



TO: NSAA Member Schools
FROM: Jeff Stauss, Assistant Director
SUBJECT: Proposals for Consideration at the NSAA January District Meetings
DATE: November 2023

Included in this memo are the 40 proposals that passed at least one district at the November meetings.

The 18 Constitution/Bylaw proposal passing three or more districts will advance to Representative Assembly.

All Approved Ruling (Activities Manual) proposals will be placed on the April NSAA Board of Directors agenda as action items regardless of the number of districts that pass them.

The following procedure is to be followed at the second district meeting:

1. All 40 proposals should be acted upon.
2. A simple majority passes the proposal.
3. Each member school is entitled to one vote. The administrative head of the school or his/her designee shall be considered the authorized voting representative.
4. **Amendments** to proposals are ***not permitted***.
5. New proposals may not be introduced from the floor.
6. Elections shall be held for officers, alternates, and Representative Assembly delegates.

2024 January District Meetings

District 1 – Wednesday, January 10 – 10:00 a.m. NSAA Office

District 2 – Wednesday, January 10 – 10:00 a.m. Boys Town

District 3 – Wednesday, January 10 – Noon – Northeast Community College

District 4 – Wednesday, January 10 – 1:00 p.m. – Kearney High School

District 5 – Wednesday, January 10 – 1:00 p.m. CT – The Tassel, Holdrege

District 6 – Wednesday, January 10 – 9:00 a.m. MT – Alliance Public Library

2024 January District Meeting Elections

District 1

Board of Director & Alternate (4-year term)
Chairperson & Alternate (3-year term)
6 Delegates to the Representative Assembly

Term	Officer	Alternate
2024	Dr. Dana Wiseman, Sutton, Board of Director	Dr. Mitchell Stine, Norris
2026	Kara Graham, Lincoln Southeast, Board of Director	Dr. Liz Standish, Lincoln Public Schools
2024	Dr. J.J. Toczek, Lincoln Public Schools, Chairperson	Zach Limbach, Lincoln East
2026	Matt Uher, Lincoln Northeast, Vice Chairperson	Dallas Sweet, Malcolm
2025	John Moody, Seward, Secretary	David Davis, Fairbury

District 2

Board of Director & Alternate (4-year term)
Vice Chairperson & Alternate (3-year term)
14 Delegates to the Representative Assembly

Term	Officer	Alternate
2024	Dr. Nick Wernhoff, Fort Calhoun, Board of Director	James Shada, Arlington
2026	Thomas Lee, Omaha Westview, Board of Director	Robert Aranda, Omaha Westside
2026	James Shada, Arlington, Chairperson	Robert Barry, Wahoo
2024	Rochelle Rohlf, Omaha Marian, Vice Chairperson	Tim Kwapnioski, Columbus
2026	Chad Holtz, Bellevue East, Secretary	Jon Mauro, Bellevue West

District 3

Secretary & Alternate (3-year term)
2 Delegates to the Representative Assembly

Term	Officer	Alternate
2025	Dr. Jon Cerny, Bancroft-Rosalie, Board of Director	Jeff Bellar, Norfolk Catholic
2025	Jeff Bellar, Norfolk Catholic, Chairperson	AJ Johnson, Hartington-Newcastle
2026	Mike Sanne, Boyd County, Vice Chairperson	AJ Johnson, Hartington-Newcastle
2024	Brad Hoelsing, Wausa, Secretary	Jeff Messersmith, Bloomfield

District 4

Chairperson and Alternate (3-year term)
3 Delegates to the Representative Assembly

Term	Officer	Alternate
2027	Darren Tobey, Broken Bow, Board of Director	PJ Smith, Northwest
2024	Phil Truax, Lexington, Chairperson	Jordan Cudney, Hershey
2025	Alan Frank, Adams Central, Vice Chairperson	Danny McMurtry, Maxwell
2026	Seth Ryker, Gothenburg, Secretary	Ryan Hogue, Kearney

District 5

Vice Chairperson and Alternate (3-year term)
1 Delegate to the Representative Assembly

Term	Officer	Alternate
2027	Robert Drews, Arapahoe, Board of Director	Randy Geier, Wauneta-Palisade
2026	Sam Dunn, Loomis, Chairperson	Jarod Albers, Cambridge
2024	Jon Davis, Alma, Vice Chairperson	Darin Nichols, McCook
2025	Craig Newcomb, Bertrand, Secretary	Daren Hatch, Elwood

District 6

Chairperson and Alternate (3-year term)
Secretary & Alternate (3-year term)
1 Delegate to the Representative Assembly

Term	Officer	Alternate
2025	Dr. Troy Unzicker, Alliance, Board of Director	Mike Halley, Valentine
2025	*Kari Gifford, Banner County, Chairperson	TBD
2026	Bec Ray, Thedford, Vice Chairperson	Todd Westover, Hemingford
2024	Eugene Hanks, Crawford, Secretary	Bec Ray, Thedford

*Retiring at end of 2023-24 school year



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Home School Transfer Bylaws

Title:

Author: NSAA Board of Directors

NSAA District: All

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: All

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	50	0	
District 2	84	0	3
District 3	49	1	
District 4	54	1	
District 5	23	0	
District 6	26	1	

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> 26	<u>Article</u> 2	<u>Section</u> 7.6.1,2,5,6,7
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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:



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	49	1	
District 2	75	4	8
District 3	20	29	1
District 4	57	0	
District 5	22	1	
District 6	25	2	

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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Classification of Schools Basketball, Volleyball, Cross Country- 65 in Classes A-B

Title:

Author: Suzanne Sjuts

School: Bancroft-Rosalie

NSAA District: 3

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 3	43	7	

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball
Boys Cross-Country
Girls Cross-Country
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: 2023-09-29

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	Volleyball Manual Page 12		
	Basketball Manual Page 4		
	Cross Country Manual Page 8		

Summary: Classification of Schools - Basketball, Volleyball, Cross Country Manuals

Basketball

- Schools shall be divided into six classes for basketball competition.
- This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year that immediately precedes the one-year classification period. Class A will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above. Class B, C1, C2, D1 & D2 will be classified using girl only and boy only enrollment.
 - The top 65 largest schools registered for basketball shall be in Classes A & B. Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in Class A. The remaining schools will be placed in Class B.
 - The remaining schools registered for basketball are split evenly into four classes; C1, C2, D1, D2, with the additional school being placed in the lower class.

