



TO: **Class Caucus Review Committee**
Class A – Matt Uher, Lincoln Northeast
Class A – Tom Kerkman, Omaha Westside
Class B – Luke Ford, Elkhorn North
Class B – Dave Hoxworth, Scottsbluff
Class C – Nathan Dietz, Amherst
Class C – Jason Polk, Wisner-Pilger
Class D – Randy Geier, Wauneta-Palisade
Class D – Ron Beacom, Neligh-Oakdale
Kara Graham, NSAA Board of Directors Chair
Jennifer Schwartz, Interim NSAA Executive Director

FROM: Jeff Johnson, Interim NSAA Associate Director

RE: Proposals Submitted for Consideration

DATE: January 26th, 2024

The Classification Caucus Review Committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at **10:00 a.m. CT** via Zoom.

The purpose of this committee is to act and review each proposal to determine if it meets the following criteria:

1. The proposal does not affect student eligibility.
2. The proposal does not materially affect NSAA or member school finances.
3. The proposal does not affect another class.

For the proposal to advance, it must receive an affirmative vote of two-thirds or more of the committee members present. The approved proposals will be sent to the participating schools in the class for a vote and if the proposal receives two-thirds majority of the member schools voting, it shall become a part of the NSAA Bylaws/Approved Rulings.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
Zoom Call

February 7th, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. CT/9:00 a.m. MT

Agenda

1. Call Meeting to Order (Graham)
2. Purpose of this Meeting
3. Act on Proposals
<https://secure.nsaahome.org/nsaaforms/viewproposals.php?type=caucus>
4. Class Caucus Representatives - Term Expires 2024
Nathan Dietz, Amherst - 2024
5. Representative Assembly Report
6. Adjournment

1.5.4 CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS COMMITTEE

- 1.5.4.1 Each classification of member schools established pursuant to this Constitution shall form a caucus made up of member schools in such classifications, which shall be referred to as a Classification Caucus.
- 1.5.4.2 **Meetings.** Each class shall hold a caucus meeting each year.
- 1.5.4.2.1 A Classification Caucus may initiate proposals for adoption, amendment or repeal of Association Bylaws/Approved Rulings, provided that any such proposal shall not affect student eligibility or materially affect Association and member school finances.

Each such proposal shall include a cost and revenue analysis, and the proposed effective date of the proposed adoption, amendment or repeal of an Association Bylaw/Approved Ruling.

APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 1.5.4.2.1

- 1. *The NSAA staff shall designate a late summer/early fall date, time and location for an initial meeting for each Classification Caucus to meet to discuss possible proposals to be considered in each class. Member schools shall be invited to such meetings, but attendance is optional for schools.*
- 2. *“Materially affect finances” shall mean any expense in excess of \$500. Those making proposals through the Classification Caucus shall consider all costs, not the least of which includes trophies and medals; reimbursements to schools for participation in state events; programming costs to make the necessary NSAA software changes to accommodate the proposal; added member school travel, lodging and meal costs; added costs for Association or member school equipment acquisition or changes and added personnel costs. If such costs to the NSAA are projected to exceed \$500, such legislative proposals will need to be introduced through the normal NSAA District Meeting legislative process. If there is a question as to whether the added cost exceeds \$500, the executive director or Board of Directors shall make the final decisions as to whether such proposal can be introduced through the Classification Caucus process.*
- 3. *Classification caucus proposals initiated for consideration shall only affect the class in which it was submitted.*
- 1.5.4.2.2 All proposals for the adoption of, amendment to or repeal of Association Bylaws/Approved Rulings must be submitted by a Classification Caucus Representative electronically to the NSAA no later than October 1.
- 1.5.4.2.3 After the October 1 deadline, the NSAA shall forward the proposals to the Classification Caucus Review Committee.
- 1.5.4.3 **Classification Caucus Review Committee**
- 1.5.4.3.1 The Classification Caucus Review Committee shall be comprised of two representatives from each of the four (4) NSAA classifications representing Classes A, B, C and D qualified to serve under paragraph 1.5.1.4, and the Chairperson of the NSAA Board of Directors. The NSAA Executive Director or designee shall serve in an ex-officio capacity.

APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 1.5.4.3.1

- In the event that a representative is unable to attend a scheduled meeting, the representatives of that respective class may appoint an individual to fill the vacancy.*
- The terms of Classification Caucus members shall be three-year terms, and a rotation system shall be established to assure that each of the six NSAA Districts has representation on the Classification Caucus and to assure there is a systematic rotation of Classification Caucus members.*
- 1.5.4.3.2 The Classification Caucus Review Committee shall hold a minimum of two meetings each year. Minutes shall be taken of such meetings and posted on the NSAA website. The first meeting shall be held in October and the second meeting shall be held in February.
- 1.5.4.3.2.1 At the first meeting of the Classification Caucus Committee, the committee shall:
 - a. review each submitted proposal;
 - b. take action on each proposal submitted; and
 - c. return the proposal to the submitting Classification Caucus along with any adopted comments and recommendations. The Classification Caucus may consider the committee's comments and recommendations, and may submit amendments to the proposal on or before November 15.

APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 1.5.4.3.2.1

- The Classification Caucus members from each of the NSAA Districts shall make a presentation of the Classification Caucus proposals to their District's membership at the annual November District Meetings where the membership can hear and discuss such proposals.*
- 1.5.4.3.2.2 At the second meeting of the Classification Caucus Committee, the committee shall consider all submitted proposals and any subsequent amendments thereto, and take action on all submitted proposals with amendments, if any.
- 1.5.4.3.3 The Classification Caucus Review Committee shall approve or disapprove proposed Classification Caucus proposals for the adoption of, amendment to, or repeal of Association Bylaws/Approved Rulings. To be approved, all proposals must receive an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) or more of the committee members present and voting on the proposal.

Disapproved Classification Caucus proposals shall be referred back to the Classification Caucus submitting same with a statement from the committee of reasons for such disapproval. Approved Classification Caucus proposals shall be forwarded to the Board of Directors for action according to this article.

1.5.4.4 Each proposal approved by the Classification Caucus Review Committee will be posted on the NSAA website as an approved Classification Caucus proposal, and each such proposal shall be presented as an information item at the annual NSAA Representative Assembly meeting.

1.5.4.5 Following the annual Representative Assembly meeting, the Board of Directors shall direct the Executive Director to conduct a referendum on the Classification Caucus proposal that shall be submitted to the members of the Classification Caucus participating in the activity subject to the proposed Bylaw change. The Classification Caucus proposal shall be accompanied by a statement of the rationale for such proposal. Each Classification Caucus proposal must be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the member schools voting in such referendum. If a proposal for the adoption, amendment or repeal of an Approved Ruling is approved by the members voting thereon, such Class Caucus proposal must then be ratified by the Board of Directors. The Classification Caucus proposal shall become a part of the Association Bylaws/Approved Rulings on the effective date set forth in the approved proposal.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

CAUCUS PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Baseball Districts Dates

Title:

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

Proposal meets the criteria. Motion Carried, 8-0.

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class A

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: 2024-08-31

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	15		

Summary: 4. Baseball: District Tournaments. The district tournaments will be single elimination with the winner qualifying for the state championship. District Dates. District tournaments will be held Thursday, May (), Friday, Saturday Class A: District tournaments for five and six team districts will be held on Thursday, May (), Friday, May () and Saturday May () . District tournaments for four team districts will be held on Friday, May () ,Saturday May () . Rain out dates include Monday, May () and Tuesday, May () Proposal Change: The district tournaments will be single elimination with the winner qualifying for the state championship. All Class A schools in baseball are to be placed into six districts. The districts shall be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based upon the NSAA wildcard point system within one week prior to the first district. Games through Tuesday of Week 44 will be counted for Class A district assignments and seeding. District games will be played on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. (Week 44) Class A districts with a play-in game(s), the higher seeded team will be offered a contract to host that opening round game that will be played on Thursday. The top 12 teams will have the opportunity to host Semi-Final games. Those games will be played on Friday. (Week 44) The district championship will be hosted by the highest remaining seed. Those games will be played on Saturday. (Week 44). The top-seeded team in each district would be responsible for establishing district schedules and times. If the higher seed is unable to host the district tournament, the subsequent seed shall be offered a contract until a location is secured. Two additional teams in Class A which fail to qualify by winning the district play will qualify as wild card teams.

