an NSAA member school. This amendment made several NSAA bylaws non-compliant with state law. This proposal would revise several NSAA home school transfer bylaws - 2.7.6.1, 2.7.6.2, 2.7.6.5, 2.7.6.6 and 2.7.6.7, in addition to participation (2.2.1) and current semester bylaws (2.5.1) to become compliant with state law. Additionally, NSAA bylaws currently do not specifically address students who transfer from an NSAA member school to a home school. The proposed new bylaw 2.7.6.8 would address students who transfer from an NSAA member school to a home school and specify the conditions that must be met for a student to remain eligible.

New 2.7.6.8 Transfer from a Member School to a Home School. Students who were regular member school students and transfer to a home school in grades nine through twelve remain eligible to participate for the member school under the following conditions. The student must have received twenty credit hours for the immediate preceding semester. The student must be continuously enrolled in at least twenty credit hours of instruction, and a minimum of five credit hours must be from the member school the student represents in interscholastic competition. The student's part-time enrollment must be in the school in which the student's home school is located. For example, an option student who elects to home school and enroll as a part-time student in the student's resident school is considered a transfer student who must meet all transfer student eligibility requirements.

Rationale: Passing this proposal would bring the NSAA Constitution and Bylaws into compliance with newly passed state law, while also adding clarifying language regarding eligibility requirements for students who transfer from an NSAA member school to a home school.

Pros: NSAA Bylaws would become compliant with state law. Clarity would be provided for how to address member school to home school transfers.

Cons:



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

New Bylaw 1.5.3.9 - Law Compliance

Title:

Author:

NSAA Board of Directors

School:

NSAA District:

All

Proposal for:

Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected:

All

Activities
Affected:

All

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation
date:

2024-06-01

Sections affected
in Constitution &
Bylaws:

Page
6

Article
1

Section
5

Summary:

NEW Bylaw - 1.5.3.9 Amendments Made by Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors may amend the Constitution and Bylaws of the NSAA outside of the Legislative Procedure and Authority process contained in Paragraph 1.5 by action taken at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, when those changes are required by law. Any amendment made by the Board of Directors will take effect immediately upon its passage or at such time as designated by the Board of Directors, and the Executive Director will notify all member schools of the amendment and will update the official copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the NSAA to reflect the action of the Board of Directors.

Rationale:

During the last state legislative session, an amendment to Nebraska State Statute 79-2,136 was passed, which made several NSAA home school bylaws non-compliant with state law.

This proposal would add a new bylaw allowing for timely action to bring NSAA bylaws incompliance with newly passed law(s) in the future rather than forcing such a change to go through the NSAA Legislative Process, where implementation ensuring compliance with the law could be delayed by as many as 14 months.

Pros:

Passing this proposal would provide the association with the ability to quickly adapt the NSAA Constitution and bylaws to become compliant with changes in the law.

Cons:

Changes could be made to the Constitution and Bylaws outside of the NSAA Legislative Process, in which every member school has a vote.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	44	0	1
District 2	69	9	1
District 3	27	23	1
District 4	55	1	0
District 5	21	0	0
District 6	24	1	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Establish and implement a Classification/Competitive Balance Committee

Title: **Establish and implement a Classification/Competitive Balance Committee**

Author: Suzanne Sjuts

School: Bancroft-Rosalie

NSAA District: 3

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: All

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2023-09-29

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws: Page 7 Article 1 Section 5

Summary:

A Classification/Competitive Balance Committee will be established to address school classification issues for purposes of competitive balance. The Classification/Competitive Balance committee shall be comprised of fourteen representatives appointed by each of the six District Management Committees: District I shall have three representatives; District II shall have three representatives; District III shall have two representatives; District IV shall have two representatives; District V shall have two representatives; District VI shall have two representatives. The NSAA Executive Director shall serve as an ad hoc committee member.

The purpose of the committee will be to analyze data and other information and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding classification of schools and competitive balance. The Committee will hear appeals from schools that wish to opt down from their assigned class and be eligible for district and state competitions.

The Committee will consider the following factors: a. Socioeconomics of the school's population b. Demographics of the school's population c. Geography d. Competitive History and balance e. School enrollment factors (students in alternative schools, enrollment trends) f. Student participation rate in NSAA activities.

