



TO: Superintendents and NSAA Contact Person

FROM: Jennifer Schwartz, Associate Director

SUBJECT: Proposals

DATE: October 3, 2019

Included with this transmission are the proposals submitted by member schools within your respective NSAA legislative district to be acted upon at your first NSAA District Meeting.

At the NSAA District Meetings, each member school shall be entitled to one vote. Voting will be conducted utilizing a clicker system in which each school's vote will be recorded on each item in which a vote is taken. The administrative head of the school or any school official so designated shall be considered the authorized voting representative of the member school. All legislative proposals receiving a majority vote at the first District Meeting in each district are to be forwarded to the NSAA to be distributed to all member schools prior to the second District Meeting in January. A copy of the proposals for the second NSAA District Meeting will again be forwarded to school administrators who are encouraged to share those proposals with the school's entire governing board.

[Proposed changes in NSAA Bylaws](#), must successfully pass through the legislative process. (i.e. November District Meeting, January District Meeting, Legislative Commission, Representative Assembly and if required a ratification of member schools) to be enacted.

[Proposed changes in NSAA Approved Rulings](#), rest in the final approval of the Board of Directors.

[Class Caucus proposals](#) are included for your information and are not acted upon at district meetings.

A paper copy of the proposals will not be provided at the NSAA District Meeting. Please print a copy of the proposals for your reference at the meeting.

District 1 Meeting

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

NSAA Office, Media Center, Lincoln

10:00 a.m.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Class B District Baseball**

Author: Brad McMillan

School: Waverly

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class B

Activities Affected: Baseball

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: 2020-05-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	17	District Baseball	

Summary: District Dates. District tournaments will be held May 8th, 9th, 11th and 12th (rain date). Class A AND B: District tournaments for five AND SIX team districts will be held on Friday, May 8th and Saturday May 9th. District tournaments for four team districts will be held on Saturday May 9th. Rain out dates include: Monday, May 11th and Tuesday, May 12th.

Rationale: Proposal keeps the district baseball tournament format consistent with Class A & B. The NSAA has stated having both Classes running district tournaments on the same day will not have an affect on umpires covering all games.

For Class B this allows an extra rain date as the current format is scheduled to end the Monday. This past spring at least 3 Class B district baseball hosts requested permission to finish their district tournament on a Saturday. The NSAA denied all three requests citing in the manual, it states Class B will finish their tournaments on the Monday of Week 45 with Tuesday as the rain date, as the reason to not allow tournaments to finish on Saturday. The following Monday the NSAA contacted the remaining schools and pushed them to complete games by any means necessary due to pending inclement weather. One district in particular was moved over an hour away (twice) after the host school's site became unplayable. In addition, that same district wasn't able to complete their tournament until Wednesday, making pitch counts an issue for the start of the State Tournament for the qualifying team. Another district finished in unplayable conditions and was informed by umpires following the game that they would have called the game had the host team not been an automatic wildcard.

This proposal allows host schools flexibility to complete district tournaments by Saturday which is consistent with other sports - softball, volleyball, basketball, soccer. It also helps the NSAA avoid their immediate deadlines for program information for the state tournament by allowing more time for schools to get stats, records and information submitted with play concluding on Saturday.

Pros: Eliminates the need for Monday/Tuesday games unless of inclement weather.
Provides flexibility to the tournament host/director. Consistent with other sports related to district finals ending on a Saturday.
Potential of one less day of instruction time missed for remaining teams
Potential for less travel time

Cons:



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Class B District Baseball**

Author: Brad McMillan

School: Waverly

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class B

Activities Affected: Baseball

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: 2020-05-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	17	District Baseball	

Summary: District Dates. District tournaments will be held May 7TH, 8TH, 9TH, 11TH, and 12TH (Rain Date). Class A: District tournaments for five team districts will be held on Friday, May 8TH and Saturday May 9TH. District tournaments for four team districts will be held on Saturday May 9TH. Rain out dates include: Monday, May 11TH and Tuesday, May 12TH. CLASS B: DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS WILL BE HELD MAY 7TH, 8TH, 9TH. RAIN DATES INCLUDE MONDAY MAY 11TH AND TUESDAY MAY 12TH.