Rationale: Rational -avoid playing DH, Mirror soccer, basketball, volleyball districts as home teams hosting a round

Pros:

Cons:



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

CAUCUS PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Basketball Scheduling

Title:

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

NSAA District: 2

Proposal meets the criteria. Motion Carried, 8-0.

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: Class A

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: 2023-08-31

Sections affected in	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
Constitution & Bylaws:	56	3.11	1.3

Summary: Class A basketball schedules will be based on a point system. Each team can accrue 22 points. Single games are worth one point and tournaments are worth 2 points. Schools may participate in eighteen games and two tournaments in addition to the state sponsored series of tournaments. Schools may also play 20 games plus 1 tournament, or 22 individual games and no tournaments, or 16 games and 3 tournaments, in addition to the state sponsored series of tournaments. Rational: eliminate pods and add single games or an extra tournament

Rationale: Change basketball schedule format---19 and 1. Or 18 and 2. 18 and 1 20 and 1 = full ADD 22 total points. Single games worth 1 and tournaments worth 2. ---could go to 3 tournaments if you want ---- max 3 tournaments Rational: eliminate pods and add single games or an extra tournament

Pros: creative scheduling

Cons: Can eliminate teams from playing full schedules



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

CAUCUS PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Soccer district dates

Title:

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

NSAA District: 2

Proposal meets the criteria. Motion Carried, 8-0.

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class A

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: 2023-08-31

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	18		

Summary: Soccer: 4 team districts play on Monday and Wednesday. Only games played on Saturday are play in games. Class A schools will be divided into seven districts. The teams with the highest wildcard point averages will have the opportunity to host districts. Class A districts will be Saturday (Week 43), Wednesday (Week 44) or Saturday (Week 43), Thursday (Week 44). All seven districts will be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based upon the NSAA wild card point system after the games WEDNESDAY of Week 43. The winning boys team and the winning girls team in each district will qualify for the State Championship. One additional boys team and one additional girls team will also qualify for the State Championship on the basis of the wild-card team selection procedure. The top 14 teams will have the opportunity to host the first night of district competition. The district championship would be hosted by the highest remaining seed. District dates and times would be established before district competition starts. The top-seeded team in each district would be responsible for establishing district schedules. In a 5 team district, the play-in games will be played on Saturday (week). In a 4 team district, the district games will begin on Monday or Tuesday depending on the date established by the top seeded team.

Rationale: Rational: 4 team districts will mirror a 5 team district once play-in games are finished.

Pros: evens out districts

Cons:



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

CAUCUS PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Track and Field Unattached Participation

Title:

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

Proposal meets the criteria. Motion Carried, 8-0.

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: None

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: 2023-08-31

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	44	3.2.3	3

Summary: 1. Outside Participation Track 3.2.3 Organized Practice Track and Field: An organized practice shall mean more than 12 students under the direct supervision of a sponsor. If more than one group is practicing at the same time, it shall be called an organized practice. Unattached Participation The following guidelines should be followed in allowing out-of-season participation by students in meets or events which are not sanctioned or sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association and its member schools. a. Contestants shall not use any school uniform or be identified with the school. b. Contestants shall not use school equipment. c. The school shall provide no resources for the participants, or release coaches on school time to transport participants to or from the event, or to coach out of season athletic events. d. Coaches can attend unattended meets if there are no more than 12 students participating.

Rationale: Rational: Change to allow coaches to coach or watch their athletes and supervise them

Pros: Supervision unattached winter meets are similar to summer camps for other sports

Cons:



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

CAUCUS PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Girls and Boys Golf

Title:

Author: Dave Hoxworth

School: Scottsbluff

NSAA District: 6

Proposal meets the criteria. Motion Carried, 8-0.