The committee will make a recommendation on each appeal to the Board of Directors for approval. Deadlines for appeals will be determined by the Board of Directors.

The Classification/Competitive Balance committee will be in place for the 2024-25 school year activities and representatives for 2024-25 will be the 2023-24 Classification Committee members.

Rationale: The purpose of the committee will be to analyze data and other information and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding classification of schools and competitive balance.

Pros: Provide an appeals process for schools that need to opt down in classification to field competitive teams.

Cons: Moves away from NDE certified enrollment numbers as the only way schools are classified.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	38	5	2
District 2	54	23	4
District 3	42	9	0
District 4	35	20	1
District 5	18	3	0
District 6	23	2	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Organized Practice Rule

Author: Jeremy VanAckeren

School: Papillion LaVista South

NSAA District: 2

Proposal For: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: Class A

Activities Affected: ALL

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school

WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA

WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools

WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	19	10	16
District 2	31	12	36
District 3	14	2	35
District 4	6	18	32
District 5	3	8	10
District 6	13	9	3

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			

Implementation date: December of 2024

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws: Athletic Bylaws - Article 3

Sections 3.1.2, 3.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5, 3.2.6, 3.2.6.1, 3.2.7

Summary:

There have been several changes over the past few years to the organized practice rule with regard to the length of time, the ratio of coaches/athletes, allowing pitchers/catchers to start early, and the type of equipment that is allowed (SEE 3.2.3). The outcome appears to be that we are just trying to find loopholes year after year to get our coaches more time to work with our athletes.

As a result, I propose that we have two "dead periods" during the calendar year.

1. December Moratorium (already established)
2. Any 7 consecutive day period in the month of July.

The intent of the December Moratorium and the July Moratorium is to provide coaches, athletes, and other school personnel a five to seven-day break from the activity season. This rule is to be interpreted as a five to seven-day dead period without organized practices, structured conditioning sessions, or meetings of any type. It is the member school's responsibility to monitor and enforce this rule. School-owned facilities shall be closed to all grades 9-12 workout activities during the moratorium (team or athletic meetings, practice, competition, weight-training, conditioning, open gym, or other physical activities).

The rest of the calendar year is free to use as you wish. There will no longer be an established practice rule with the exception of the two dead periods.

Pros: Eliminate the potential for rules being broken and more proposals written to skirt the rules

Cons: Don't see any at this time.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

2 hour organized practice 10 weeks prior to start of season

Title:

Author: Chad Holtz

School: Bellevue East

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: All Athletics

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-20

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	42	3	3.2.3

Summary: If member schools choose to hold off-season sports specific work-outs but due to facility and time restraints, member schools can have the following option limiting coaches to 2 hours per week for a maximum of 10 weeks. "Sport specific" workouts (does not include weight lifting and conditioning) Note: Anytime a coach works sports specific skills with an athlete, that time counts toward the 2-hour team total for that sport that week.

Rationale: This would be a benefit to multi sport coaches and facility scheduling. Some athletes are already doing 2 1-hour workouts per week (Tues/Thurs) so this wouldn't add anything to their plate but would allow multi sport coaches to do it in one setting as opposed to needing 3 time slots to workout 12 players Winter Sports 2 hours start Week 10 Spring Sports 2 hours start week 25 Fall Sports 2 hours start week 38

Pros: This is another route a school can go with managing coaches. Allows more coaches to coach other sports in your building.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	19	25	1
District 2	65	14	0
District 3	5	45	2
District 4	12	38	6
District 5	2	19	0
District 6	6	17	2

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

2 hour organized practice 10 weeks prior to start of season

Title:

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: Class A

Activities Affected: All Athletics

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-20

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:

Page	Article	Section
42	3	3.2.3

Summary: If member schools choose to hold off-season sports specific work-outs but due to facility and time restraints, member schools can have the following option limiting coaches to 2 hours per week for a maximum of 10 weeks. "Sport specific" workouts (does not include weight lifting and conditioning) Note: Anytime a coach works sports specific skills with an athlete, that time counts toward the 2-hour team total for that sport that week.