Volleyball

- 1. Schools shall be divided into six classes for volleyball competition.
- 2. This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year which immediately precedes the classification period. Class A will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above. Class B, C1, C2, D1 & D2 will be classified using girl only enrollment.
 - a. The top 65 largest schools registered for volleyball shall be in Classes A & B. Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in Class A. The remaining schools will be placed in Class B.
 - b. The remaining schools registered for volleyball are split evenly into four classes; C1, C2, D1, D2, with the additional school being placed in the lower class.

Cross Country

Boys and Girls Cross Country shall be divided into four classes for competition as follows:

- 1. Based on combined boy and girl enrollment, grades 9-11.
 - 2. The top 65 schools will be split into Class A and Class B.
 - 3. Schools with a total enrollment of 850 and above will be in Class A and the remaining schools will be placed in Class B.
- NOTE: Classifications will be done on a yearly basis, except for Class A, which will be done on a two-year classification. 2022 was the 1st year of the two-year Class A classification period.
- 4. The next 60 largest schools registered for cross country shall be Class C.
 - 5. The remaining schools registered for cross country shall be Class D.
 - 6. Boys and girls teams from the same school will be placed in the same class. (Exception: cooperatives)

Rationale:	Increase the number of Class A-B schools to 65 to account for the addition of the five new A-B schools.
Pros:	Traditional B schools would be back in Class B. Decrease and possibly eliminate three team subdistricts.
Cons:	Ratio would increase from this past year, but would be similar to the ratio prior to when the new schools were added.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Establish and implement a Classification/Competitive Balance Committee

Title:

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

Page

Article

Section

Constitution &

7

1

5

Bylaws:

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.

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 3	29	21	



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Organized Practice Rule

Author: Jeremy VanAckeren

School: Papillion LaVista South

NSAA District: 2

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	27	2	63

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

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.



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	60	18	7
District 4	26	30	1

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

	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
Sections affected in Constitution & Bylaws:	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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title: **2 hour organized practice 10 weeks prior to start of season**

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

NSAA District: 2

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	23	6	62

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	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
Constitution &	42	3	3.2.3

Bylaws:

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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Coaches and Sponsors

Title:

Author: Tom Kerkman

School: Omaha Westside

NSAA District: 2

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	77	3	13

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>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	31	2.12	2.12.2

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

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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Dual Participation

Title:

Author: Suzanne Sjuts

School: Bancroft-Rosalie

NSAA District: 3

	For	Against	Abstain
District 3	32	17	1

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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Out of State Transfers

Title:

Author: Nick Brost

School: South Platte

NSAA District: 6

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 6	14	13	

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	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
Constitution & Bylaws:	26	2.7.8.	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.



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

	For	Against	Abstain
District 2	42	30	21

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:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	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.

Rationale:	<p>The rationale for this proposal are as follows: - Students across our state have identified to us that eSports is a rapidly-growing fixture for years to come. - In programs that have been developed in our state in recent years, several students participating in eSports do not participate in any other school activity. Inclusion and promotion of the positives of NSAA Activities for *All* of our students should remain a primary goal. eSports allows us to expand on that work. - Likewise, dozens of high school teams are currently participating, or looking to participate in the activity this fall. However, there is limited central authority to ensure that the programming is done in line with Student Data Protection, FERPA, Licensing, Liability and other regulatory issues - eSports Students in Nebraska have multiple local colleges and universities vying for their talents at the next level. Creating a State Championship Event allows us to assist our students with their progression to postsecondary plans. At present, it is challenging, at best, for collegiate coaches to identify students for potential scholarship opportunities. Within OPS, for example, we were able to dual-purpose machines used for Graphic Design, CAD and other like purposes for eSports at little to no hardware cost. - COSTS: Again, a maximum program cost to schools of \$1,500 per season, with a maximum of two seasons per year. Most schools will pay less than this total. Cost to the NSAA is minimal. Coaches Stipends and optional equipment are the lone additional expenditures. - TRAVEL: No travel is involved. Students both practice and compete virtually from their school. - NSAA ADMINISTRATION: As other states would readily share, PlayVS does the lion's share of the work in establishing a statewide program, and state office administrators are minimally impacted with the new programming. Costs for facilitating a championship would be minimal, as again, most States continue to offer a championship experience through remote competition -- or competition from each school's home site held virtually against one another. For any questions on how this can work, please visit the PlayVS website (playvs.com) or contact myself on how we've had a positive experience with our first season of PlayVS eSports in Omaha Public Schools. Truly - the opportunity to bring this solidified programming to our students statewide, and include them as part of the umbrella of all things Nebraska School Activities Association would be a wonderful addition to our work in extracurricular activities.</p>
Pros:	<p>- Increased Student Participation for minimal budgetary impact - Ability for students to be identified and access collegiate scholarship opportunities - Involving and including a population that, in many cases, are not otherwise involved in other NSAA activities.</p>
Cons:	<p>Potentially competes with other programming that presently exists in schools Potentially causes schools to look at upgrading technological equipment that may be dated or not as effective as that of other schools</p>



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Class C1 and C2 Sub-District/District Assignments

Title:

Author: Jenny Wagner, Dallas Sweet, Nathan Ter Beest

School: Centennial

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball

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: 2024-11-18

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

Summary: Classes C1 & C2 schools are divided into 4 REGIONS (Western, Central, Northeast, and Southeast as examples). The westernmost region will be made of the 5-6 furthest western schools. The remaining 3 regions will be composed of 15-18 teams based on geographical area. Those 3 regions will then serpentine into 3 districts of 4-6 based on wildcard points set on our current date. The highest-seeded team will host the sub-district.

a. The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final.

b. The next SIX non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for the district final.

Split the state into 4 Regions (Western, Central, Northeast, Southeast, etc.). The westernmost region will be made of the 4-6 furthest western schools. The remaining 3 regions will be composed of 15-18 teams based on regions (central, northeast, southeast, etc.) Those 3 regions will then serpentine into 3 districts of 5-6 based on wildcard points at our current date.

This creates 10 districts of 4-6 teams. The winners of these 10 districts & the top 6 wildcards will seed and play a District Final game.

Rationale: By moving to 10 sub-districts we can better balance the level of competition through sub-districts. The opportunity for 6 wildcards helps the loaded sub-districts.

A sub-district with 6 teams does not add a day to the competition, as in 5 team sub districts we already have a “bunny bracket” game on day 1 of the sub-district, so now we would have 2 games on that night.

