

**3.000 ATHLETIC BY-LAWS**

**3.010 REGIONAL/SECTIONAL ENTRY FORMS**

- 3.011** The Regional/Sectional Entry Form which is available only from the IESA website for each activity in which a school participates shall be used to list up to the maximum number of certified contestants for state tournament series play. Only those individuals listed on the Regional Entry Form are allowed to sit on the team bench during state series play.
- 3.012** In baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, and scholastic bowl competition, principals of competing schools shall complete a copy of the Regional Entry Form using the online form that is available on the IESA website. Once the form has been completed, by clicking on the words "Update Entries" the information is automatically available to the regional host and to the IESA office. Teams shall be ruled ineligible to compete in any tournament series contest unless this requirement is completed. The same exact procedure is used for completing the Sectional Entry Form for cross-country and bowling.
- 3.013** In wrestling, the on-line Regional Entry Form, must be completed by logging in to the IESA Member Center, and may list up to two certified contestants in each weight class for state tournament series play. It is required that schools complete the Regional Entry Form by the Tuesday preceding the regional. The Regional Entry Forms will be available on-line for regional hosts to view. Teams shall be ruled ineligible to compete at the regional level of the IESA state tournament series unless they have official entries at the seeding meeting (By-Law 4.057). No changes may be made to the regional entries after the seeding meeting. See By-Law 4.054. On the day of the regional meet, there are no substitutions---only scratches.
- 3.014** In track and field, each school entering the state series (whether entering a team or individuals) must submit its Sectional Participant Information online. Sectional Participant Information must be completed within the time frame as detailed in the Track and Field Terms & Conditions. No changes may be made to the Sectional Participant Information after the seeding meeting. Contestants shall be allowed to participate only in those events in which they are entered. On the day of the sectional meet, there are no substitutions---only scratches.
- 3.015** It is the ultimate responsibility of each competing team entered in the state series to ensure that each participant listed on their Regional/Sectional Entry Form is eligible. Regional/Sectional hosts for all activities are also required to check each contestant on the Regional/Sectional Entry Form. Schools may make changes to the Regional Entry Form until the "Roster Closed" deadline date as detailed in the Activity Calendar that is posted on the IESA website. After the Roster Closed deadline, no changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form.
- 3.016** Advancing teams will not need to hand-carry or forward the Regional/Sectional Entry Form to sectional or state tournament hosts. Sectional hosts may check with the IESA office if there is a question on the certification of a participant. Entrants for all state tournament contests shall be checked at the IESA office.
- 3.017** The school administration may petition the Executive Director to correct the Regional/Sectional Entry Form when a student's name has been omitted due to a clerical or administrative error.

***Illustrations for Section 3.010***

***The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.***

**Q.** Are coaches required to submit the online Regional Entry Form by the posted deadline?

**A.** Yes. Failure to do so will subject the school and contestants to penalty.

**Q.** If I have supplied my regional host with a copy of my baseball Regional Entry Form, must I have a copy for the sectional and state hosts also?

**A.** No.

**Q.** My coach inadvertently left a player off the Regional Entry Form. The student played in the first round regional game and our team won. Is there a penalty and do we have to forfeit that contest?

**A.** It depends on the situation. If there is a roster spot open on the Regional Entry Form and the principal completes a Roster Reinstatement Form and can document that the player in question participated in at least 60% of the team's contests during the regular season, then the team will not have to forfeit the contest and the player will be added to the Regional Entry Form. However, the player will have to miss the next game by serving a one game suspension and the school will be fined \$50. If, however, there is no roster spot open on the Regional Entry Form and the individual plays in a state series game and the team wins the contest, this will be treated as using an ineligible player and the team will be required to forfeit the contest and penalized in accordance with By-Law 5.071.

**3.021**

Seventh and eighth grade enrollment from the previous school year as reported to the IESA by the member school through the IESA Member Center shall determine the classification of each school for boys baseball, girls softball, girls and boys cross-country, girls and boys basketball, girls volleyball, scholastic bowl, boys wrestling, routine division of cheerleading, and track and field after a tabulation of entries in each sport.

In scholastic bowl and boys wrestling, an equal split of the number of entries will determine placement in Class A and Class AA. The highest 50% of the participating schools will be Class AA and the smallest 50% of the participating schools will be Class A. In softball and baseball, the teams will be divided equally into three classes each containing 1/3 of the participating schools. Girls and boys basketball, girls volleyball, cross-country, and boys and girls track teams will be split into four equal classes each containing 25% of the participating schools.

For classification purposes, the total student enrollments for a K-7 only building, a 6th grade only building, a K-6 only building, or a K-5 only building will be as follows: For a K-7 building (or any building housing up to grade 7 only), the enrollment of the 7th grade only class shall be doubled; for a 6th grade only building, the enrollment of the 6th grade shall be doubled; for a K-6 building, the enrollment of students in grades 5 & 6 shall be used, for a K-5 building, the enrollment of the 5th grade shall be doubled.

When two or more schools consolidate or annex, the total student enrollment figures reported by the schools to the IESA Office as of September 30 of the preceding school year for all the schools involved in the consolidation shall be combined and the consolidated school shall be classified on the basis of this combined total student enrollment figure.

When a school joins the Association, and that school enrolled students during the previous school term, the total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes for that school shall be the total student enrollment figure reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the preceding school year.

When a school joins the Association, and that school did not enroll students during the previous school term, the total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figure reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the current school year. An unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IESA for planning purposes.

When a school (or several schools) loses students due to the opening of a new school or schools in the same school district, or due to the deannexation of a major portion of the school district, the total student enrollment figures used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figures reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the current school year. An unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IESA for planning purposes.

When a school (or several schools) gains students due to the closing of a school or schools in the same school district, or due to the deactivation of a neighboring school district, the total student enrollment figures used for classification purposes shall be the total student enrollment figures reported by the school to the IESA office as of September 30 of the current school year. An unofficial figure obtained from the school district may be used by the IESA for planning purposes.