Rationale: This would be a benefit to multi sport coaches and facility scheduling. Some athletes are already doing 2 1-hour workouts per week (Tues/Thurs) so this wouldn't add anything to their plate but would allow multi sport coaches to do it in one setting as opposed to needing 3 time slots to workout 12 players Winter Sports 2 hours start Week 10 Spring Sports 2 hours start week 25 Fall Sports 2 hours start week 38

Pros: This is another route a school can go with managing coaches. Allows more coaches to coach other sports in your building.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	2	12	31
District 2	30	5	46
District 3	20	6	25
District 4	5	29	21
District 5	0	10	11
District 6	2	16	7
Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Coaches and Sponsors**

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: None

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-06-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	<u>Page</u> 31	<u>Article</u> 2.12	<u>Section</u> 2.12.2
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Summary: 2.12 COACHES AND SPONSORS 2.12.1 School's Responsibility. The entire management of a school's activity program must be under the control of school authorities, and any team competing in interschool competition must be under the direction of a member of the school's faculty. Schools take full responsibility in the vetting of assistant coaches and sponsors and making sure they have the appropriate training and backgrounds to work with their students.

2.12.1.1 When a team or individuals from a school compete in interschool competition, the team or individuals must be accompanied by the head coach or assistant coach as defined by the rules, or a school administrator, or certificated faculty member.

2.12.2 Head Coach, Assistant Coach, or Sponsor. To serve as a head or assistant coach or sponsor of any activity sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association, the individual must possess a valid Nebraska Teaching Certificate or Nebraska Administrative and Supervisory Certificate and have a written contract of employment as a coach or sponsor with the school in which he/she is to perform these duties.

APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 2.12.2 A Nebraska Teaching Certificate shall be defined as any certificate or permit issued by the Nebraska Department of Education that allows an individual to teach. <https://www.education.ne.gov/tcert/teaching-certificates/> 2.12.2.1 Individuals who possess a Provisional Trades Certificate and/or Special Services Certificate endorsed in coaching may be employed by a school district as a head or assistant coach in NSAA sponsored activities. ADD: School districts may choose to hire their own external coaches and employ those individuals who do not possess a Nebraska Teacher Certificate, or Nebraska Administrative and Supervisory Certificate.

2.12.2.2 The head coach/sponsor, assistant coach/sponsor or certificated faculty member has the following responsibilities: 1. Supervise the individuals or team representing the school in the

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	27	16	2
District 2	78	0	3
District 3	5	46	0
District 4	51	5	0
District 5	15	6	0
District 6	19	5	1

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			

competition. 2. Serve as the school's spokesperson in all administrative matters, controversial situations, obtaining medical assistance, talking with representatives of the media and any discussion with contest officials or judges. 3. In basketball, the only individual who is permitted to use the coach's box or approach the scorer's table for a correctable error situation. 4. Be seated on the team bench or within the team area during basketball, volleyball, baseball, football, soccer, and softball contests. 5. Accept awards presented to the school and/or coach

Rationale:	Rational: School districts require their own background checks and district wide requirements (vector trainings) NSAA requirements---external coaches will not be required to possess a certificate. School districts require much more than a first aid course and a coaching fundamental on-line class in order to be certified.
Pros:	External coaches do not have to do double trainings and other requirements by the state. Will not have to pay for another background check.
Cons:	Coaches may coach without any certification.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Dual Participation**

Author: Suzanne Sjuts

School: Bancroft-Rosalie

NSAA District: 3

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: All Athletics

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	<u>Page</u> 42	<u>Article</u> 3	<u>Section</u> 3.1.1.2
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Summary: Eliminate the language restricting students from simultaneously participating in two sports during a sports season.

Rationale: Provide opportunities for students. They cannot control in what season the sports they enjoy are offered. Dual participation is allowed under the rules of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), which sets the rules and regulations for high school sports.

All neighboring states but Missouri allow dual participation.

Pros: Local Control- Allows for school boards, administrators, coaches, and families to make athletic participation decisions for their students. Provides opportunities for students by eliminating sports participation restrictions on student athletes. The rationale given from other states is that restricting dual participation is not legally defensible.