Rationale: Essentially we are taking the final scheduled date of the Class B Tournaments and moving it to the front end of the tournament (Thursday). This takes that final date off of the Monday and puts it back on Saturday elevating any scheduled tournament games to be completed the week of the State Tournament, outside of having to use the rain dates. Furthermore, by taking the final tournament date off that Monday and moving it to Saturday allows district hosts the autonomy to condense the tournament as necessary for facility use, weather, or any other local situation that could arise. Currently, Class B districts that had the ability to finish on Saturday were denied the opportunity because the manual states the final scheduled date for Class B games is slated for that Monday. If weather is a factor then that pushes teams into playing on Tuesday or even Wednesday which happened to one Class B district this past year and then pitch counts become even more of a factor. The proposal adds a date to the front end of the tournament which allows more flexibility between host sites and the NSAA with the Monday and Tuesday as rain dates and as we know, in the spring time weather is always a factor. This proposal allows host schools flexibility to complete district tournaments by Saturday which is consistent with other sports - softball, volleyball, basketball, soccer. It also helps the NSAA avoid their immediate deadlines for program information for the state tournament by allowing more time for schools to get stats, records and information submitted with play concluding on Saturday.

Pros: Allows district host autonomy to schedule games as necessary based on host site facility, weather, or other factors. Meaning, a district host could finish games on Friday or Saturday if possible. Eliminates the need for Monday/Tuesday games unless of inclement weather. Consistent with other sports related to district finals ending on a Saturday. Potential of one less day of instruction time missed for remaining teams Potential for less travel time

Cons: Schools could be forced to make changes in their regular season schedule for week 44 (May 4-9, 2020).



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Basketball District Play at Home Sites Class C**

Author: Jenny Wagner

School: Centennial

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

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 decrease a student's or coach's instruction time

Implementation date: 2019-09-23

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	10	Sub-District and District Information	Sub-District and District Assignments

Summary: Classes C1 & C2 schools are divided into 12 sub-districts. The schools were assigned to sub-districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. Sub-district games will be played at a centralized, neutral location.

- The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final.
- The next four non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for the district final.
- The 16 teams qualifying for the district final will be placed on a 16-team bracket based on wildcard point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final match. If the higher seed cannot host, the two schools will agree upon a site for the district final. If the two schools involved cannot agree; the NSAA will select the site. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.

Rationale: In the last few years, at times it has been difficult to find a neutral site that is willing to host the district final match so teams are sometimes having to travel even farther than a centralized location to be able to play on a neutral site. Due to the difficulty of finding a site, some schools host multiple games in one day, so you aren't always able to get a choice of the your desired time to play. Schools/teams/parents are used to traveling longer distances than in the past, so travel is not as much of a concern as it was in the past.

Pros: You would have larger crowds, especially from the home site. You have a site to play and don't have to search for someone else willing to host.

Cons: Lower seeded team has to travel greater distances. If boys game is played on Monday or Tuesday, it could cut into instructional time.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Basketball Contest Limitations**

Author: Tim Huls

School: Hampton

NSAA District: 1

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: 2021-09-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	52	3	11.1.3

Summary: No team representing a member school may participate in more than SIXTEEN basketball games and two tournaments in addition to the state-sponsored series of tournaments from the date of the first permitted contest to the close of the State Basketball Tournament.
Note: If a team participates in an additional tournament other than the allowed tournaments, each game played shall count towards the SIXTEEN game limit. Students may also play SEVENTEEN games plus one tournament or EIGHTEEN games and no tournaments.

Rationale: The basketball season is long (sixteen weeks not including the State Championships). Most games are currently being played on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. In the meantime, students playing basketball may also be involved in Play Production and Speech during the winter season. We preach to students that being involved is beneficial and healthy. However, this long season is physically, mentally and emotionally exhausting for students. Lowering the limit on competitions will give students a much needed break.