Pros: This will help teams that have had successful season but are in very tough areas when sub-districts are drawn have a chance to advance to the district final. Top three teams in each region are guaranteed a home district.

Cons: Potential for longer drives for eastern schools.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

District Final Host in Basketball

Title:

Author: Marc Mroczek

School: Gothenburg

NSAA District: 4

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball

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: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual: Page Article Section
10, 11 Classes C1 & C2

Summary: Classes C1 & C2 schools are divided into twelve four- or five-team sub-districts on the 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. The highest seeded team will host the sub-district.

a. In Classes C1 and C2, the boys team and girls team winning the championship in each sub-district will advance to the district final.

b. The next four (4) non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for a District Final. The non-subdistrict winners qualifying must have played a minimum of 4 teams/contests at their classification or above to be eligible for the district final.

c. The sixteen (16) teams qualifying for the district final will be matched up using a serpentine method and placed on a 16-team bracket based on wild-card point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final game. The boys and girls teams winning the district final will advance to the State Championship.

Rationale: It rewards teams for having a successful season and earning the right to host a district final on their home court in front of their home fans and community. This would eliminate the need to find neutral host sites and also find help (clock, ticket takers, etc.)

Pros: Rewards a team for having a successful season and earn the right to play a district final on their home court. Eliminates the need to find a neutral site. Very few schools want to host a game that doesn't involve their students. The gate and concessions will increase due to home crowd and community support. The school and community deserves the opportunity to host (restaurants, showcase your school, etc.)

Cons: Potential for increased travel and missing class time for teachers/coaches/players for the lower seeded team.

	For	Against	Abstain
District 4	47	2	8
District 5	15	7	1



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

District Final Host in Boys Basketball

Title:

Author: Jenny Wagner

School: Centennial

NSAA District: 1

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	25	2	23

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball

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: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual: Page 10, 11 Article Section Classes C1 & C2

Summary:

- In Classes C1 and C2, the boys team winning the championship in each sub-district will advance to the district final.
- The sixteen (16) teams qualifying for the district final will be matched up using a serpentine method and placed on a 16-team bracket based on wild-card point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final game. The boys teams winning the district final will advance to the State Championship.
- If teams are more than 180 miles apart, the game will be played on the Saturday following sub-district play.

Rationale: It rewards teams for having a successful season and earning the right to host a district final on their home court in front of their home fans and community. This would eliminate the need to find neutral host sites and also find help (clock, ticket takers, etc.)

Pros: Rewards a team for having a successful season and earn the right to play a district final on their home court. Eliminates the need to find a neutral site. Very few schools want to host a game that doesn't involve their students. The gate and concessions will increase due to home crowd and community support. The school and community deserves the opportunity to host (restaurants, showcase your school, etc.)

Cons: Potential for increased travel and missing class time for teachers/coaches/players for the lower seeded team.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

District Final Host in Girls Basketball

Title:

Author: Jenny Wagner

School: Centennial

NSAA District: 1

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	24	2	24

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Girls Basketball

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: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual: Page 10, 11 Article Section Classes C1 & C2

Summary:

- In Classes C1 and C2, the girls team team winning the championship in each sub-district will advance to the district final.
- The sixteen (16) teams qualifying for the district final will be matched up using a serpentine method and placed on a 16-team bracket based on wild-card point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final game. The girls teams winning the district final will advance to the State Championship.

Rationale: It rewards teams for having a successful season and earning the right to host a district final on their home court in front of their home fans and community. This would eliminate the need to find neutral host sites and also find help (clock, ticket takers, etc.)

Pros: Rewards a team for having a successful season and earn the right to play a district final on their home court. Eliminates the need to find a neutral site. Very few schools want to host a game that doesn't involve their students. The gate and concessions will increase due to home crowd and community support. The school and community deserves the opportunity to host (restaurants, showcase your school, etc.)

Cons: Potential for increased travel and missing class time for teachers/coaches/players for the lower seeded team.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title:

High Seed Advantage for District Finals Volleyball and Basketball

Author: Austin Lewis

School: Sidney

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 6	20	6	1

NSAA District: 6

Proposal for: Activities Manual- Volleyball
Activities Manual- Basketball

Classes Affected: Class C1, C2, D1, D2

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball
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: 2024-8/12

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	VB- Pg 23		
	BB- Pg 17		

Summary: In district final games for C1, C2, D1 and D2, when teams must meet in the middle due to the 180 mile limit, the high seed would choose the date, site and time, if any/all of those factors come into play.

The site must be chosen at a center point that does not make either school travel more than 25 miles further than the other. The time must be set after 5pm local time on school days, and after 11am local time on Saturday, unless both schools agree differently.

Rationale: When C1, C2, D1 and D2 district final games are over the 180 mile limit for home games, the high seed currently loses ALL advantages they've earned by obtaining a top 8 seed, only due to the fact that the team they are playing is too far away. This proposal keeps the mileage limit in place for district finals, but allows the high seed the advantage of choosing some game conditions. For example, boys basketball has 3 possible dates for district final games on Saturday, Monday, or Tuesday. This would allow the higher seed the ability to choose the day, site and specific time because they earned the advantage of high seed. Rather than giving the lower seed negotiating power just because of a mileage barrier.

Pros:

1. Still allows both schools to keep travel costs low.
2. Allows the higher seeded team some advantage that was lost by the mileage barrier.
3. The higher seeded team earned a top 8 seeding, which allows them the benefit of choosing game details within the mileage and time requirements designated by the NSAA.

Cons: 1. Low Seed loses negotiating power.

Utilization of the 35 second shot clock in Varsity contests for Classes C1, C2, D1, & D2 in the State of Nebraska

Author: Rusty Fuller & Corey Uldrich

School: Hartington-Newcastle Public Schools

NSAA District: 3

	For	Against	Abstain
District 3	34	15	1

Proposal for: NSAA Activities Manual

Classes Affected: C1, C2, D1, & D2

Activities Affected: Boys and Girls Basketball

Implementation Date: December 2024

Sections affected in Activities Manual “Approved Rulings for Basketball” beginning in page 3.

Proposal Summary

We hereby propose the implementation of the 35 second shot clock rule for State Association adoption and implementation as allowed for by the NFHS 2022-2023 Basketball Rule 2-14 for NSAA Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball Contests in Classes C1, C2, D1, and D2, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year and/or season.