**3.022****Petition for Variance**

Not later than July 1 of a given year, the principal of an IESA member school may submit a letter of application to the Executive Director for approval of a variance in a school's total student enrollment figure used for classification purposes if:

- there is an anticipated, verifiable twenty percent (20%) or more decrease (or increase) in total student enrollment for the ensuing school year for reasons deemed acceptable by the Board of Directors of the IESA.
- such variance is approved by the Executive Director, the varied total student enrollment figure approved for a school shall be the enrollment figure used for classification purposes for that school during the ensuing school year.

**Illustrations for Section 3.020**

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**Q.** Can a Class 1A school be moved and participate in Class 2A in an activity by its own choice?

**A.** The Board of Directors has ruled this is not permissible and that each school must participate only in the class to which it has been assigned in each activity, dependent upon that school's enrollment. However, a school may be Class 1A in one activity and Class 2A in another activity based on the enrollment cutoff for those activities.

**Q.** Can a school's enrollment possibly place them in Class 1A in seventh grade girls volleyball and then in Class 2A in eighth grade girls volleyball?

**A.** No. A school will always be in the same class at both the seventh and eighth grade levels in a given activity.

**Q.** How does IESA receive my school's enrollment?

**A.** In the fall of each year, schools submit their enrollment as of September 30 to the IESA through the IESA Member Center. This number can be compared to the official number submitted to the ISBE.

### 3.030 SEASON LIMITATION IN ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

**3.031** During the school year, no member school shall organize its teams, hold tryouts, practice, scrimmage, or participate in any interscholastic sport outside of the season limitations as prescribed in Division 4.000 of these By-Laws for any activity in which it participates in the IESA state tournament series.

#### ***Illustrations for Section 3.030***

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**Q.** Must a member school which does not enter the IESA tournament series in basketball follow the basketball regulations contained in the By-Laws?

**A.** No. Member schools must abide by all regulations in activities at the grade levels in which they enter IESA tournament play.

**Q.** Is a scrimmage considered to be a practice or an interscholastic contest?

**A.** If a scrimmage or workout involves students from one member school only, it is considered to be practice. If students of more than one school are involved, it is an interscholastic contest and subject to all regulations pertaining thereto.

**Q.** Could a team representing a member school who participates in the IESA state series participate as a school team in summer tournaments?

**A.** Yes, provided the summer tournament is scheduled after the close of the school year for that particular team.

**Q.** Can basketball teams representing their schools participate in "shootouts"?

**A.** Yes, if such "shootouts" are held during the school year and during the school's basketball season, each game played during the "shootout" must count as a regular season interscholastic contest. If the "shootout" is held during the school year either before or after the school's basketball season, the school team could not participate.

### 3.040 PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS

**3.041** No student is eligible to participate at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same activity. This is true whether the student attended a member or a non-member school. Participation in one interscholastic contest in an activity constitutes one season of eligibility in that activity.

**3.042** No student shall be a member of an interscholastic team using ninth grade or high school students. Athletic activities designated as seventh grade shall consist of contestants in grades five through seven. In all other athletic activities, fifth through eighth graders are eligible to participate. All contestants must meet required age eligibility standards as detailed in By-Law 3.050.

**3.043** See Division 4.000 for limitations in individual sports.

#### ***Illustrations for Section 3.040***

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**Q.** I have a 7th grade boy who I would like to play on both the 7th grade state tournament team and the 8th grade state tournament team. Is this allowed and if so, what is his eligibility for the following year?

**A.** A 7th grade student may play on both the 7th grade state tournament team and the 8th grade state tournament team. It has no effect at all on eligibility the following year as an 8th grader. Assuming he continues to meet all eligibility requirements and is an 8th grader the following year, he is eligible to play on the 8th grade team the next year. Local school policy may prevent an individual from playing on both the 7th grade and 8th grade tournament teams but the IESA does not prohibit an individual from playing on both levels.

**Q.** For purposes of determining whether a student can participate after being retained, when is a contestant considered to have used a season of eligibility for a particular sport/activity?

**A.** A student is considered to have used a season of eligibility for a sport/activity once he or she actually competes in a contest.

**Q.** Last year a student was in 7th grade in another city. The student is transferring to my building during the summer. The student did not fail, but the parents requested the student repeat 7th grade due to immaturity when the student transferred. Is the student who has transferred into my school able to participate as a seventh grader this year?

**A.** If the student participated in an interscholastic activity as a seventh grader in the previous school year, the student is ineligible for that activity this school year.

**Q.** A girl played in one softball game as a sixth grader last year. She is being held back and will repeat 6th grade this year. Is she eligible to participate in softball this year even though she is still in 6th grade and only played in one game last year?

**A.** No. She has used her sixth grade year of eligibility the previous year for that sport. However, if she did not participate in basketball, volleyball, track, or cross-country, she would be eligible for those activities this year.

**Q.** I have a boy who was in the 7th grade last year and he played on the seventh grade basketball team. Due to a variety of reasons, he was retained and will be in the 7th grade again this school year. Can he play on the 7th grade team again this year?

**A.** No. That would be participating at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same activity. This student would have used his seventh grade basketball eligibility the previous year.

**Q.** I have a girl who was in the 7th grade last year and she participated in the speech program and received a Division 1 first place medal. Due to a variety of reasons, she was retained and will be in the 7th grade again this school year. Can she participate in the IESA speech contest again when she is repeating 7th grade?

**A.** No. That would be participating at the same academic grade level for two different school years in the same activity. This student would have used her seventh grade speech eligibility the previous year.

**Q.** May a seventh grade boy who played on the seventh grade basketball team last year and was retained play "up" on the eighth grade team this year?