Pros: Student/Athlete mental and physical well-being
Less Travel
Less Expenses
Eliminating two games could allow the basketball season to start one week later (practices starting after Thanksgiving), giving student athletes a longer recovery period between the fall season. Which could result in a longer break between Fall and Winter Seasons (especially beneficial for those students/athletes that go far into Fall post season tournaments)
A longer break between seasons could result in more participation in Unified Sports. Post Season Unified Sports tournament(s) could take place during the longer break between seasons.
Less games during the regular season would open up more dates for postponed games during the winter season.

Cons: Some may say that too much down time between seasons could result in kids getting into more trouble (debatable).
Schools having to restructure their schedules (it can be done).



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **45-Point Rule for 8-Man Football**

Author: Don Jacobs

School: Pawnee City

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class D

Activities Affected: Football

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: 2020-08-27

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	30	35 Point Running Clock	

Summary: "45 POINT RULE (8-MAN) ...In eight-man games, any time following the end of the first half of play, once one team has a 45-point differential in team score over their opponent, the game is ended. EXCEPTION: The administration or head coaches from the two teams may agree, before the game, to allow a continuous running clock for the remainder of the game after halftime and when a 45-point differential has been achieved. Only during officials' time-outs, team time-outs, end of the third quarter and for injuries will the clock stop. If the score drops below the 45-point differential, the clock will continue to run with the above exceptions. This exception does not apply to playoff games and State Championship games."

-Proposed by Brian Rottinghaus, Superintendent, and Donald Jacobs, MS/HS Principal & AD

Rationale:

- 1) Player safety is an ever-growing priority for football. However, many injuries that occur in eight-man football games occur in the second half of games after a 45-point differential has been reached. Ending games after a 45-point differential has been reached, would improve player safety for the sport.
- 2) There is a wide discrepancy in skill and ability among eight-man football teams in Nebraska. Many quality eight-man teams struggle playing a full eight-game regular season schedule because teams on their schedule must forfeit due to not having enough healthy players. By reducing second-half running-clock injuries, teams will be less likely to need to forfeit games due to not having enough healthy players.
- 3) Due to limited participation of students in football in some eight-man schools, there is a wide discrepancy in the number of players from one school to the next. Therefore, during a second-half running clock, some teams can rotate multiple players at every position, while other schools are forced to play the same players for the duration of the game.
- 4) When teams are getting beat by scores in the 50's, 60's, etc., the morale of their players goes down greatly. It is difficult to motivate players to continue playing aggressively when they are behind by so many points. Ending games after a 45-point differential has been reached, would improve players' morale going into their next week of practice and subsequent game.
- 5) Teams are often not concerned about taking their best players off of the field even when having a first-half lead of more than 45 points. By re-instituting the 45-point rule, coaches will be encouraged to substitute in their JV players sooner, to avoid ending the game at halftime, so that the game will continue into the third and fourth quarters with a score differential of less than 45 points. This will also limit the likelihood of injuries since players of more comparable size and athletic ability will be playing against each other for a greater duration of the game.

Pros: -Player safety -More involvement of JV players in high-scoring games -Fewer forfeited games due to injuries

Cons: -Less time of actual competition for some teams in some games



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Girls Wrestling Added as NSAA Sanctioned Activity**

Author: Neal Randel

School: Beatrice

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: Wrestling

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

Implementation date: 2020-11-09

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	<u>Page</u> 52	<u>Article</u> 3.11.12	<u>Section</u> 1a
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Summary: Girls Wrestling Proposal
Yearbook: Article 3.11.12 Section: 1a Page 52

Girls wrestling shall be added as a winter sports season beginning with the 2020 - 2021 NSAA calendar year. The girls wrestling season shall begin with the first day of practice (same as the boys) as permitted by NSAA rules and shall conclude the same weekend as the current boys individual state championship.