The shot clock is currently being used in Class A and Class B.

Because the lower classes (C1-D2) have basketball schedules that are so intertwined, it only makes sense to use the shot clock in the lower classes as to create better continuity of play, so that adaptations will not need to be made every time a Class C team plays a Class D team.

With the possibility of teams moving up and down between Class C and Class D each year, it doesn’t make sense that a student could play with a shot clock one

year, move down a class, and then not play with one the next year. The game should be consistent across classes.

Pros

Every State that has adopted before this mandate has continued using the shot clock, and only seen expansion of the use within classifications/divisions. Class A has embraced the use of the shot clock, and Class B passed legislation after one year to add it as well.

The use of the shot clock is less important a factor in increased scoring as it is in game management and balancing the disparity between offense and defense.

The use of a shot clock is easily enforced and easily learned by officials, scorers, timers, players and coaches.

This will allow C1 through D2 schools the opportunity to play each other (and Class A & B schools) without interrupting the process of using a shot clock as it will create continuity among all the classes.

Cons

1. The cost of the initial implementation of the equipment required will be present for all schools in the classes C1 through D2.
2. Cost of an additional clock keeper.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Utilization of 35-Second Shot Clock for Varsity Contests CLASS C ONLY (both C1 & C2)

Title:

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** 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: 2024-12-05

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u> Beginning on page 3	<u>Article</u> Approved Rulings for Basketball	<u>Section</u>
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Summary: We hereby propose the implementation of the 35-Second Shot Clock Rule for State Association implementation as allowed for by the NFHS 2022-23 Basketball Rule 2-14 for NSAA Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball Contests in Class C1 & C2 Basketball Only, beginning with the 2024-25 school year/season. Shot Clock Use: 1. Shot Clocks will be used when Class C plays Class B or A. 2. Shot Clocks will be used at the discretion of the lower class team if Class C hosts a team from Class D1 or D2. 3. Shot Clocks will not be used if a Class D1 or D2 school hosts a Class C school unless both schools agree prior to the game.

Rationale: Every State that has adopted before this mandate has continued using the shot clock, and only seen expansion of the use within classifications/divisions. Class A has embraced the use of the shot clock, and Class B passed legislation after one year to add it as well. This tells us the shot clock is welcomed and working in High School Basketball. The use of the shot clock is less important/ a factor in increasing scoring, but much more important in game management and balancing the disparity between offense and defense in competitive contests. End-of-Game situations are greatly improved. Teams who choose to play a zone defense are not forced to alter their strategy simply to get the ball back. Games do not devolve into an action-less contest. The simplified set of rules is easily learned by officials, scorers, timers, players and others and readily implemented. Removal of several bits of language from other levels about multiple resets and challenges are not part of this proposal. A Class C (C1 & C2) only proposal mitigates some of the challenges of other classifications to adding the shot clock due to concerns/cons that may arise.

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	21	7	22
District 2	40	12	34
District 3	35	14	1
District 4	22	22	13
District 6	23	4	

- Pros: Every State that has adopted before this mandate has continued using the shot clock, and only seen expansion of the use within classifications/divisions. Class A has embraced the use of the shot clock, and Class B passed legislation after one year to add it as well. This tells us the shot clock is welcomed and working in High School Basketball. The use of the shot clock is less important/ a factor in increasing scoring, but much more important in game management and balancing the disparity between offense and defense in competitive contests. End-of-Game situations are greatly improved. Teams who choose to play a zone defense are not forced to alter their strategy simply to get the ball back. Games do not devolve into an action-less contest. The simplified set of rules is easily learned by officials, scorers, timers, players and others and readily implemented. Removal of several bits of language from other levels about multiple resets and challenges are not part of this proposal. A Class C (C1 & C2) only proposal mitigates some of the challenges of other classifications to adding the shot clock due to concerns/cons that may arise.
- Cons: Cost for implementation will be present at all school districts. Costs may also be a factor depending on local policy on game-day workers and organization of a scorer's table. Arguments against the change in strategy will be present. However, the author(s) of this proposal again feel that the best interests of the game are found with the use of the shot clock as evidenced by others who have adopted the change.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Utilization of 35-Second Shot Clock for Varsity Contests: CLASS C1 Only

Title:

Author: Austin Lewis

School: Sidney

NSAA District: 6

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball

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: 2024-12-05

Sections affected in Activities Manual:

<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
3		

Summary:

We hereby propose the implementation of the 35-Second Shot Clock Rule for State Association implementation as allowed for by the NFHS 2022-23 Basketball Rule 2-14 for NSAA Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball Contests in Class C1 Basketball Only, beginning with the 2024-25 school year/season. Shot Clock Use:

1. Shot Clocks will be used when Class C plays Class B or A.
2. Shot Clocks will be used at the discretion of the lower class team if Class C1 hosts a team from Class C2, D1 or D2.
3. Shot Clocks will not be used if a Class D1 or D2 school hosts a Class C school.

Rationale:

Every State that has adopted before this mandate has continued using the shot clock, and only seen expansion of the use within classifications/divisions. Class A has embraced the use of the shot clock, and Class B passed legislation after one year to add it as well. This tells us the shot clock is welcomed and working in High School Basketball. The use of the shot clock is less important/ a factor in increasing scoring, but much more important in game management and balancing the disparity between offense and defense in competitive contests. End-of-Game situations are greatly improved. Teams who choose to play a zone defense are not forced to alter their strategy simply to get the ball back. Games do not devolve into an action-less contest. The simplified set of rules is easily learned by officials, scorers, timers, players and others and readily implemented. Removal of several bits of language from other levels about multiple resets and challenges are not part of this proposal. A Class

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 6	24	3	

C1 only proposal mitigates some of the challenges of other classifications to adding the shot clock due to concerns/cons that may arise.

Pros:

Every State that has adopted before this mandate has continued using the shot clock, and only seen expansion of the use within classifications/divisions. Class A has embraced the use of the shot clock, and Class B passed legislation after one year to add it as well. This tells us the shot clock is welcomed and working in High School Basketball. The use of the shot clock is less important/ a factor in increasing scoring, but much more important in game management and balancing the disparity between offense and defense in competitive contests. End-of-Game situations are greatly improved. Teams who choose to play a zone defense are not forced to alter their strategy simply to get the ball back. Games do not devolve into an action-less contest. The simplified set of rules is easily learned by officials, scorers, timers, players and others and readily implemented. Removal of several bits of language from other levels about multiple resets and challenges are not part of this proposal. A Class C1 only proposal mitigates some of the challenges of other classifications to adding the shot clock due to concerns/cons that may arise.