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class B

Activities Affected: Boys Golf
Girls Golf

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

Implementation date: 2024-08-22

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	13,15,and 16		

Summary: Changes starting on Page 13 of Golf Manual:

MANDATORY INPUT FOR VARSITY SCHEDULES (CLASS A ONLY) (CLASS A and B ONLY)

1. All Class A and B Varsity golf teams will be required to enter their complete regular season schedule by the respective deadline: a. Boys Class A and B Varsity Golf Schedules: - Due: Thursday of Week 6 (August 8, 2024) b. Boys Class A Varsity Golf Schedules - Due: Tuesday of Week 36 (March 12, 2025)
2. Once the golf season has begun, schools CANNOT add contests to their regular season schedules.
3. All Varsity scheduled contests shall be played with a Varsity team. Postponed contests shall be rescheduled by all participating schools if possible.
4. If your varsity team does not compete in an event on your schedule due to reasons other than weather postponements or cancelation, the respective school will be required to provide reasoning for non-participation.
5. Contest results for ALL contests on your varsity schedule are to be entered through the NSAA website in a timely fashion. Only events played on courses with official Nebraska Golf Association course ratings will be considered in the differential program.

Changes starting on Page 15 & 16 of Golf Manual:

*NOTE: #1 through #6 below are taken directly from Class A Differential with appropriate changes in bold underlined.

BOYS GOLF DISTRICTS

The Girls District Golf Tournament will be held October 7-8, 2024. The Boys District Golf Tournaments will be held May 19-20, 2025. The District hosts, sites and C and D school assignments will be posted to the NSAA website once all have accepted the hosting contract. Class A and B District Tournament assignments will be released on May 1, 2024.

Class A and B:

1. Class A schools are the schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above playing boys golf and are assigned to four districts.

1a. Class B schools are those remaining schools that are in the top 80 but have an enrollment of less than 850 playing girls golf.

2. All Class A and B schools competing in a minimum of four VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be assigned to four Districts using a serpentine method based on seeding determined by regular season team average differentials. Team average differentials are team score (four lowest players combined scores) minus (course rating from tees used x four players) = differential). The school with the lowest average differential is placed in District 1, the next lowest in District 2, the next lowest in District 3, the next lowest in District 4, the next lowest back in District 4, the next lowest in District 3, etc., until all 32 schools are assigned. Assignments will be released two Tuesdays before the district tournaments.

3. Class A and B schools hosting regular season meets shall *report to the NSAA office the following results within 48 hours of the competition: a. the name of the golf course played, b. the names of each team including individual team members with individual and team scores, c. the course rating (for holes on the correct side) played from the tee box used for the competition. * Reports are submitted on-line from the AD's or golf coaches personal page at www.nsaahome.org. Note: Some teams that play junior varsity (JV) teams in varsity events will lower their placement as far as district ranking if those teams are listed as varsity teams. To avoid this, coaches should list these teams as JV teams when entering a varsity tournament. Only varsity team scores should be reported to the NSAA office for seasonal differential team tracking.

4. All season meets hosted on or prior to the Friday of Week 43 (April 26, 2024), are to be reported to the NSAA office by the meet's host director, or by the participating team's coach or AD if the varsity meet is out of state or not hosted by a Class A school.

5. Any schools not competing in at least four VARSITY 18-hole stroke-play competitions will be placed at the bottom of the seeding list in the order of their AVERAGE DIFFERENTIALS, lowest above highest on the list and placed in the sequential district.

6. District tournament host schools and specific golf courses will be selected before the season begins in order to secure hosts and golf courses for the events. After postseason seeding the host schools will be assigned to one of the four districts so there is one host-school per district. The NSAA Director of Golf will make the simplest one-team trades between districts so that host teams with the closest average differentials to a team in another district are switched. Schools are not allowed to host consecutive years unless necessary.

QUALIFYING FOR NSAA CHAMPIONSHIP (CLASS A and B ONLY)

1. The first three teams and the first ten individual places plus ties in each district will qualify for the NSAA Championship, using medal play. After districts are completed the NSAA will take as many individuals as needed so that there is a total of 15 individuals competing at the state golf tournament. Individuals will be selected according to individual differential for the season including districts. To be eligible a player must compete in at least five 18-hole competitions for the year and districts. (NSAA

will keep track on all Class A and B player's individual differential for the season.)

2. Playoffs will be used in case of ties for the NSAA Championship TEAM qualifying spots.

3. Schools that do not finish as one of the top three teams in the District cannot qualify for team honors at the NSAA Championship, even though that school may have qualified at least four individual golfers through individual placement at Districts.

4. A school which qualifies for the NSAA Championship may play any five eligible players at the championship. They do not have to be the same people who played at the district tournament. Any roster changes to the State Championship team should be communicated to the NSAA office to reflect such changes and ensure scorecards, scoreboards and tee times will be accurate. Any substituted player will be assigned the same tee time of the player being replaced.

5. An additional charge of \$25 be added to a Class A school's registration fee for boys golf and for girls golf for one year to cover programming costs that exceed \$500

Rationale: To make golf's regular season meaningful and to assure that we are getting the top teams/players to the Class B State Golf tournament each Spring.

Pros: 1. Golf is the only sport in which the regular season has absolutely no bearing on the opportunity to qualify for state competition (seeding, wildcard, etc.). Tracking team differentials and seeding districts accordingly makes the regular season matter rather than being an exhibition.

2. The system has been established and is effectively working in Class A.

Cons: There could be travel for some teams after district seedings are assigned. Travel will be similar to what happens during state football and district volleyball and basketball.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

CAUCUS PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Sub-District Softball District Assignments

Title:

Author: Dave Hoxworth

School: Scottsbluff

NSAA District: 6

Proposal meets the criteria. Motion Carried, 8-0.

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class B

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

Implementation date: 2024-08-22

Sections affected in Activities Manual: Page 14 Article Section District and State Championships

Summary: This proposal looks to change the current Class B sub-district assignments wording to:

Class B sub-district assignments are created using the number of total Class B Teams and based solely on geographic location starting West and moving East. The number of sub-districts and number of teams in each sub-district will be assigned as follows:

#of total Class B teams; Sub-District Assignments

Greater than forty (40); Ten (10) sub-districts will be four teams with sub-districts of five teams being created for the extra teams over forty (40). The five team sub-districts will be the teams that are furthest East.

Equal to forty (40); Ten (10) sub-districts will be four (4) teams

Less than forty (40); The number of sub districts will be the result of dividing the total number of teams in class B by four (4) rounded down to the nearest whole number. Sub-districts will be four (4) teams with sub-districts of five (5) teams being created for the extra teams over the result of four (4) times the number of sub-districts. The five (5) team sub-districts will be the teams that are furthest East

Rationale: This proposal would simplify the current verbiage pertaining to the class B sub-district assignments as well as specify the number of sub-district assignments when the total number of Class B Teams is less than 40. The current verbiage only addresses sub-district assignments with 40 or greater teams. In situations where less than forty (40) teams have been classified in Class B, like the 2022 softball

season and the 2023 softball season, the far West sub-district has only included three (3) teams. This creates a situation where the three (3) team sub-district has the possibility of having a team only play one (1) game to qualify for districts whereas all others would have to play two (2) games. In order to create sub-districts that are as competitively equal for all regions as possible, this proposal would ensure all sub-districts would have to play a minimum of two (2) games by following a similar pattern to how all sub-districts are currently created with more than 40 teams.

Pros: Would eliminate the current scenario in which a sub-district would only have three (3) teams and have the possibility of a team only playing one (1) game. All teams would have to play a minimum of two (2) games.

Cons: Due to the possibility of varying number of sub-districts in the less than 40 team scenario, it would also change the number of wild card teams in districts.