Will this proposal impact cost to the school? YES, See Points of Emphasis (POE) #5
Will this proposal impact cost to the NSAA? YES (However, increase attendance will more than offset costs)
Will this proposal increase travel for participating schools? YES (Depending on the girls qualifying procedure... POE # 4)
Will this proposal impact a student or coaches loss of instruction time? NO

Points of Emphasis:
Implementation: This proposed plan is to have a two (2) year transition period that would permit girls the option of participating in both their school's boys and girls lineup during the regular season contests ONLY. If a tournament only hosts a boys division, girls will have the option of competing in the boys division. If that tournament offers both a boys and girls division, the girls are required to wrestle in the girls division. From the start of implementation of Girls Wrestling, girls must participate in the girls only postseason. After the two (2) year transition period, the NSAA Girls Wrestling Advisory Committee will determine if numbers have grown to support girls vs girls only season. Rational: We do not want to eliminate competitive opportunities for girls in geographic areas or school districts where cost or coaching prevent them from attending girls only events during the season. The ultimate goal is to have girls wrestling only girls

2. Coaching and Practice: An NSAA member school who offers both boys wrestling and girls wrestling are permitted to use the same coaching staff to oversee both teams. Furthermore, both the boys and girls wrestling teams that consist of enrolled students from the same school or an approved cooperative may practice at the same time in the same practice facility under the guidance and leadership of the same coaching staff. Girls are encouraged to practice drills and skills against other girls on the team, however this decision will be determined by each individual high school staff, i.e. coach, athletic director and/or principal, instead of by district. Rational: Two schools only have 5 girls total come out for wrestling. Another school in the same district has 14. Intra district practices are not allowed or arranging cooperative practices is challenging. If a School District determines girls can only practice with other girls: The high school with 14 girls can make it work and is successful The two high schools with fewer girls struggle to provide a way for girls to drill and practice the sport. The girls find this is a barrier toward participation, quit the team, or have an unsuccessful experience in the sport.

3. Weight Classes: Weight classes will be determined after alpha hydration assessments are completed and entered into the online database. The number of girls weight classes shall be ten (10) The actual weight classes will be determined from the alpha assessment data in an effort to achieve as much equal distribution in weight classes as possible This process will be used in the first two (2) years of the sanctioned implementation process, with permanent weight classes to be established in the third year and beyond. (Unless the NFHS Establishes Weight Classes for Girls Wrestling)

4. State Tournament: A one class state tournament will be established by the NSAA. The location, date and time of the state tournament along with number of qualifiers and method of qualification to be determined by the NSAA after the alpha hydration assessments are completed.

5. Cost Analysis of Girls Wrestling: This information to be provided by Andy Lewis, West Point-Beemer from the 2018-2019 season: West Point current has 10 competitions that are designated for only our girls team. West Point also designated one of its current assistant wrestling coaches as the head girls coach. It should be noted that our expenses are based on 22 female wrestlers and may be higher due to this number.

2018-2019 West Point Public Schools cost of program:
Creating head girls coach: \$1795, difference between assist and head coach positions
Tournament entree costs: \$480, only two competitions charged. Both were \$10/wrestlers
Referee fees: \$280, two referees for JV/Girls Tournament:

Metals for home tournament: \$0, none current but will have them for the 2019-2020 year
Travel costs: \$1150, Fuel and costs for coach (with CDL) driving bus to tournaments. *This is atypical since we are one of the only schools that transported via bus.
Equipment for female wrestlers: Total: \$1870, cost per athlete was between \$80-90. This includes singlet, undershirt, hair covers, and head gear.
Costs for WPBPS: Coaching costs: \$1795 Tournament Fees: \$480 Referees: \$280 Metals/Plaques: \$0 Travel Expense: \$1150 Equipment: \$1870
Total: \$5575

6. Team Match Limitation: This article remains the same for both girls and boys wrestling participants... no change in this article

7. Student Match Limitation: This article remains the same for boys and girls wrestling participants... no change to this article

Rationale:

Rationale:

In Nebraska, the opportunities for girls during the winter sports season is limited to Basketball and Swimming and Diving. Swimming and Diving has 41 schools involved out of 282 schools that have basketball. In 2018-19, Nebraska had 229 schools with boys wrestling programs. The current number of girls wrestling in Nebraska is on the rise. Although some critics might suggest girls have the opportunity to wrestle in our current setting (in boys' wrestling), this argument lacks merit. Nebraska is better than this. True opportunity exists when a student can compete against their peers. Nebraska high school girls do not have this access currently. Providing girls' wrestling would give our female students true access to the sport of wrestling.