Cons:

Cost for implementation will be present at all school districts. Costs may also be a factor depending on local policy on game-day workers and organization of a scorers table. Arguments against the change in strategy will be present. However, the author(s) of this proposal again feel that the best interests of the game are found with the use of the shot clock as evidenced by others who have adopted the change.

Utilization of the 35 second shot clock in Varsity contests for Classes D1 and D2 in the State of Nebraska

Author: Rusty Fuller & Corey Uldrich

School: Hartington-Newcastle Public Schools

NSAA District: 3

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 3	27	18	5
District 5	8	14	1

Proposal for: NSAA Activities Manual

Classes Affected: D1 & D2

Activities Affected: Boys and Girls Basketball

Implementation Date: December 2024

Sections affected in Activities Manual “Approved Rulings for Basketball” beginning in page 3.

Proposal Summary

We hereby propose the implementation of the 35 second shot clock rule for State Association adoption and implementation as allowed for by the NFHS 2022-2023 Basketball Rule 2-14 for NSAA Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball Contests in Classes D1 and D2, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year and/or season.

The shot clock is currently being used in Class A and Class B. Thus, it is only a matter of time before the shot clock will be implemented by Class C1 and Class C2.

The lower classes’ (Class C1, C2, D1 and D2) basketball schedules are intertwined with schedules that feature Class C and D teams throughout the season. It makes sense to use the shot clock in the lower classes as to create better continuity of play, so that adaptations will not need to be made every time a Class C team plays a Class D team.

Pros

Every State that has adopted before this mandate has continued using the shot clock, and only seen expansion of the use within classifications/divisions. Class A has embraced the use of the shot clock, and Class B passed legislation after one year to add it as well.

The use of the shot clock is less important a factor in increased scoring as it is in game management and balancing the disparity between offense and defense.

The use of a shot clock is easily enforced and easily learned by officials, scorers, timers, players and coaches.

This will allow Class D1 and D2 to compete with Classes C1 and C2 without interrupting the process of using a shot clock as it will create continuity among all the classes.

Cons

1. The cost of the initial implementation of the equipment required will be present for all schools in the classes of D1 and D2.
2. Cost of an additional clock keeper.



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 6	24	3	

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:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	56	3.11.1.7	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.



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

	For	Against	Abstain
District 2	47	21	24

Proposal for: Constitution & Bylaws

Classes Affected: All

Activities: Boys Basketball

Affected: 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: Page 56 Article 3.11.1.7 Section 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.



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 6	25	1	1

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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Class D - Football Bye Weeks

Title:

Author: Jarod Albers

School: Cambridge

NSAA District: 5

	For	Against	Abstain
District 5	11	10	2

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: 2024-08-01

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

Summary: Transition from the current 8 game in 8 week schedule by utilizing “Week 0” as Week 1 and continuing through Week 8 of the regular season; while leaving the current playoff football as is. This would create 9 weeks of regular season football for all schools. Bye-weeks will be determined by the NSAA through the scheduling process. Practice for all teams would start during NSAA Week 5, instead of the current week 6. The week of the 1st contest will be NSAA Week 7, instead of the current week 8.

Rationale: 1) Safety - By utilizing an 8 games in 9 weeks schedule, allows for teams to have bye-weeks during the season to allow students recover from injury, etc.

2) Officials - Will allow the 8 game schedule to be dispersed over 9 weeks, which will have few games scheduled weekly basis.

3) Playoffs - Allows the number of playoff teams and the existing playoff schedule to stay intact.

Pros: More recovery time for athletes. Fewer games each week, which lessen the pressure to find officials each week.

Cons: Season starts one week earlier, causing concerns with heat; players and athletes are already subjected to an earlier start and this concerns is not currently a focus.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

8 Man Football: Eligibility Number (51) -- Classification Structure & Playoffs

Title:

Author: Corey Uldrich

School: Hartington-Newcastle

NSAA District: 3

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	12	14	66
District 3	39	10	1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class D

Activities Affected: Football

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: 2026-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	Football Manual Pg. 26		Classifications
	Football Manual Pg. 27		Classifications
	Football Manual Pg. 27-28		Boy Enrollment for Football
	Football Manual Pg. 51-56		8-Man Playoffs

Summary: This proposal has two major components that would affect the classification and playoff structure of 8-man football. First, this proposal would move the eligibility number for 8-man football to 51 boys in the three-grade count. Currently, that number sits at 47. Second, this proposal would change the 8-man classification structure from a two-class division to a three-class division. 8-man teams would be classified in one of three classes (D1, D2, or D3).

Rationale: For years, we have dealt with the issue of having 8-man football teams ineligible due to their enrollment. The move to 51 would help us get closer in line with what neighboring states with 8-man football use. Kansas allows schools with 99 boys in 4 grades (similar to 75 boys in our situation) play 8-man football. Iowa allows for schools with 120 students (60 boys with a 50/50 split) to participate in 8-man football. By moving to 51, we'd at least be getting close to what our neighbors use for a number to determine who can play 8-man football. The move to the number 51 would be beneficial for a couple of reasons: #1 -- It would help those schools who have struggled through ineligibility because they were just over the 8-man number, but had 8-man participation rates. In most of these cases, these are schools who don't get a lot of kids out, and who cannot play 11-man football on their own. #2 -- It would help those schools who want to co-op. I am aware of a couple of situations where struggling 8-man programs wanted to explore options with their 8-man neighbors, but immediately shut down talks when they realize that adding their enrollments together would put them into 11-man or as an 8-man ineligible. Currently, our classifications with schools participating in each class looks like this: Class A -- 31 teams

Class B -- 26 teams Class C1 -- 38 teams Class C2 -- 36 teams Class D1 -- 61 teams Class D2 -- 54 teams Class D6 -- 34 teams 8-man football classes are significantly larger than those of 11-man and 6-man. This proposal would move 8-man football to three-classes. All teams who are playoff eligible would be divided into equal 1/3s to create the classes. If the number does not divide out equally, the first extra team would go into D3 (and if applicable, the second extra team would go into D2). All ineligible teams would remain in D1, and they would not be added to the class until the splitting of the playoff eligible teams has occurred. ***EXAMPLE: 115 eligible teams playing 8-man, 2 ineligible: D1 -- 40 teams (38 eligible, 2 ineligible), D2 - 38 teams, D3 -- 39 teams (they get the extra one that is not evenly split) In the new three-class 8-man system, all teams would be play 9 regular season games, and the playoffs would move to 16 teams in each of the three classes.. This would align with the current structure of both 11-man and 6-man football. All playoff games could be played on Friday nights. In terms of bonus points and playing across classes, teams would get 1 bonus point for playing up a division and 2 bonus points for playing up two divisions. Every effort should be made to schedule teams within classes against each other, but our geography may require that a D1 play a D3 because of a lack of available teams in an area.