Cons: Would require school policies for schools that choose to allow dual participation.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	15	29	1
District 2	No	Motion	0
District 3	29	22	0
District 4	15	41	0
District 5	8	13	0
District 6	12	12	1

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Out of State Transfers

Title:

Author: Nick Brost

School: South Platte

NSAA District: 6

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: All

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-05-01

Sections affected in
Constitution & Bylaws: Page 26 Article 2.7.8. Section School to School Transfers

Summary: Changing 2.7.8 to allow students transferring from out of state to Nebraska schools using the May 1st transfer list. Currently the May 1st transfer list is only for Nebraska students transferring to other Nebraska schools.

Rationale: Providing the same opportunity for students transferring from out of state to Nebraska without being ineligible for 90 school days would be fair and equitable.

Pros: Students transferring to Nebraska schools from out of state would be eligible for activities immediately.

Cons: None.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	29	11	5
District 2	57	16	6
District 3	40	8	3
District 4	38	16	2
District 5	12	9	0
District 6	13	12	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Addition of a new NSAA Championship Sport/Activity: eSports

Title:

Author: Dr. John Krogstrand

School: Omaha Public Schools

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: None

This proposal: **WILL** increase costs to the school
WILL increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	Page	Article	Section
	42	3	1

Summary: We request your support for the addition of eSports to the offerings of Championship events conducted by the NSAA beginning with the 2023-24 school year. At present, over 8,000 schools across the United States sponsor an official eSports team. Over 50% of State Associations (NFHS Members) now offer or have plans to offer eSports as a State Championship program. Similarly, over 200 Colleges and Universities across the nation offer competitive eSports teams. Locally, Bellevue University, Hastings College and Midland University not only offer eSports as a varsity program, but do so with performance-based scholarships as well. Establishing the NSAA as the regulatory body for an eSports Championship allows for program expansion and promotion of one of the fastest-growing scholarship extra-curricular opportunities for students in Nebraska. During this past spring and present Fall season, over 20 teams from Nebraska High Schools are already utilizing the PlayVS platform in a regional league, including last year's National Champion in the game of "Hearthstone" - Westside HS.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	3	33	9
District 2	19	53	8
District 3	0	49	2
District 4	5	50	1
District 5	4	17	0
District 6	6	17	2

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Use of Student managers at Basketball Practice

Title:

Author: Nick Brost

School: South Platte

NSAA District: 6

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: Class D

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball

Girls Basketball

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school

WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA

WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools

WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date:

2024-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:

Page
56

Article
3.11.1.7

Section
Basketball

Summary:

Update 3.11.1.7 to: During the basketball season, the only persons allowed to participate in any practice session, drill or scrimmage, are the team members and designated team student managers. A manager is defined as a 7th or 8th grade student in good academic standing who carries out duties for their high school team on a daily basis. These individuals will need to have an Athletic Physical and NSAA Consent Form on file with the school. Any other adult, college student, or alumni may not participate in any practice session, drill, scrimmage, game, or contest in which a school team or an individual who is a member of a school team is involved.

Rationale:

Due to decreasing participation numbers in some schools, many teams have limited numbers of players out for sports which make it difficult to have enough high school participants to practice. Allowing 7th and 8th grade managers to participate in practice may allow teams to have adequate numbers of students to have effective practice sessions, drills and scrimmages.

Pros:

Allows adequate number of students to practice.

Cons:

Some junior high managers may not be physically able to practice at the same level as high school students. Schools should determine if the use of students managers for practice is appropriate for their school.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	21	4	20
District 2	No	Motion	0
District 3	30	16	5
District 4	36	7	11
District 5	9	12	0
District 6	22	3	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Use of Student Managers at Basketball Practice

Title:

Author: Jordan Brabec

School: Howells-Dodge

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball

Girls Basketball

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school

WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA

WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools

WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:

<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
56	3.11.1.7	Basketball

Summary: Change to: 8. During the season of sport, the only persons allowed to participate in any practice session, drill, or scrimmage, are the team members and designated team student managers. A manager is defined as a 7th or 8th grade student in good academic standing who carries out duties for their high school team on a daily basis. These individuals will need to have an Athletic Physical and NSAA Consent Form on file with the school. Any other adult, college student, or alumni are not allowed to participate in any practice session, drill, scrimmage, game, or contest in which a school team or individual who is a member of a school team is involved. a. This does not prevent a coach from being involved for the primary purpose of teaching and demonstrating skills, methods, or techniques ***Student Mangers who are enrolled in that school's Junior High which assist the team each day be allowed to participate in practice drills and practice scrimmages.