**A.** No, that would be considered to be playing the same sport in two different school years at the same academic grade level. This student is not eligible to play basketball at any level during his second year in seventh grade. Assuming he is promoted to the 8th grade after his second year in seventh grade and assuming he still meets the age requirements, he would be eligible to play his 8th grade year.

**Q.** Could a girl who is on her school's girls basketball team participate with a non-school travel basketball team during the girls basketball season?

**A.** It depends on the school's policy regarding participation on a school team and a non-school team at the same time. If the school would permit this type of participation, then the girl would be eligible. If the school did not allow this type of participation and the girl participated in the non-school competition during the school season, she would be in violation of local school policy and not an IESA rule.

**Q.** Could a boy on his school's cross-country team participate in a five-kilometer run during the school's cross-country season?

**A.** This would be a local school/coach decision.

**Q.** Could a boy tryout for the school baseball team and practice with the school team while he is still a member of his summer Little League baseball team?

**A.** It depends on the school's policy regarding participation on a school team and a non-school team at the same time. If the school would permit this type of participation, then the boy could do both and be eligible. If the school did not allow this type of participation and the boy participated on the Little League team during the school season, he would be in violation of local school policy and not an IESA rule.

**Q.** May a student participate on more than one school athletic team at a time?

**A.** Yes. The IESA places no limitations on this. Member schools may have local restrictions against this.

**Q.** May a student participate in a tryout for a non-school team while a member of a school team in the same sport?

**A.** Yes.

**Q.** May a student participate in practice with a non-school team while a member of the school team in the same sport?

**A.** This is a decision made by each school. The school decides whether or not a student can practice with a non-school team while he/she is a member of a school team in the same sport.

**Q.** Our school does not start the school season until January 15. According to the IESA calendar, the wrestling season may begin the Monday of Week 22 (late November/early December). May students from our school wrestle in IKWF tournaments from November 26 until January 15?

**A.** Check with your school for their policy. If they would allow a wrestler to participate in an IKWF tournament during that time, then you would be eligible to do so.

**Q.** A member of my boys basketball team played on a non-school team during our school's Christmas break despite repeated warnings I gave to the team to not play on non-school teams. What is the penalty?

**A.** The penalty would be determined by the local school if a local policy was violated.

**Q.** A member of our school's basketball team wants to participate with an indoor soccer team during the basketball season. Is this allowed?

**A.** Yes, provided your local school does not have a policy preventing this.

### 3.050 AGE QUALIFICATIONS

**3.051** For all seventh grade athletic activities sponsored by a member school, a student shall be **eligible through age fourteen (14)**. If a student in a seventh grade athletic activity becomes fifteen (15) from the beginning date of practice in an activity as determined by the IESA standardized calendar through the final event in the seventh grade state tournament series in girls basketball, boys basketball, or girls volleyball, he/she is not eligible to participate in that activity. For boys and girls track, the final date of eligibility shall be governed by the member school's size classification.

**3.052** For all activities sponsored by a member school, other than activities designated as seventh grade activities as noted above, a student shall be **eligible through age fifteen (15)**. If a student in an activity becomes sixteen (16) from the beginning date of practice in an activity as determined by the IESA standardized calendar through the final event in the state tournament series in that activity, he/she is not eligible to participate in that activity. For boys and girls track, the final date of eligibility shall be governed by the member school's size classification.

**3.053** A student shall be permitted to try-out only for those activities for which he/she is eligible by age.

**3.054** Each student must provide the school principal with birth certification before practice or participation in any athletic activity. This must be a birth certificate or hospital record or a thermostatic copy of such. A baptismal certificate is not acceptable.

**3.055** The school administrator shall be responsible for having birth certification on file for each athletic contestant prior to any practice or participation in any athletic activity.

**3.056** The Executive Director shall rule on certification of any student who cannot meet the birth certification requirement on file.

**3.057** The following procedures are established for an initial determination between member schools if there is a question regarding a contestant's eligibility due to age:

The administrator of the protesting school shall check with the administrator against whom a protest is made regarding age.

If the protest cannot be worked out between the administrators of the two member schools, the Executive Director should be notified by the protesting school to determine eligibility.

If a contestant's ineligibility is verified by the Executive Director, the contestant's school is subject to the provisions of Section 5.070. In regular season contests, the ineligible contestant may be suspended from further competition in interscholastic contests for the remainder of the current season in that activity and the offending school from the state series in that activity.

If an age ineligible player has been used in a previous tournament contest and this is brought to the attention of the tournament host by an administrator of a participating school prior to the beginning of the next contest in which the ineligible player would participate, the Executive Director should be informed at once by the tournament host. If a contestant's ineligibility is verified by the Executive Director, the contestant's school is subject to the provisions of Section 5.070, and advancement by the losing team from that contest shall be in accordance with the "State Tournament Team Limitations" listed in Division 4 of these By-Laws. No previous tournament contest in which an ineligible contestant may have played will be replayed.

#### **Illustrations for Section 3.050**

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**Q.** What determines a sports season?

**A.** A sports season is defined as the beginning date of practice, according to the IESA standardized calendar, through the final state championship date for that activity. The final date for track is determined by a school's track classification--A or AA.

**Q.** I have an 8th grade boy who will turn 16 the day after the Class 1A boys baseball state finals. Is he eligible to play on my baseball team?

**A.** Yes. He is eligible the entire season including the state tournament series.

**Q.** I have an 8th grade girl who turns 16 the day of the girls softball sectional championship. May she play during the regular season, through the regional, and then not play at all in the sectional or state finals?

**A.** No. She is not eligible to compete in any softball games--regular season or IESA state series contests.

**Q.** May a 7th grade boy who turns 15 during the boys basketball season play on the 8th grade team instead of the 7th grade team?

**A.** Yes. Due to his age, the 8th grade team is the only team for which he can try out or compete.

**Q.** One of my 8th grade boys turns 16 the day of the basketball state championship. Even though I believe my team will be defeated in the regional, thus making him 15 throughout the season, is he eligible to be on the 8th grade team?