- Pros: *Gets us in line with neighboring states' number for 8-man classification *Could create more co-op opportunities for small 8-man schools who need help *Should help reduce ineligible teams, while also giving the smallest 8-man schools a division to compete against like-sized schools *Gives all 8-man teams a 9th regular season game *All playoff games move to Friday nights *Creates equity in class sizes and playoff structures across all divisions of football (6-man, 8-man, 11-man)
- Cons: *Could shrink the sizes of Classes C1/C2 if newly eligible teams decide to move down to 8-man *Would add a championship game to the current football finals schedule *Would require an additional set of medals and trophies



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

8 Man Football: Eligibility Number (55) -- Classification Structure & Playoffs

Title:

Author: Corey Uldrich

School: Hartington-Newcastle

NSAA District: 3

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	12	14	66
District 3	35	14	1
District 5	14	7	2

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class D

Activities Affected: Football

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: 2026-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	Football Manual Pg. 26		Classifications
	Football Manual Pg. 27		Classifications
	Football Manual Pg. 27-28		Boy Enrollment for Football
	Football Manual Pg. 51-56		8-Man Playoffs

Summary: This proposal has two major components that would affect the classification and playoff structure of 8-man football. First, this proposal would move the eligibility number for 8-man football to 55 boys in the three-grade count. Currently, that number sits at 47. Second, this proposal would change the 8-man classification structure from a two-class division to a three-class division. 8-man teams would be classified in one of three classes (D1, D2, or D3).

Rationale: For years, we have dealt with the issue of having 8-man football teams ineligible due to their enrollment. The move to 55 would help us get closer in line with what neighboring states with 8-man football use. Kansas allows schools with 99 boys in 4 grades (similar to 75 boys in our situation) play 8-man football. Iowa allows for schools with 120 students (60 boys with a 50/50 split) to participate in 8-man football. By moving to 55, we'd at least be getting close to what our neighbors use for a number to determine who can play 8-man football. The move to the number 55 would be beneficial for a couple of reasons: #1 -- It would help those schools who have struggled through ineligibility because they were just over the 8-man number, but had 8-man participation rates. In most of these cases, these are schools who don't get a lot of kids out, and who cannot play 11-man football on their own. #2 -- It would help those schools who want to co-op. I am aware of a couple of situations where struggling 8-man programs wanted to explore options with their 8-man neighbors, but immediately shut down talks when they realize that adding their enrollments together would put them into 11-man or as an 8-man ineligible. Currently, our classifications with schools participating in each class looks like this: Class A -- 31 teams

Class B -- 26 teams Class C1 -- 38 teams Class C2 -- 36 teams Class D1 -- 61 teams Class D2 -- 54 teams Class D6 -- 34 teams 8-man football classes are significantly larger than those of 11-man and 6-man. This proposal would move 8-man football to three-classes. All teams who are playoff eligible would be divided into equal 1/3s to create the classes. If the number does not divide out equally, the first extra team would go into D3 (and if applicable, the second extra team would go into D2). All ineligible teams would remain in D1, and they would not be added to the class until the splitting of the playoff eligible teams has occurred. ***EXAMPLE: 115 eligible teams playing 8-man, 2 ineligible: D1 -- 40 teams (38 eligible, 2 ineligible), D2 - 38 teams, D3 -- 39 teams (they get the extra one that is not evenly split) In the new three-class 8-man system, all teams would be play 9 regular season games, and the playoffs would move to 16 teams in each of the three classes.. This would align with the current structure of both 11-man and 6-man football. All playoff games could be played on Friday nights. In terms of bonus points and playing across classes, teams would get 1 bonus point for playing up a division and 2 bonus points for playing up two divisions. Every effort should be made to schedule teams within classes against each other, but our geography may require that a D1 play a D3 because of a lack of available teams in an area.

- Pros: *Gets us in line with neighboring states' number for 8-man classification *Could create more co-op opportunities for small 8-man schools who need help *Should help reduce ineligible teams, while also giving the smallest 8-man schools a division to compete against like-sized schools *Gives all 8-man teams a 9th regular season game *All playoff games move to Friday nights *Creates equity in class sizes and playoff structures across all divisions of football (6-man, 8-man, 11-man)
- Cons: *Could shrink the sizes of Classes C1/C2 if newly eligible teams decide to move down to 8-man *Would add a championship game to the current football finals schedule *Would require an additional set of medals and trophies



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title:

Football Classification

Author: Lee Schneider

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	31	29	32

School: Clarkson

NSAA District: 2

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: All Classes

Activities Affected: Football

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: 2026-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	Football Manual Pg. 26		Classifications
	Football Manual Pg. 27		Classifications
	Football Manual Pg. 27-28		Boy Enrollment for Football
	Football Manual Pg. 51-56		Boy Enrollment for Football

Summary: This proposal has a simplistic view to help bring clarity and balance to our football classifications without creating additional classes or forms of play. We would create an AA classification that would take the 32 highest enrollments, Class A next 32, Class B next 32, and Class C next 32. We will still have a cut line for the 8-man and 6-man classification; 8-man will be 51, and 6-man will be 27. You would classify the remaining 143 schools according to the cut numbers. Schools can still make declarations of play, 11, 8 or 6 in November, and the classification numbers will be determined by playoff-eligible schools. Class AA-C & D6 would have a 16-man playoff. D1 and D2 would have 32 opening playoffs; this will also balance the argument of the percentage of schools that make the playoffs.

Rationale There is a growing discrepancy in our state's demographic and population growth. To be proactive and to build a system that can anticipate the growth of our areas, we can establish a larger classification in AA that will allow for the growth of the schools in the Metro & LPS and surrounding areas. The demographic of our smaller schools is shrinking, and it is difficult to project or anticipate growth in those communities. By putting into a place a system that allows for the top to grow, it will in turn, allow for the other enrollment numbers to rise or fall without creating a significant disadvantage amongst competing schools in their respective classification. Schools will still have the ability to OPT UP if they are a traditional 11-man school or 8-man school without penalty, with the cut line set at 51 it does alleviate and provides schools relief from having to decide between eligible or ineligible play and hopefully limits the cancellations of seasons.