Rationale: Due to dwindling participation in basketball, especially on the girl's side, many teams have limited numbers of players out for basketball. Factor in illness, injury, or providing a freshman-sophomore game experience during the week, many teams do not have enough players to conduct drills or scrimmage in practice. Allowing a junior high student manager to fill this role will allow full scrimmages and effective drills as part of a practice. Neighboring states such as Iowa and South Dakota allow for similar participation.

Pros: Allows smaller schools to scrimmage 5 on 5 and makes drills more effective when team size prohibits it.

Cons: Some managers could be small in stature; therefore, the coach should determine who should participate in order to keep everyone safe.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	25	17	3
District 2	41	19	22
District 3	33	18	0
District 4	49	9	3
District 5	7	14	0
District 6	11	14	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Junior High participants at High School Cross Country Practice

Title:

Author:

Nick Brost

School:

South Platte

NSAA District:

6

Proposal for:

Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected:

All

Activities Affected:

Boys Cross-Country
Girls Cross-Country

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date:

2024-08-01

Sections affected in

Page

Article

Section

Constitution & Bylaws:

57

3.11.3.4

Cross Country

Summary:

Add 3.11.3.4 During the cross country season, a school may permit seventh and eighth grade students to participate in practice sessions and drills.

Rationale:

This change would allow Junior High and High School cross country teams to share practice times, location and coaches. Under the current rules, schools are not able to share practice times and locations, as it could potentially Approved rulings and interpretations for 3.11.1-3.11.13.

Pros:

Could allow Junior High and High School participants to share practice locations, times and coaches.

Cons:

None.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	25	11	9
District 2	51	7	23
District 3	48	2	1
District 4	52	1	2
District 5	17	4	0
District 6	23	1	1
Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Weekly Participation in Interscholastic Play Production

Title:

Author: Tyler Herman, Becky Stahr, and the NSCTA

School: York

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: Play Production

This proposal: **WILL** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws: Page 18 Article 5.4.3 Section 1

Summary: Participation in interscholastic play production by any high school student is limited to three contests per calendar week, Monday through Saturday. There shall be no interscholastic play production competition on Sunday. This proposal will only increase costs to the schools if schools choose to participate in 3 contests per week.

Rationale: Play production's season is shorter than most seasons. Allowing schools to compete in three contests per week gives students and directors more feedback before districts and state competitions.

Pros: Allowing three competitions instead of two per week provides students and directors with more feedback before entering the NSAA districts and state series.

Cons: Allowing 3 competitions per week would increase the cost to the programs that chose to compete an additional day.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	29	13	3
District 2	19	32	30
District 3	6	43	2
District 4	29	24	3
District 5	2	17	2
District 6	5	19	1
Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Increasing baseball and softball offseason participation limits

Title:

Author: Scott Hodges

School: Omaha Westview

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All Classes

Activities Affected: Baseball & Softball

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-12-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	Page	Article	Section
	44	3	3.2.3

Summary: Beginning in the 2024-25 school year, baseball and softball coaches are permitted to increase the number of offseason practice participants from 4 to 7 players for sport specific training (hitting/fielding and throwing). This increase would bring baseball and softball up to current percentages of sports like basketball (80%), football (64%), soccer (64%) and volleyball (66%). At present, with only 4 participants, we are at 44%. These percentages are based on numbers of offseason workout participants allowed, compared to actual players on the field during the contest.

Rationale: The spring season is roughly 12-weeks in length from start to finish. There are 9-weeks of competition from the start of the season to the state championship game. The period between the start of spring sports to the start of competition is typically for tryouts and practice. Tryouts for some programs may last in the upwards of 5-7 days. Depending on the weather, these tryouts may be held inside and/or during off-peak times for winter sports. Once tryouts are completed, players and coaches have roughly an additional 8-10 days to prepare for their first contest. This can also be a challenge with the weather and facility availability due to winter sports and other activities.

Pros: By implementing the 7-player practice groups, coaches will have a greater opportunity to work with more players year-round, not only with skill work, but also in game-like settings. This additional preparation will enhance the athlete's evaluation process by providing a thorough background of their abilities that are not hindered by tryout constraints and weather.