**A.** No. He is not eligible to try out for the team or compete in any basketball games.

**Q.** What are the age cutoff dates for the 2024-25 school year activities?

**A.** A student must be born on or after:

- September 13, 2008 for Girls Golf
- September 14, 2008 for Boys Golf
- September 29, 2008 for Girls Softball
- October 6, 2008 for Boys Baseball
- October 20, 2008 for Boys and Girls Cross-Country
- December 13, 2009 for 7th Grade Girls Basketball
- December 20, 2008 for 8th Grade Girls Basketball
- February 13, 2009 for Cheerleading
- February 14, 2010 for 7th Grade Boys Basketball
- February 21, 2009 for 8th Grade Boys Basketball
- March 2, 2009 for Chess
- March 16, 2009 for Boys Wrestling
- March 16, 2010 for 7th Grade Girls Volleyball
- March 23, 2009 for 8th Grade Girls Volleyball
- April 13, 2009 for Girls and Boys Bowling
- May 10, 2009 for Scholastic Bowl
- May 18, 2010 for Class 1A & 2A 7th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field
- May 18, 2009 for Class 1A & 2A 8th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field
- May 25, 2010 for Class 3A & 4A 7th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field
- May 25, 2009 for Class 3A & 4A 8th Grade Boys and Girls Track and Field

**Q.** May a girl who will turn 15 during the 7th grade girls basketball season tryout for the 7th grade team?

**A.** No. She may only try out for the 8th grade team since this is the only team for which she is eligible by age.

**Q.** According to the IESA standardized calendar in a given year, the Class 1A state track finals end May 14. Am I correct that if a Class 3A 8th grader who turns 16 on May 17 is ineligible to participate in track for the entire season while a Class 1A 8th grader who turns 16 on May 17 would be eligible for the entire season?

**A.** Yes. The eligibility of a Class 1A/2A track participant will always end one week earlier than for a Class 3A/4A track participant due to the different state final dates.

**Q.** Why is a baptismal certificate not acceptable as proof of birth?

**A.** The Board of Directors has ruled that only a birth certificate or hospital record shall be accepted. As the baptismal certificate is provided by a church, it is not deemed to be legal enough for our purposes to establish a contestant's date of birth.

**Q.** May a student try out or practice with a team before the student provides a birth certificate?

**A.** No. It must be on file with the school. It is the administrator's responsibility to let coaches know whose certification is on file.

**Q.** What happens when I have protested a student's age and the administrator of the opposing school refuses or cannot produce birth certification?

**A.** The Executive Director should be notified immediately.

**Q.** What happens if an ineligible player has been found to have been used in a tournament game after the completion of the state tournament?

**A.** The school is still subject to penalty and could be determined to forfeit all games and awards.

### 3.060 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

**3.061** No student shall be permitted to compete in a tryout, practice, or contest unless such student has filed with the school principal a certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner as set forth in the Illinois State Statutes not more than 395 days preceding such tryout, practice, or contest in any athletic activity.

**3.062** Any student who is not allowed to participate in interscholastic activities as the result of a physician's directive may not return to play until they have received written clearance from a physician.

### **Illustrations for Section 3.060**

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**Q.** Is a physical examination administered by a chiropractor acceptable for athletic purposes?

**A.** The athletic physical examination must be administered by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner as set forth in the Illinois State Statutes. The physician must be one who is licensed to practice medicine in all its branches. Some chiropractors have this kind of licensing from the State of Illinois and some do not. The chiropractor's physical examination is acceptable only when the physician is licensed to practice medicine in all its branches.

**Q.** Why can a physician's assistant or nurse practitioner administer a physical?

**A.** On July 19, 2002, former Governor George Ryan signed into law Public Act 92-0703, granting signature authority to physician's assistants and nurse practitioners for school physicals ("Physicians licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, advanced practice nurses who have a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician which authorizes them to perform health examinations, or physician assistants who have been delegated the performance of health examinations by their supervising physician shall be responsible for the performance of the health examinations.")

**Q.** Must the form provided by the IESA be used for physical examinations?

**A.** No. This form is provided only as a service and is optional for use by member schools. Some form which may be maintained for the school's records must be used.

**Q.** Why must a student have a physical examination to try out for an athletic activity when the student may shortly be cut from the team?

**A.** The Board of Directors feels this gives each member school liability protection. The possibility of an unknown illness or an injury is as likely in a tryout situation as in a game situation.

**Q.** What is meant by "395 days" in terms of this rule?

**A.** "395 days" means literally 395 days from the date of the physical until a new physical is required.

### **3.070 AMATEURISM**

- 3.071** As the result of participating in the IESA state series (regional, sectional, state) a student in a member school may accept any award (except cash) which does not exceed \$100.00 in fair market value, in the following sports: baseball, basketball, cross-country, softball, track, volleyball, wrestling, bowling, and golf.
- 3.072** A student in a member school may accept a school letter for an interscholastic sport, regardless of cost.
- 3.073** Violation of the provisions of By-Law 3.070 shall cause ineligibility in the sport in which the violation occurred. An official ruling must be secured from the Executive Director before any student who violates these rules may be reinstated to eligibility.

### **Illustrations for Section 3.070**

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**Q.** If a student participates in a road race sponsored by (1) a local business; (2) a private running club, may the student receive awards that are greater than \$100.00 for winning or placing in the race?

**A.** In both of these instances a student may accept any prize or award. IESA amateur rules apply only to awards received as the result of participating in IESA state series events. Since these awards were given as the result of participating in non-school events, students are free to keep any awards given.

**Q.** May a student accept a meal at a restaurant and a plaque in recognition of advancing to the IESA finals in a given sport?

**A.** The food prize and the plaque are acceptable as long as the fair market value of the items combined is no more than \$100.00.