Pros: It helps to bring clarity and consistency across all classifications and limits the discrepancies in several schools related to the number of schools that qualify for playoffs. We are creating a proactive system to anticipate the growth of two central areas, accommodate the rest of the state with stagnant or declining growth, and keep an even playing field. By adjusting the 8-man cut line, we are also allowing schools an excellent opportunity to preserve a football season while still allowing schools to opt up to 11 or 8-man if they wish.

Cons: We are condensing Class C into one classification. There are still arguments regarding the difference in overall enrollment when comparing the top of AA to the bottom of AA, which was there when just A. This will sort itself out as schools grow or decline in the appropriate classification, specifically in the Metro and LPS districts.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Class A Golf District Assignments

Title:

Author: Rochelle Rohlfs

School: Omaha Marian

NSAA District: 2

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	28	1	61

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: 2024-09-15

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	Page 15		#6.

Summary: 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 post-season 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.

ADD: THE TOP FOUR SEEDS WILL NOT BE SWITCHED IN ORDER TO SPLIT UP THE HOST SCHOOLS. A HORIZONTAL SWITCH WITH THE CLOSEST AVERAGE DIFFERENTIAL WILL BE MADE WITHIN THE ROW OF THE HOST SCHOOL.

Rationale: Seeds 1-4 have earned the right to stay with their position within the serpentine assignment. Making horizontal switches with the next closest average differential helps to maintain the original integrity of the competitive levels assigned.

Pros:

Cons:



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	30	11	9
District 2	22	35	30
District 3	1	49	
District 4	27	25	5

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
18Article
5.4.3Section
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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Play Production Outstanding Acting Awards

Title:

Author: Tyler Herman, Becky Stahr, and the NSCTA

School: York

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	40	6	4
District 2	43	22	22
District 3	43	7	
District 4	36	17	4

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: Play Production

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>
	2		

Summary: Change wording from Outstanding Male and Female Performer Awards at districts and state to two Outstanding Performer Awards at districts and state.

Rationale: Changing this language allows for the most outstanding performers to be recognized, regardless of gender.

Pros: This change allows inclusive language to be included in the play production manual. Changing the language does not impact cost Changing the language to outstanding performer allows the best performers to be recognized, regardless of gender.

Cons: N/A



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Class C Softball Sub-District Assignments

Title:

Author: James Shada

School: Arlington

NSAA District: 2

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

	For	Against	Abstain
District 2	44	0	41
District 3	23	7	20

Implementation date: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual: Page 15 Article Section

Summary: Change:

1. Class C schools in softball are to be placed into ten districts.
2. The ten districts will be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based upon the NSAA wildcard point system , on the Monday of week 12, prior to the first district tournament. The top seed in each district will be offered a contract to host the district tournament. If the higher seed is unable to host the district tournament, the subsequent seed shall be offered a contract until a location is secured.
3. If the total number of teams is not divisible by four (4), then sub-districts of five (5) teams will be created for extra teams over that number divisible by four (4). Class C sub-districts will be single elimination with the winner qualifying for district finals. The highest seed will be the host unless they choose not to host.

Rationale: Power points are used to reward a team's regular-season body of work. The current system goes against this philosophy by potentially compelling schools with higher power points to “group” geographically in the same sub-district. While the current system does allow for wild cards in district play, many quality teams are left out because of sub-district winners with less-quality competition. We have seen multiple other sports go away from the “geographical” system in the past few years as well. By allowing geography to determine all subdistricts we appear to be putting outside considerations in front of competitiveness and on-the-field results. With Sub-districts being a one-day tournament, multiple days of travel to a further location have been reduced. By allowing the serpentine method to seed we are placing the emphasis on competitiveness and a full season's body of work. The NSAA sub-district, district, and state playoff/championship format should be as statewide as possible. Particularly when it comes to championship play.

Pros: This proposal rewards teams with higher power points, and a full regular season body of work when it comes to sub-district play. It also respects the distances of the western most schools in our state. This proposal rewards on the field results.

Cons: This proposal does not allow a theoretically less competitive team to enjoy an opportunity to host a sub-district contest. It may increase travel for teams with lower powerpoints.



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	47	11	35

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:	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
	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.



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Highest Seeded Team Hosting Baseball & Softball

Author: Chad Holtz

School: Bellevue East

NSAA District: 2

Proposal For: Activities Manual

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 2	68	3	21

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: August 2024

Summary:

During district and state tournament play, the home team shall be determined by the highest seeded team based on power points. If additional games are needed to determine a winner, the home and away team status will be alternated for the next game of the series until a winner is determined.

Rationale: Teams should be rewarded for their regular season power point total. This would validate the power point system and the importance of playing a competitive regular season.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Speech Final Round Tie Breaker Determination

Title:

Author: Tyler Herman, Becky Stahr, and the NSCTA

School: York

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	48	1	1
District 2	61	2	24
District 3	41	3	6
District 4	47	5	5

Classes Affected: All

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: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u> 12	<u>Article</u> Determining Final Rounds	<u>Section</u> 1
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Summary: Determining Final Rounds:

The final round shall consist of six (6) contestants. The following procedures will be used to determine which students advance out of the preliminary rounds:

1-Lowest Cumulative Speaker Rank If ties in cumulative score bring the number to more than (6), the following priority system shall be used to break ties:

2-Opponent's Average Rank (Strength of Schedule)-comparison of which students had more competitive rounds, based on the opponent's average rank.

3-Head-to-Head Competition:

a)If the tied speakers met in only one preliminary round, the speaker that ranked higher in that round advances.

b)If the speakers met in both preliminary rounds, and the same speaker ranked higher in both rounds, that speaker advances.

4-Reciprocals: Rank 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Reciprocal 1 1/2 1/3 1/4 1/5 1/6 1/7 As a Decimal 1 .5 .33 .25 .2 .17 .14 Then add these numbers and the contestant with the highest score is the best of the three, and the next highest score receives the next rank, etc.

5-Highest Cumulative Speaker Points.

Rationale: The addition of Opponent's Average Rank creates a more objective tie-breaker, advancing the strongest competitors to the final round.