Cons: Furthermore, with baseball and softball being increasingly expensive sports due to families purchasing gloves, bats, cleats etc. along with off season training, I feel that by increasing the number of athletes we can work with it, that it will help alleviate financial burdens placed on families due to independent instruction that these players seek during the offseason.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	23	3	19
District 2	63	3	15
District 3	18	5	28
District 4	26	2	26
District 5	6	6	9
District 6	9	12	4

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Junior High Participants at High School Track Practice**

Author: Nick Brost

School: South Platte

NSAA District: 6

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: Boys Track
Girls Track

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in
Constitution & Bylaws: Page 58 Article 3.11.10.5 Section Track & Field

Summary: Add 3.11.10.5 During the track season, a school may permit seventh and eighth grade students to participate in practice sessions and drills.

Rationale: This change would allow Junior High and High School track and field teams to share practice times, location and coaches. Under the current rules, schools are not able to share practice times and locations, as it could potentially violate Approved rulings and interpretations for 3.11.1-3.11.13.

Pros: Could allow Junior High and High School participants to share practice locations, times and coaches.

Cons: None.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	36	8	1
District 2	56	7	18
District 3	50	0	1
District 4	50	3	0
District 5	20	1	0
District 6	25	0	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Use of Student managers at Volleyball Practice

Title:

Author: Nick Brost

School: South Platte

NSAA District: 6

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: Class D

Activities

Affected: Volleyball

This proposal:

WILL NOT increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:

<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
59	3.11.11.4	Volleyball

Summary: Add 3.11.11.4 During the volleyball season, the only persons allowed to participate in any practice session, drill or scrimmage, are the team members and designated team student managers. A manager is defined as a 7th or 8th grade student in good academic standing who carries out duties for their high school team on a daily basis. These individuals will need to have an Athletic Physical and NSAA Consent Form on file with the school. Any other adult, college student, or alumni may not participate in any practice session, drill, scrimmage, game, or contest in which a school team or an individual who is a member of a school team is involved.

Rationale: Due to decreasing participation numbers in some schools, many teams have limited numbers of players out for sports which make it difficult to have enough high school participants to practice. Allowing 7th and 8th grade managers to participate in practice may allow teams to have adequate numbers of students to have effective practice sessions, drills and scrimmages.

Pros: Allows adequate number of students to practice.

Cons: Some junior high managers may not be physically able to practice at the same level as high school students. Schools should determine if the use of students managers for practice is appropriate for their school.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	22	4	19
District 2	No	Motion	0
District 3	33	12	6
District 4	39	7	10
District 5	7	14	0
District 6	21	4	0
Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Use of Student Managers at Wrestling Practice

Title:

Author: Nick Brost

School: South Platte

NSAA District: 6

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: Class D

Activities Affected: Boys Wrestling
Girls Wrestling

This proposal: **WILL NOT** increase costs to the school
WILL NOT increase costs to the NSAA
WILL NOT increase travel for participating schools
WILL NOT decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws: Page 59 Article 3.11.12.7 Section Wrestling

Summary: Add 3.11.12.7 During the wrestling season, the only persons allowed to participate in any practice session, drill or scrimmage, are the team members and designated team student managers. A manager is defined as a 7th or 8th grade student in good academic standing who carries out duties for their high school team on a daily basis. These individuals will need to have an Athletic Physical and NSAA Consent Form on file with the school. Any other adult, college student, or alumni may not participate in any practice session, drill, scrimmage, game, or contest in which a school team or an individual who is a member of a school team is involved.

Rationale: Due to decreasing participation numbers in some schools, many teams have limited numbers of players out for sports which make it difficult to have enough high school participants to practice. Allowing 7th and 8th grade managers to participate in practice may allow teams to have adequate numbers of students to have effective practice sessions, drills and scrimmages. Especially in wrestling where there may be a large difference in size of members of the high school team, schools may allow junior high managers who are closer in size to the high school participants to participate in practice which would result in safer practice partners.

Pros: Allows adequate number of students to practice and appropriate size differences between practice participants.

Cons: Some junior high managers may not be physically able to practice at the same level as high school students. Schools should determine if the use of students managers for practice is appropriate for their school.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	14	4	27
District 2	No	Motion	0
District 3	32	12	7
District 4	32	14	9
District 5	7	13	1
District 6	19	6	0

Legislative Commission			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			