**Q.** May a student accept a trophy valued at \$125.00 for winning a non-school competition?

**A.** Yes.

**Q.** May a student accept a trophy valued at \$50.00 for making the most consecutive free throws during a sectional basketball game?

**A.** Yes.

**Q.** May a student accept a \$25.00 cash prize because she made the winning shot in the regional championship game?

**A.** No.

**Q.** If a school team wins the state championship, may team members receive items such as gift certificates for dinners, jackets, sweaters, watches, etc., in recognition of the team's accomplishment?

**A.** Gifts such as these are permitted as long as the total of the gifts received does not exceed \$100.00 in "fair market value."

**Q.** Is it acceptable if, by virtue of a student's performance in the IESA state series, the student is awarded:

- a. \$100.00 in the form of a scholarship
- b. \$100.00 donated to the scholarship fund of the student's choice
- c. \$100.00 donated in the student's name to charity
- d. \$100.00 donated in the student's name to the athletic program at the school

**A.** IESA By-laws prohibit a student from receiving any amount of cash for participating in the IESA state series. This is true even if the reward is delayed for presentation following the student's graduation from school. Consequently, example (a) is not permitted, but examples (b), (c), and (d) are acceptable since the student personally does not and will not receive any cash or merchandise.

**Q.** If a student plays on a community sports team, and that team wins \$500.00 cash in a tournament, is the student in violation of the amateur by-laws?

**A.** No. The rules apply only to receiving awards for performance in IESA state series contests. Cash won in a non-school activity or prizes won in a non-school activity that exceed \$100.00 in fair market value are allowed because it is non-school activity.

**Q.** May a student participate in a "jog-a-thon," "swim-a-thon," or other "...thon" activity and receive cash or merchandise prizes for fund-raising efforts?

**A.** Yes.

**Q.** Does acceptance of reimbursement of expenses for non-school competition constitute an amateur rule violation?

**A.** No. IESA amateur rules apply only to awards received as the result of participating in IESA state series events.

**Q.** May a student coach, teach or officiate an athletic contest for pay?

**A.** Yes. The rule refers exclusively to actual playing. An individual may be paid for services performed.

**Q.** If a student violates the amateur rules, how and when is the penalty affected?

**A.** Violation is penalized with a period of ineligibility. A report of the violation must be made to the IESA office for determination of the term and effective date of ineligibility. In addition, the reward must be returned or surrendered, at the direction of the Executive Director.

**Q.** May a member school athlete accept a cash or merchandise prize won through a drawing or raffle at a high school athletic contest?

**A.** Yes.

**Q.** Does the amateur rule apply to events such as three-player basketball, ten-player softball, 5k or 10k road races, etc.?

**A.** No. The amateur rules apply only to "IESA state series activities."

### **3.080 PARTICIPATING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME**

**3.081** In the event students participate in interscholastic competition under any other name than their own, the principal shall immediately suspend violators from further interscholastic participation. The future interscholastic participation of violators and/or persons contributing to a violation shall then be considered by the Board of Directors.

#### ***Illustrations for Section 3.080***

***The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.***

**Q.** To what does the term "interscholastic competition" refer in this rule?

**A.** "Interscholastic competition" is a competitive situation in which the student represents his or her school and is sponsored or otherwise directly connected with his or her school.

**Q.** Could a coach be held responsible for submitting students in competition using names other than their own?

**A.** Yes. The school, the coach, and the students would all be subject to penalty for violation of this By-Law.

### **3.090 COACHING SCHOOL PARTICIPATION**

**3.091** A student who is a member of the school team in a sport may participate, depending on local school district policy, in any coaching school/camp during that interscholastic sport season.

**3.092** A coaching school/camp is defined as any program sponsored by an organization or individual which provides instruction in sports theory and skills to groups of persons.



- 3.093** Students may participate in and/or receive private lessons, school physical conditioning programs, and be used for demonstration purposes in coaches' clinics.

**Illustrations for Section 3.090**

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- Q.** Could a student attend a clinic on the proper technique for shooting free throws during the basketball season?  
**A.** Yes. The rules now allow for a student to attend a camp or coaching clinic during the sport season.

**3.100 ALL-STAR PARTICIPATION**

- 3.101** No athletic team from any member school may compete against an "all-star" team.

**Illustration for Section 3.100**

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- Q.** Could an athletic conference make up an All-Star team from the other member schools in the conference to play the conference winner?  
**A.** No, this would be in direct violation of this By-Law.

**3.110 MIXED TEAM (GIRLS ON BOYS TEAMS) REGULATIONS**

**IESA is not an enforcement agency when it comes to determining a school's compliance with Title IX and the Illinois Sex Equity Rules. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) monitors the Federal law and the Illinois Sex Equity Rules (23 Illinois Administrative Code 200) that require school districts to offer athletic programs that accommodate the interests and abilities of both sexes to a comparable degree. IESA member schools seeking a waiver for female athletes to participate on boys' teams must demonstrate and provide assurance to ISBE of compliance with 23 Illinois Administrative Code 200.80.**

- 3.111** Notwithstanding the requirement of Section 2.012, and prior to any tryout, practice or game participation, the principal of a member school desiring to participate in an activity designated as a boys athletic activity, with a team comprised of both boys and girls shall:

1. Complete and submit the Gender Equity in Athletics Waiver Application that is available through the Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) Web Application Security System (IWAS). This online application replaces the paper form ISBE 33-95. Please note the following:
  - a. Paper applications to the Illinois State Board of Education will no longer be accepted.
  - b. The application process for any sport in which a school wants permission to participate with a girl on a boys team must be completed prior to any tryout, practice or game participation by the girl.
  - c. The ISBE IWAS application will require review by the District Superintendent, the Regional Office of Education Administrator, and finally the ISBE Administrator who will issue final approval.
  - d. The application does not have to list the names of the girls who wish to compete on the boy's team.
  - e. The application may list multiple sports if you need to get permission for more than one sport.