Pros: Opponent's Average Rank creates more objective final-round decisions at tournaments.

Cons: n/a



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 6	24	2	1

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	<u>Page</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u>
Constitution & Bylaws:	58	3.11.10.5	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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Class C1 and C2 Sub-District/District Assignments

Title:

Author: Jenny Wagner, Dallas Sweet, Nathan Ter Beest

School: Centennial

NSAA District: 1

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	20	6	24
District 2	No Motion		

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Volleyball

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: 2024-08-19

Sections affected in Activities Manual: Page 17 Article Sub District and District Information Section Sub-District and District Assignments

Summary: Classes C1 & C2 schools are divided into 4 REGIONS (Western, Central, Northeast, and Southeast as examples). The westernmost region will be made of the 5-6 furthest western schools. The remaining 3 regions will be composed of 15-18 teams based on geographical area. Those 3 regions will then serpentine into 3 districts of 4-6 based on wildcard points set on our current date. The highest-seeded team will host the sub-district. a. The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final. b. The next SIX non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for the district final. Split the state into 4 Regions (Western, Central, Northeast, Southeast, etc.). The westernmost region will be made of the 4-6 furthest western schools. The remaining 3 regions will be composed of 15-18 teams based on regions (central, northeast, southeast, etc.) Those 3 regions will then serpentine into 3 districts of 5-6 based on wildcard points at our current date. This creates 10 districts of 4-6 teams. The winners of these 10 districts & the top 6 wildcards will seed and play a District Final game.

Rationale: By moving to 10 sub-districts we can better balance the level of competition through sub-districts. The opportunity for 6 wildcards helps the loaded sub-districts. A sub-district with 6 teams does not add a day to the competition, as in 5 team sub-districts we already have a "bunny bracket" game on day 1 of the sub-district, so now we would have 2 games on that night.

Pros: This will help teams that have had successful season but are in very tough areas when sub-districts are drawn have a chance to advance to the district final. Top three teams in each region are guaranteed a home district.

Cons: Potential for longer drives for eastern schools.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

District Final Host in Volleyball

Title:

Author: Marc Mroczek

School: Gothenburg

NSAA District: 4

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 1	25	2	23
District 4	47	1	9
District 5	15	6	2

Proposal for: Activities Manual

Classes Affected: Class C

Activities Affected: Volleyball

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: 2024-08-01

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	<u>Page</u> 17	<u>Article</u>	<u>Section</u> Classes C1 & C2
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Summary: 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. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.

Rationale: This proposal mirrors Class B. It rewards teams for having a successful season and earning the right to host a district final on their home court on a Saturday in front of their home fans and community. This would eliminate the need to find neutral host sites on a Saturday and also find help (line judges, libero, clock, ticket takers, etc.)

Pros:

- Rewards a team for having a successful season and earn the right to play a district final on their home court.
- Eliminates the need to find a neutral site on a Saturday. Very few schools want to host a game that doesn't involve their students.
- Does not impact missing class time for teachers/coaches/players.
- The gate and concessions will increase due to home crowd and community support.
- The school and community deserves the opportunity to host (restaurants, showcase your school, etc.)

Cons: Potential for increased travel for the lower seeded team.



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

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
District 6	23	4	

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.



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

	For	Against	Abstain
District 6	18	9	

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	Article	Section
	59	3.11.12.7	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.



LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NSAA RULES AND REGULATIONS

NSAA Girls Wrestling Classification Proposal - Adding Class B

Title:

Author: David Davis

School: Fairbury

NSAA District: 1

Proposal for: Activities Manual

	For	Against	Abstain
District 1	18	14	18
District 2	63	1	22
District 3	44	3	3
District 4	40	4	13
District 5	20	1	2

Classes Affected: All

Activities Affected: 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: 2024-09-21

Sections affected in Activities Manual:	Page	Article	Section
	17-18		Classification

Summary: The girls wrestling classifications will be determined by the following method: Girls wrestling teams will be divided into two (2) classes based on girls enrollment. Class A would be for the largest 56 schools based on girl enrollment and remaining schools placed in Class B. The total number of teams will be divided across the 4 districts in both classes. District assignments will be determined using the current method as described in the NSAA Wrestling Manual.

Note: Using 2022-2023 enrollment Class A would be 56 schools and Class B would be 10

Rationale: The following rationale is from a Coaches Survey May 2023

Section 2: Team Participation

1. Do you anticipate having more girls participating than last season (90 responses) 84.4 % of the coaches anticipate growth with an additional 13% showing the same results
2. Of the 90 responses submitted, in anticipation for next season, which criteria best characterizes your program? 5 or more participants: 32.2% 10 or more participants: 21.1% 15 or more participants: 10% 20 or more participants: 16.7% 5 or less are expected: 20%
3. Are you in favor of a Girls Dual State Championship? (104 responses) Yes, with the current 1 class format: 23.1 % Only after a split into 2 classes: 32.7 % No, not at this time: 44.2 %
4. Are you satisfied with the current District format of four districts populated by a formula of

returning point criteria and geographic location? (104 responses) Yes: 43.3 % No: 38.5 % Not Sure: 18.3 %

5. If the numbers warrant a split to two or more classes, would you be in favor of a split to Class A & Class B (last year we had 1,263 girls participating) (104 responses) Yes, based off of a 1600 participants criteria: 28.8 % Yes, based off of current numbers: 68.3 % No, remain one class for now and into the future

6. Are you satisfied with keeping the Girls and Boys State Championships together as is for now, or would you prefer a full or partial split? (104 responses) Yes, keep the State Championships together as is now: 52.9 % Prefer a partial or full calendar split of the event: 35.6 % No preference: 11.5 %

The following rational is based on NSAA 2022- 2023 girls enrollment numbers Class A: Class A would consist of the 56 largest NSAA schools, which would allow the class to be divided into 4 districts of 14 teams. Last years number of girls out for wrestling for the 56 largest schools was 646 wrestlers of which 538 wrestlers could have possibly been eligible to wrestle in districts Note: Class A boys numbers for 2022-2023 was 396 that wrestled at districts Class B: Class B would consist of the 57 or more NSAA schools with girls wrestling Last years numbers of girls out for wrestling in the remaining schools was 485 wrestlers of which 474 wrestlers could have been eligible for district competition Note: Class B boys numbers for 2022-2023 was 525 that wrestled in districts.

Pros:

Cons: