



TO: Board of Directors and District Chairpersons
FROM: Jennifer Schwartz, Associate Director
SUBJECT: Legislative Commission Meeting
DATE: January 30, 2023

The Legislative Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m. CST, Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 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 15, 2023 – 8:30 a.m. CST

NSAA Office

- I. Call to Order – Robert Drews, 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 – Nick Wemhoff, Fort Calhoun, Board of Director
 - District II – Thomas Lee, Omaha Westview, Board of Director
 - District II – Nate Larsen, 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 – Ryan Ruhl, Centura, 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

Adding a 7th quarter for non-varsity and varsity competition days

Title:

Author: Chad Cattau

School: Cedar Catholic

NSAA District: 3

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: 2023-11-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws: Page 53 Article 3 Section 11.1.5 (1)

Summary: This proposal would allow basketball players to participate in 7 quarters when a school is playing a non-varsity game and a varsity game on the same evening.

Rationale: This proposal would help our non-varsity teams play four quarter games in basketball. There are many teams that don't have enough participants to play full non-varsity games, and this would allow an extra quarter for their players. This would help in the development of players, and it would help teams that have a large number of players more playing time because their non-varsity games can be expanded by one quarter. Many times, teams have 15 kids on their JV teams and they only get two or three quarters to get them all into the game so this would help the development of teams with smaller numbers and also teams with larger numbers of participants.

Pros: More playing time and development for our basketball players.

Cons:

	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1	41	6	3
District 2	74	12	
District 3	50	2	
District 4	36	17	
District 5	17	6	
District 6	21	2	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

Title: Outside Participation in Boys/Girls Bowling

Title:

Author: Mike Greene-Walsh

School: Omaha South

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: Class A

Affected: Class B

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: 2023-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws: Page
50

Article
3.5

Section
1.1

Summary: CURRENT: Any student who participates in any athletic contest other than as a representative of his/her high school during the season of the sport involved becomes ineligible to represent his/her school in that sport for one or more contests or the remainder of the season. CHANGE: Add new subpoint to 3.5.1 to allow Bowling to be exempt from the Outside Participation penalty during the season of the sport. During the school sport season of bowling, a student may, after fulfilling all requirements, practices and competitions of the school bowling team, practice and/or compete as a member of a non-school bowling team or as an individual participant in an organized non-school bowling practice or competition under the conditions listed below. a. Priority shall be given to all school team practices and competition. Should a non-school practice/competition be in direct conflict with the school scheduled practice/competition, the school practice/competition shall take priority. Prior approval by the school administrator may grant an exception to a student to participate in the non-school swimming and diving program if in direct conflict with the school program. b. No school time shall be missed to compete, practice or travel to the site of such non-school bowling competition unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator. c. A school shall not replace its bowling program with any non-school bowling program.

Rationale: Currently, bowlers must make a choice to represent and compete for their school in school in the sport of bowling or to participate in Sunday and Holiday regional and national tournaments for SMART scholarship funds, as well as their youth leagues. This change makes the school program the primary program of sport and the tournaments and leagues the secondary program of sport during the high school season. This sub-point parallels the provision given to Swimming and Diving for in-season outside participation.

	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1	2	37	11
District 2	35	4	47
District 3	5	33	14
District 4	5	8	40
District 5	1	14	8
District 6	16	3	5

Legislative Commission

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

Pros:	In-season outside participation brings more student-athletes into high school bowling that would only participate in tournament and/or league bowling only. In-season outside participation teaches student-athletes the benefits of competition beyond the high school setting. In-season outside participation allows the student/athlete to gain technique instruction from other coaches that teach in the youth bowling league setting. In-season outside participation gives the student-athlete the opportunity to compete and learn in challenging venues and conditions that would not normally be available in a high school bowling competition. In-season outside participation gives the student-athlete added exposure to college programs and coaches by participating in outside tournaments. The school is not responsible for any outside expenses accrued by the student-athlete while participating in events outside of the school sponsored activity.
Cons:	Student-athletes may compete in the same venue twice in one day: i.e., youth league in the morning and a high school competition in the afternoon.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **Softball dates limitation**

Author: David Davis, Ryun Theobald, Dallas Sweet

School: Fairbury, Fillmore Central, and Malcolm

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

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: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Page Article Section
Activities Manual: 55 3 11.7.3

	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1	23	1	26
District 2	35	3	48
District 3	24	0	28
District 4	23	3	27
District 5	11	1	11
District 6	20	0	2

Legislative Commission

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

Summary: No team representing a member school in Class A, B, or C may participate in more than eighteen (18) dates. The district and state championships are not included in the eighteen dates. A tournament is one date. Schools are limited to five (5) tournaments, including the conference tournament, during the regular season.

Rationale: Following the Class B Class Caucus proposal, we feel it is important to have class B and C on the same number of dates, as there are a few schools that bounce up or down every year, and class C having one less date could make for a scheduling nightmare.

Pros: Every class will have the same number of dates for competition.

Cons: Class B and C team may incur a bit more expense and missed class time going from 17 dates to 18 dates.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Speech: Allow Triple Entry in Class A through C2 (Already allowed in D1 and D2)

Title:

Author:

Ernie Valentine, Jarod Ockander, A. J. Johnson and the Nebraska Speech Communication and Theatre Association

School:

David City

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for:

Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected:

Class A
Class B
Class C

Activities Affected:

Speech

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:

2023-08-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:

Page Article
Page 6 Article 6.6.3.1 (not really listed as an article in the manual - there is some inconsistency in how things are listed)

Section

Individual Events Each school may have a maximum of (14) entries in individual events (16 in Class A). In Classes A, B, C1 and C2, a student may enter and participate in two events. In Classes D1 and D2, a student may enter and participate in three e

Summary:

Competitors in Class D1 and D2 can triple-enter currently. This proposal would allow competitors in all classes to triple-enter.

Rationale:

There are teams in every class that are small enough that they do not have a "full" district entry, and when enough teams are not full, then district tournaments are not as competitive. Almost always, at most only three or four teams in each district of seven to nine teams had a "full" or complete entry. Allowing individuals to triple-enter will make it easier for more teams to bring a full entry.

In 2021, any given speech district tournament in classes A through C2, there were between 7 and 9 teams. Almost always, only three or four teams in each district had a "full" or complete entry. And of the 22 district tournaments in 2021 in classes A through C2 (the classes that do not have triple entry), there were only 9 district tournaments that were 70% capacity or higher for entries. The range was 88% capacity for the highest district (B3) to 39.5% for the lowest capacity district (C2-1).

Regular season tournaments often offer triple-entry, so there are already students who are prepared to compete in three events at districts. On teams that triple-enter during the regular season, there are individuals who would qualify for three district spots, and coaches must choose which two events to use

	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1	27	12	11
District 2	54	7	25
District 3	15	31	6
District 4	14	27	12
District 5	2	16	5
District 6	21	2	1
<i>Legislative Commission</i>			
	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1			
District 2			
District 3			
District 4			
District 5			
District 6			

the individuals in. The rule change would allow coaches to make the decision to use an individual in three events if desired.

Class D1 and D2 have been using triple-entry since the 2019 season. In that time, about half of the schools used triple-entry at districts at any point in that three-year span (55 of approximately 120), and of those, only 31 schools used triple-entry more than one time in the same time period. The percent of individual team members who were triple-entered at districts was 5.65% in 2019, 10.19% in 2021 (the first year after covid), and 7.07% last year.

This proposal originated with the Nebraska Speech Communication and Theatre Association, where member coaches voted to advance this proposal. This is the second year a clear majority of coaches at the NSCTA Convention voted to advance.

Pros: Allowing triple entry will lead to larger team entries, resulting in more competitive district tournaments in all classes, as well as having the best competitors in any given event.

Cons: It is possible that the coach of a team that has a “full” or complete entry may choose to use a triple entered student on a coach decision, replacing someone who might not compete at districts. This could result in fewer competitors from that team qualifying for the state tournament. Additionally, the number of students on each team who can handle being triple entered on a high enough level to make the district team in all three events on a large team is small enough the overall effect of this aspect would be small. One could also argue that the best student in each event within that team should get the chance to compete for a state championship, even if they are triple entered. The overall effect of the proposal will fill the entry capacity of each district, increasing competition.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Participation in interschool track and field competition

Title:

Author: Jason Polk

School: Wisner-Pilger

NSAA District: 3

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

Implementation date: 2024-03-01

Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws: Page 55 Article 3 Section 11.10.4

Summary: 3.11.10.4 Participation in interschool track and field competitions by any school student shall be limited to twelve total meets. This would not include district or state competition.

Rationale: In the spring, the weather is unpredictable. Lately, many early season duals and triangulars have been cancelled and not rescheduled. Teams cannot find other meets to join because if a school allowed them to join their triangular, for example, it would then be considered a meet of four or more teams and count against their limit. Currently, teams can have an unlimited number of smaller meets of less than three teams. This proposal would limit the total number of meets to twelve but provides flexibility for schools and does not cost schools or the NSAA any additional money. Teams could keep their current schedule under this proposal and make no changes.

Pros: 1. Provide more flexibility in scheduling and making up cancelled track meets. 2. Athletes invited to and participating in All-Star meets gain flexibility in the selection of meets they can compete in.

Cons:

	Yes	No	Abstain
District 1	43	7	
District 2	67	4	15
District 3	50	2	
District 4	32	19	2
District 5	22	1	
District 6	23	1	

Legislative Commission

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