**Questions concerning the completion of the form can be sent to:**

Ms. Lynda Vaughn  
Illinois State Board of Education  
Office of General Counsel  
Public School Recognition Department  
100 W. Randolph St.; Suite 14-300  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
Phone: 312-814-2223 FAX: 312-814-8636 E-Mail: lvaughn@isbe.net

2. After submitting the ISBE IWAS application, you must send the IESA office some type of communication (e-mail, FAX, or written letter) that you have started the online application. Conditional approval for the girl(s) to play on the boy's team shall be automatic upon receipt of this communication. Conditional approval allows a school to permit a girl to tryout, practice, or participate in interscholastic boys athletic activities without penalty, pending the final compliance ruling from the ISBE.

3. The Illinois State Board of Education will notify both the member school and the IESA office when compliance with the Illinois Sex Equity Rules is determined.
4. Applicant schools that have been determined to be in compliance with the Illinois Rules and received waivers will be considered to be in compliance for the entire school year. Female athletes will therefore be eligible to participate on sports teams not identified on the original waiver application and where permitted by IESA by-laws. In such instances member schools must communicate additional participation requests to the IESA via e-mail, FAX, or written letter.

**NOTE:** If you have questions about whether or not your school's interscholastic athletic program is in compliance with the Illinois Sex Equity Rules and/or Title IX, contact Jeff Aranowski, (312) 814-2223 or [jaranows@isbe.net](mailto:jaranows@isbe.net).

- 3.112** A girl having participated as a member during a school year on a team shall not be eligible to participate on a boys team in that sport during one school year, except that a girl in grades 5-7 may participate on an eighth grade team in the same sport in the same year.
- 3.113** When a contract has been signed to participate in a single-sex sport and a school offers a mixed gender team, the other school must be notified prior to the contest of the mixed-gender team.
- 3.114** In the sports of golf, cross-country, basketball, bowling, and track and field when the school offers both a boys team and a girls team, girls must participate on the girls team in that sport. Boys are not eligible to participate on girls teams. See By-Law 3.115
- 3.115** Boys are not eligible to participate at any time on any school athletic team designated as a team for girls only. Such athletic teams shall include: girls golf, girls softball, girls cross-country, girls basketball, girls volleyball, girls bowling, and girls track and field.

**Illustration for Section 3.110**

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**Q.** If a member school does not offer a boys team or a girls team in a sport in which the IESA sponsors both a boys and a girls state tournament competition or series, and there is an option to compete for individual honors, can a girl enter the boys state series?  
**A.** No, the school will be permitted to enter a girl in the girls state tournament series only.

**Q.** If a member school offers a girls team but no boys team in a sport in which the IESA sponsors both a boys and a girls state tournament competition or series, can the school enter a girls team into the boys state series?  
**A.** No, the school will be permitted to enter a girls team in the girls state tournament series only.

**Q.** Our school offers both 7th and 8th grade girls and boys basketball. Can our girls basketball players play on both the girls basketball team in the fall and then also play on the boys basketball team in the winter?  
**A.** No, when a school offers the same sport to both the girls and boys even though they are in different seasons, the girl must play on the girls team and the boys must play on the boys team.

**Q.** Our school only offers 7th grade basketball for girls but offers both 7th and 8th grade boys basketball. Can our 7th grade girls basketball players play for the 7th grade girls team and then the 8th grade boys team?  
**A.** Yes. Given that a 7th grade student, a boy or a girl, can play at both the 7th grade and 8th grade level, the 7th grade girl would be given her opportunity to participate on the 8th grade level by participating with the 8th grade boys team.

**Q.** Can a girl who is participating on the boys team during the season also compete in a girl's meet or contest?  
**A.** Yes, however by competing in a girl's meet or contest that school has established a girl's season and therefore she would no longer be eligible to compete for the boy's team.

**Q.** If a member school offers both a girls team and a boys team in the same sport but in different seasons, can the girl participate on the boy's team?  
**A.** No, that school will be permitted to enter a girl in the IESA girls state tournament series only in that sport, even though the boys and girls tournaments may occur in different seasons.

**Q.** Can a girl, who has participated on the boys team during the regular season, compete in the boys state series instead of the girls state series?  
**A.** Yes. If a member school offers a boys team but no girls team in a sport in which the IESA sponsors both a boys and a girls state tournament series, and in which students may compete for individual honors, the school will be permitted to enter a girl in the boys state tournament series provided she has participated on the boys team in that sport during the regular season.

**Q.** Can a girl who has participated on the boys team during the regular season, opt to compete in the girls state series instead?  
**A.** Yes. The school may elect to enter the girl to compete for individual honors in the IESA girls state tournament series in that sport. However, a school will not be permitted to enter a girl in both the IESA boys and girls state tournament series in that sport.

### 3.120 SEEDING FOR REGIONAL/SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

**3.121** Regional tournaments for baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball shall be seeded as follows with four to nine teams assigned:

In four-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. seed #4 in game 1 and seed #2 vs. seed #3 in game 2. Winners of games #1 and #2 then will play for the championship.

In five-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. bye and seed #3 vs. bye in the bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays winner of game 1 in game 2 and seeds #2 and #3 play game 3. Winners of games #2 and #3 then will play for the championship.

In six-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 2 and seed #2 vs. bye in bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays the winner of game 1 and seed #2 plays the winner of game 2. Winners of games #3 and #4 then will play for the championship.

In seven-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. bye and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 1 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 2 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 3 of bottom bracket. In the second round, seed #1 plays winner of game 1 and the winner of game 2 plays the winner of game 3.

In eight-team tournaments, seed #1 vs. seed #8 in game 1 and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 2 in top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 3 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 4 in bottom bracket.

In nine-team tournaments, seed #8 vs. seed #9 in game 1 in the top bracket; seed #1 vs. winner of game 1 in game 2 and seed #4 vs. seed #5 in game 3 of top bracket; seed #2 vs. seed #7 in game 4 and seed #3 vs. seed #6 in game 5 in bottom bracket.