Girls and boys in wrestling deserve to compete against their own gender. Girls should not be expected to shoulder the work of growing opportunities. High school girls in Nebraska will have increased scholarship opportunities for higher education (64 colleges and universities across the country currently offer womens' wrestling). Youth, Collegiate, National, World and Olympic wrestling communities have embraced girls wrestling and we need the scholastic world to join them. State Interscholastic Associations are mobilizing and more are joining. 18 states will hold a Girls State Championship during the 2019-20 scholastic season. It is a national effort and we want everyone to experience success in this process. We now have solid participation data and information to support creating a girls division and state championship. The local, state and national numbers are continuing to grow and the visibility of girls wrestling is all around us. The NFHS participation numbers for girls wrestling grew from 16,562 in 2018 to 21,124 in 2019. A 27.5% increase of 4,562 girls across the nation.

Pros:

Cons:



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: State Golf Inclement Weather

Author: Mark Armstrong

School: Lincoln Southwest

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class A

Activities Affected: Boys Golf
Girls Golf

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: 2020-08-01

	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
Sections affected in Activities Manual:	18		NSAA State Golf Championships

Summary: Inclement Weather State Championships
4. If weather or golf course conditions impact the beginning or continuation of the event, the following policy will be employed:
a. If play is started but not finished by all players in the field, then Round 1 will be completed on Day 2, followed by 18 holes, started either shotgun or tee times, in order to compete the 36 hole total.
b. If no play happens on Day 1, then Day 2 will consist of 36 holes, with starting format to be determined by the NSAA.
c. If option b cannot be completed on Day 2, the tournament will be reduced to 18 holes, with starting format to be determined by the NSAA.

Rationale: In order to protect the integrity of the State Golf Championships, every attempt should be made to complete a 36 hole tournament.

Pros:
1. This allows the tournament to be completed in the original two days.
2. Allows the tournament to be completed with the maximum number of holes potentially be played.

Cons: Can make for a long day of competition for the athletes.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Class B Sub-District Soccer**

Author: Brad McMillan

School: Waverly

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class B

Activities Affected: Boys Soccer
Girls Soccer

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: 2021-05-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	22-23	Class B Districts	

Summary: Class B schools will be placed into eight SUB-districts composed of boys' teams and eight SUB-districts composed of girls' teams. Both the boys' and the girls' SUB-districts will be composed of either four-team SUB-districts or five-team SUB-districts. The winner of each SUB-district will qualify for the district final round. The schools will be assigned to SUB-districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south directions will be used in some cases to decrease the distance between the schools within a SUB-district. The highest seeded team will be given first choice to host the SUB-district. Class B sub-districts will be SATURDAY OF WEEK 43, Monday & Tuesday of week 44. The district final will be Saturday of week 44.

- A. The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final round.
- B. Eight additional teams will qualify on the basis of the wild card selection procedure.
- C. Sixteen teams will be seeded according to NSAA wild card points and play a district final game at the highest seed. The eight winners of the district final match will advance to the state tournament.
- D. The wild card point system and tie breaker will be used to seed the 16 teams qualifying for the district final.
- E. The 8 remaining teams after the district final round will be reseeded for the state tournament.

Rationale: The current Class B format for sub-districts is stated as Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. The NSAA prohibits a 3-consecutive day tournament format & also does not allow teams to play 2 matches in one day for soccer which means that Thursday must be used in 5-team districts. This results in a quick turnaround for travel with the district final as well as possible facility conflicts for schools who are hosting district finals.

Moving the opening round up to a Saturday would likely eliminate the need for Wednesday or Thursday thus allowing for sub-districts to be completed by Tuesday and in turn allow for travel and preparation for schools participating in the district finals.

This type of format would be consistent with timelines for basketball and volleyball.

Pros: Eliminates late planning for travel and facility conflicts. Becomes consistent with timelines for volleyball & basketball. Eliminates one day of conflict with loss of school time.

Cons: Facility conflicts for the opening round of Sub-district. 2 schools still may need to travel to a neutral site. Will impact current regular season schedules.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **STATE QUALIFICATION FOR CLASS C**

Author: Marty Hingst

School: Milford

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Softball

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

Implementation date: 2020-08-30

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	Softball Manual	DISTRICT AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS	DISTRICT AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Summary: Class C sub-district assignments are divided into ten (10) groups, are based solely on geographic location starting west and moving east. All sub-districts would be four (4) teams if the total number of class C teams is divisible by four (4). If the total number of teams is not divisible by four (4), then sub-districts of five (5) teams would be created for extra teams over that number divisible by four (4). The five (5) team sub-districts would be the teams that are furthest east.

Class C sub-districts will be double elimination with the winner qualifying for districts. The highest seed will be the host unless they choose not to host. Class C district championship assignments will consist of the ten (10) sub-district champions and the six (6) teams (that did not win a sub-district) with the highest wildcard point averages following sub-districts. The districts will be a one day, best of three (3) series with the higher seed hosting the district unless they choose not to host. Pairings for districts will be based on wildcard point averages following sub-districts (1 v 16, 2 v 15, 3 v 14, 4 v 13, 5 v 12, 6 v 11, 7 v 10, 8 v 9).

Games through the Tuesday (Date) before sub-districts will be counted for seeding sub-districts with the seeding announced on Thursday (Date) . In all district & sub-district competition, the highest seeded team will be the home team for first-round games. Teams receiving first-round byes shall be the home team for their first tournament game. The remaining home teams will be determined by a coin flip.

During the Class C district championship best of three series, the higher seed will be the home team in game one (1), the lower seed will be the home team in game two (2), and the higher seed will be the home team in the if necessary, game three (3).

Rationale: More uniform system across the board, B and C will be alike. This system has a better chance to get rid of stacked districts and should ensure the best 8 teams qualify. Plus you must win to get to state.

Pros: Stacked Districts with multiple top 8 teams have an even distribution.

Cons: More travel, Additional time one the road.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Class B Sub-District Softball**

Author: Brad McMillan

School: Waverly

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class B

Activities Affected: 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: 2020-09-23

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	16-17	Class B Sub-district Assignments	

Summary: Class B sub-district assignments are divided into ten (10) groups, are based solely on geographic location starting west and moving east. All sub-districts would be four (4) teams if the total number of class B teams is divisible by four (4). If the total number of teams is not divisible by four (4), then sub-districts of five (5) teams would be created for extra teams over that number divisible by four (4). The five (5) team sub-districts would be the teams that are furthest east. Class B sub-districts would be SINGLE ELIMINATION with the winner qualifying for districts. The highest seeded team in each sub-district will be offered the opportunity to host.

Class B district championship assignments will consist of ten (10) sub-district champions and the six (6) teams that did not win a sub-district with the highest wildcard point averages after sub-district play is complete. The district finals will be a one day, best of three (3) series with the highest seed hosting the district final unless they choose not to host. The district final will be played on Friday or SATURDAY of Week 14.

District Dates: Class B - Sub-district would be Monday of Week 14 with Tuesday as a rain date. District finals played on Friday OR SATURDAY of Week 14.

Rationale: The new format is consistent with other sports - volleyball, basketball & soccer. However, the double elimination format in the sub-district allows for teams to lose three times before being eliminated. The double elimination in the sub-district also creates an additional day of travel and lengthens the amount of instructional time missed by students and coaches. With district finals currently scheduled for Friday there is the chance that inclement weather could not allow district finals to not be released until Wednesday or possibly Thursday which puts pressure on schools to plan and communicate with all parties involved.

A single-elimination sub-district format lessens the amount of travel and missed instructional time. It also allows schools to host the sub-district games - 3 games total in one evening at their facility regardless of whether or not they have access to more than one field.

Pros: Eliminates additional travel for sub-district play. Creates 1-day sub-district format. More consistent with what is done in other sports. Less pressure on facilities. More time for district final planning and preparation.

Cons: Cuts down the number of losses a team could suffer in post-season play.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Class B Tennis seeding**

Author: Neal Randel

School: Beatrice

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class B

Activities Affected: Boys Tennis
Girls Tennis

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: 2020-01-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	13, "Seeding"		

Summary: We would propose a seeding process change for Class B Tennis. The current process states as follows..."TWELVE players MAY be seeded in each of the four divisions". The remaining players will be entered into a blind draw. Instead of a blind draw, we are proposing the use of winning percentages to fill in the rest of the draw. See below for the premise of seeding from The State Tennis Manual.