**3.122** In the sports of baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball, regional seeding shall be conducted using an online procedure. In general, seeding shall be done as if an actual meeting were taking place using traditional seeding criteria except that the procedure is done online rather than an actual meeting. Please refer to the Terms and Conditions and the IESA standardized calendar for the respective activity for the timeline for online seeding. All schools entering the baseball, softball, basketball, and/or the volleyball state series will enter the following information online to assist with the seeding process.

- Team Record
- Season Schedule with Results
- Regional Entry Form
- Special Comment Section on your Team's Season

### ONLINE SEEDING PROCEDURES/INFORMATION

**NOTE: No school may enter the state series unless they have participated in at least three interscholastic contests in that sport prior to the seeding meeting.**

A school that fails to enter their season schedule, results, and Regional Entry Form by the online roster and record deadline has no say regarding any seed and will be locked out of the seeding process. However, the other schools in the same regional will be able to rank the school that fails to enter the required information.

Factors to consider in seeding:

- a. Season Record
- b. Quality of team's competition
- c. Smaller schools (1A or 2A) schools competing against larger schools (Class 3A or 4A)
- d. Head to Head competition
- e. Record against common opponents
- f. Roster of the post season team i.e. a 7th grader who has played on the 8th grade team all year but will play on the 7th grade team in the state series or a 7th grader who has played only 7th grade all year but will also play on the 8th grade team in the regional may be the basis for giving a higher seed.
- g. Each school shall rate all teams assigned to the regional except their own.

The IESA will confirm all seeds and break any ties. The actual seeds given by a school for the regional will be seen by all the schools assigned to the regional. Each host school should remind the school representatives that the IESA has the right to review the seeding. If it becomes apparent that some representatives have purposely rated teams in a position that cannot be justified, appropriate actions may be taken by the IESA office to correct the problem. We do not anticipate having to do so because we believe that our member school representatives will exercise the integrity and sportsmanship they expect in return.

**3.123** See Section 4.057 for wrestling seeding procedures.

**3.124** See Section 4.073 for sectional track seeding procedures

**NOTE: ATTENDANCE AT THE TRACK SECTIONAL SEEDING MEETING IS MANDATORY**

- 3.125** A team withdrawing from competition following the online ranking deadline shall be declared as a forfeit. The remaining teams shall not be re-seeded. If a scholastic bowl team drops after the online seeding process, the teams shall be re-seeded.
- 3.126** The following penalties are in effect for schools that fail to submit their online roster/record and/or seeding information by the posted deadlines in the activities of girls softball, boys baseball, cross-country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, boys wrestling, boys and girls track and field, and scholastic bowl:
- First offense: School will be placed on probation.
  - Second consecutive offense: School will be able to participate in the state series of the current year but will not be able to participate in the state series the following year unless the school pays a \$250.00 fee for reinstatement to the state series.

**3.130 GENERAL RULES FOR IESA ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES**

- 3.131** In regional, sectional, and state final tournament play, the host school shall not make its gymnasium or playing fields available to the visiting teams for practice sessions. This provision does not apply to sectional and state cross-country hosts.
- 3.132** The display of signs, banners, placards, or similar items at the IESA State Finals (NOT at the Regional or Sectional level) are permitted, provided:
- They reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use.
  - They reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their school/community.
  - They are not displayed on the field of play or in a manner which interferes with play.
  - They do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators.
  - They are not a safety hazard.
- 3.133** All light sticks and artificial noise-making devices shall be excluded from playing area. Tournament managers should not permit spectators to bring megaphones into the playing area for cheering purposes. Cheerleaders may use megaphones for cheering purposes.
- 3.134** If players or representatives of any school entered in an IESA state series tournament are found guilty of carelessly or maliciously breaking, damaging, or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school or other visiting schools, such as damaging baskets or backboards during warm-up drills, breaking or damaging lockers, etc., destruction to other teams equipment, buses, etc., such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in repairing or replacing such property or equipment.
- 3.135** No interscholastic tournaments may have a sponsor who is a manufacturer, distributor, or advertiser of tobacco or alcoholic beverages, political or religious groups, or of any other products or services which might reflect unfavorably upon the school or the Association.
- 3.136** Video-taping will be allowed in all IESA state series contests. Review of such video during a contest is determined by NFHS rule for each activity.
- 3.137** If a host school has a band capable of contributing to the entertainment, there is no objection to have it play before games and during intermission of IESA state tournament series games. Members of the band may be given free admission. Under no circumstances may the band instruments be used for cheering purposes. The use of band instruments for cheering purposes will be considered evidence of discourteous conduct and upon receipt of substantiating evidence of such conduct, the Executive Director will instruct the local manager to exclude the band from the gymnasium.
- 3.138** During a basketball game, there shall be a maximum of 12 cheerleaders performing sideline cheers on the floor at one time, provided the facility can safely accommodate this number. A game official may always ask for the sidelines (endlines) to be kept clear and reduce this number for the safety of the players. All cheers, performances, routines, or other activities conducted by a school's spirit squad (i.e. cheerleaders, pom poms, flags, drill team) shall be conducted in accordance with the Spirit Rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations.
- NOTE:** Even though the NFHS allows certain tosses on certain surfaces for high school students, all tosses (sponge and basket) are prohibited at the IESA level.
- 3.139** Athletic uniforms may not show any commercial or non-school advertising and must be in compliance with the NFHS uniform rules for the respective sport. Warm-ups that are worn by the competitors may show commercial or non-school advertising.