You would only consider the winning percentage from the division the player(s) enter. Example: If they are a #2 doubles team, you would not consider any matches played outside #2 doubles.

Rationale: Here is the premise of seeding from The State Tennis Manual "The purpose of seeding is to separate top players from meeting each other in early rounds of a tournament. Evidence of potential for success underlies all seeding. This evidence consists of the following items or any other criteria that will help in evaluating the potential the player has for winning the tournament". A winning percentage is evidence of potential for success! If the purpose of seeding is to separate top players, we need to make this small change to our seeding procedure. There are many times when players that are being considered for a top 12 seed, end up drawing each other in the 1st round.

Pros: Winning percentages would spread out the teams in a fairer/consistent tournament structure. This would ensure that we get an accurate representation of a player's or doubles team's performance during the season.

Cons:



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Vertical Jumps Height Progression Proposal**

Author: Mark Armstrong
School: Lincoln Southwest
NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

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: 2020-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	20		Games Committee Rules #5, Height Progression

Summary: Height Progression: The Pole Vault and High Jump will be advanced 6-inches and 2-inches, respectively. Successive heights will not change until one competitor remains and the winner has been determined, or all remaining competitors agree to a change.

Rationale:

1. During any running competition such as the 800, each competitor works to gain a lead on their competition. If runner "A" has a 150m lead on runner "B" going into the final 200 meters of the race, we do not ask runner "B" if they would like runner "A" to slow down for the last stretch of the race. This is exactly what is being done with the current rule to change the successive heights in the High Jump and Pole Vault before the winner is determined.
2. Just like an 800 runner may gain a lead throughout the first lap and a half of the race, a high jumper will earn their lead by remaining "clean" or making each attempt, versus a competitor who may have any number of misses to that point in the competition.
3. By changing the successive heights during competition, this neutralizes the lead gained by those who have performed better to that point of the competition...at the 2" increments. Moving the bar one inch allows jumpers who are now behind in the competition the opportunity to surpass the lead jumper(s) at one inch rather than two. Clearly this is advantageous to jumpers who are behind, and takes away the advantage earned by the lead jumper(s).
4. Successive heights should not change until the winner has been determined.
5. The caveat in the proposed rule change allows there to be some flexibility when all competitors agree; while keeping the advantage in the hands of the athlete who has earned it. The athlete in the lead must agree to the change before any changes can be implemented (versus the current rule that allows the athletes behind to make the change).

Pros:

1. The proposed rule better aligns with the national rules and those followed at the collegiate level. The NFHS rule makes no provision to change successive heights until the winner has been determined.
2. The current rule that changes the successive heights from two to one inch, and 6 to 4 inches, takes away the advantage earned throughout the competition by the jumper(s) in the lead.

Cons: 1. None.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Volleyball District Play at Home Sites Class C**

Author: Jenny Wagner

School: Centennial

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

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: 2019-09-23

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	14	Sub-District and District Information	Sub-District and District Assignments

Summary: Classes C1 & C2 schools are divided into 12 sub-districts. The schools were assigned to sub-districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. Sub-district games will be played at a centralized, neutral location.

- The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final.
- The next four non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for the district final.
- The 16 teams qualifying for the district final will be placed on a 16-team bracket based on wildcard point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final match. If the higher seed cannot host, the two schools will agree upon a site for the district final. If the two schools involved cannot agree; the NSAA will select the site. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.

Rationale: In the last few years, at times it has been difficult to find a neutral site that is willing to host the district final match so teams are sometimes having to travel even farther than a centralized location to be able to play on a neutral site. Due to the difficulty of finding a site, some schools host multiple games in one day, so you aren't always able to get a choice of the your desired time to play. Schools/teams/parents are used to traveling longer distances than in the past, so travel is not as much of a concern as it was in the past.

Pros: You would have larger crowds, especially from the home site. You have a site to play and don't have to search for someone else willing to host.

Cons: Lower seeded team has to travel greater distances.