- 3.140** In addition to team members listed on a school's Regional Entry Form limits on free passes to the IESA state tournament series shall be two managers, two statisticians, one scorekeeper, and 12 cheerleaders for all athletic activities (except volleyball and wrestling). Cheerleaders must be in uniform to be admitted free but are not allowed for the IESA state series in volleyball and wrestling. Managers, statisticians, and scorekeepers are not admitted free to the state wrestling finals.
- During the 7th grade state tournament series in girls and boys basketball and girls volleyball, members of the school's 8th grade team may receive complimentary admission to state series games as long as they are accessing the tournament entrance with the competing 7<sup>th</sup> grade team. During the 8th grade state tournament series in girls and boys basketball and girls volleyball, members of the school's 7th grade team may receive complimentary admission to state series games as long as they are accessing the tournament entrance with the competing 8<sup>th</sup> grade team.
- 3.141** No alcoholic beverages shall be served at any IESA activity where there are students participating.
- 3.142** When excessive supervision costs by a host school causes a deficit in an IESA state series contest, it shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors by the Executive Director. A letter shall be sent to the host school's principal by the Board of Directors informing the host school if any action was taken by the Board.
- 3.143** All fans that attend IESA state series contests must wear shirts at all times.
- 3.144** Only students who are currently eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest shall appear at the contest in the uniform of their school.
- 3.145** No cell phones or electronic devices are permitted at the scorer's table during any contest. This includes both regular season contests and IESA state series contests.
- 3.146** Prayer at an IESA state series contest that takes place over a public address system is prohibited.
- 3.147** The use of flash photography at indoor contests during the state series is prohibited.
- 3.148** No spectators shall be allowed to sit on the first row of the bleachers during the state series in girls basketball, boys basketball, or girls volleyball. Spectators with special needs or elderly are exempt as space allows.

#### **Illustrations for Section 3.130**

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**Q.** My regional baseball tournament is being hosted at a public park. Can I organize a team practice at this facility?

**A.** No. The By-Law prohibits visiting teams from practicing at a school's playing fields. Individuals could utilize the park for practice or a team could schedule a game at the facility but a school may not organize a team practice at the facility once the site has been chosen to serve as a state series facility.

**Q.** Our sectional cross-country meet will be held at (a) a public park; or (b) at a local school. Am I allowed to take my school squad and conduct a practice at these sites?

**A.** In both instances, a regular practice can be held without being in violation of 3.131. However, in situation (b), permission should first be obtained from the school.

**Q.** My cheer squad consists of 16 cheerleaders. When may they perform?

**A.** During play, only 12 can be cheering at one time provided the space can safely accommodate 12 cheerleaders. During full timeouts, between quarters, and at halftime, all 16 may perform provided the squad can complete their performance without delaying play. However, during the state series, only 12 may be admitted for free.

**Q.** Even though my cheerleading squad consists of only 6 girls can the game official require us to move?

**A.** Yes. The game officials have full authority to move cheerleaders and/or require that they not cheer in a certain area if he/she believes that the safety of the participants is at risk.

**Q.** I am hosting the regional basketball contest at my school. May I conduct a 50/50 drawing?

**A.** Yes. Effective with the 2009-10 school year, the Board of Directors has removed the By-Law prohibiting 50/50 and raffle drawings at state series contests.

**Q.** My cheerleading squad wants to participate in a local competition and perform basket tosses. Is this allowed?

**A.** No. Tosses are not allowed at the junior high level. Your squad should only perform stunts which they can safely perform.

**Q.** At halftime of our basketball game, my cheer squad is going to perform. The performance includes several basket tosses and double full twist dismounts. They will be performing on a soft-yielding surface. May they perform these stunts?  
**A.** No. IESA rules prohibit all tosses (sponge and basket) and NFHS rules only permit 1¼ turns.

### 3.150 OPEN GYM LIMITATIONS

Schools may open their facilities, including off-site facilities that are used during particular athletic seasons, to students or other persons who reside in or outside their district under the following conditions:

- A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
- There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.
- Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school squad.
- Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.

#### ***Illustration for Section 3.150***

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**Q.** What procedures should schools use to ensure all students are adequately notified of opportunities to participate in open gyms?  
**A.** Schools must publicize open gyms in a manner that ensures all students have a reasonable opportunity to be informed regarding dates and times of open gyms. Schools may utilize public address announcements, flyers, written announcements, or newsletters to notify students regarding open gyms.

**Q.** May a school conduct a sport specific open gym?  
**A.** Yes, provided a variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.

**Q.** May a coed school conduct a gender specific open gym?  
**A.** No.

**Q.** Is it permissible for a coach to play with or against students from his/her own school during out-of-season open gym programs?  
**A.** Yes.

### 3.160 PROVISIONS FOR SUMMER PARTICIPATION

Students may participate either as an individual or as a member of a team in any type of athletic activity during the summer months. Students from the same school may participate on the same team. Summer months are defined as the time that the school closes in the spring until classes begin in the fall. A coach of a member school may coach students from the school during the summer.

#### ***Illustration for Section 3.160***

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**Q.** Can a member school and/or coach sponsor a summer camp and coach students from his or her own school?  
**A.** Yes.

**Q.** Could a team representing a member school that participates in the IESA state series participate as a school team in summer tournaments?  
**A.** Yes, provided the summer tournament is scheduled after the close of the school year for that particular team.

### 3.170 PROVISIONS FOR OUT-OF-SEASON CONTACT

After the official ending date of a sport season (according to the date listed in Division 4 of the IESA Handbook) students from the same member school may play together in a sport provided the school has no affiliation with the activity. In addition, a coach may coach the students from the school provided he/she is not coaching the students as an official representative of the school and is not receiving any school compensation for coaching.

#### ***Illustration for Section 3.170***

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**Q.** My girls basketball team finished their season in December. Can my coach of that team and the same girls who comprised the school team, play in a non-school AAU tournament that is being held in Chicago in January?

**A.** Yes, provided the school has absolutely no involvement with the non-school tournament. The school cannot pay the entry fee, provide transportation, uniforms, a coaching stipend, etc. The "team" has to attend totally separate from the school and only as its own entity without any school involvement or affiliation.