

**NEW JERSEY
STATE INTERSCHOLSTIC
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
HANDBOOK
2007-2008
CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS
AND
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

ELIGIBILITY

Page 43

Article V

ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES*

Section 1. A student, to be eligible for participation in the interscholastic athletic program of a member school, must be enrolled in that school and must meet all the eligibility requirements of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations, of the NJSIAA.

CL Students being home-schooled (by parents or other parties) are not eligible because they are not enrolled. Properly enrolled students on Home Instruction provided by the Board of Education are eligible if the student satisfies CL 4 of Section 4.E.

**In addition to Clarifications, see Interpretive Guidelines on Pages 67-77.*

Section 2. Amateur-Athlete – An amateur athlete is one who participates in athletics solely for the physical, mental, social and educational benefits derived from such participation. The amateur-athlete treats all athletic activities in which he/she participates as an avocational endeavor. One who takes or has taken pay or has accepted the promise of pay, in any form, for participation in athletics or has directly or indirectly used his/her athletic skill for pay in any form shall not be considered an amateur and will not be eligible for high school interscholastic athletics in the State of New Jersey.

“Operation Gold” provides monetary rewards to Olympic athletes who place in the highest competition held in a sport during the year. These competitions would be the Olympic Games every four years, and the World Championships during the intervening years.

These monetary awards would render a high school athlete in violation of the amateur Rules, however, the NJSIAA concurs with the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations in exempting these athletes from loss of eligibility.

Athletes receiving monetary awards under “Operation Gold” will maintain high school Eligibility if proper documentation is submitted to the State Association.

The monetary awards would render a high school athlete in violation of the amateur rules. In view of the fact that the athlete is representing our nation, we are asking you to exempt these athletes from losing eligibility. This would be a very rare occurrence. Few high school athletes win Olympic Gold Medals or place in World Championships. Most Olympic athletes

probably would not desire high school eligibility. However, if that would be the case, we would urge your support.

The following are the basic interpretations of the principles involved in the amateur code which may lead to the loss of an athlete's eligibility:

A. Participation in any athletic activity under an assumed name. Being guilty of any act of fraud, subterfuge, or other sharp practice relative to this principle.

B. Accepting pay or material remuneration for a display of athletic ability.

C. Any student who signs or has ever signed a contract to play professional athletics (whether for a money consideration or not); plays or has ever played on any professional team in any sport; receives or has ever received directly or indirectly, a salary or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization or any of his/her expenses for reporting to or visiting a professional team is no longer an amateur as defined by this code.

Page 44

D. A Student-Athlete may participate as an individual, or as a member of a team against professional athletes, or as a member of a team on which there are some professionals who are not currently under contract with a professional team and are not receiving payment for their participation; but he/she may not participate on a professional team.

E. A Student-Athlete may work as a counselor in a summer camp, lifeguard, swimming pool attendant and swimming instructor for children without affecting his/her eligibility under the terms of this principle; he/she may work in a tennis or golf shop provided he/she does not give instruction for compensation, and he/she may obtain employment with a recreation department, his/her duties to include some officiating and coaching responsibilities; however, he/she may not be employed as an athletic coach.

F. If a Student-Athlete's appearance on radio or television is related in any way to his/her athletic ability or prestige, the athlete may not under any circumstances receive remuneration for his/her appearance. Under such circumstances, however, an athlete may appear on a sponsored radio or television program or have his/her name appear in newsprint ads or in player of the week, month or year advertisement promoting products provided he/she does not endorse or imply endorsement of any commercial product.

G. Individual interscholastic awards and similar mementos to Student Athletes should be limited to those approved by the local Board of Education, in keeping with traditional high school requirements which are basically symbolical in nature, i.e., letters, sweaters, jackets, pins, trophies, other similar type awards, and rings or watches which are properly inscribed. No other award of any monetary value may be granted to any without prior approval by the Board of Education and NJSIAA.

H. No awards shall be given to an athlete by anyone other than his/her own Board of Education, unless prior approval of the NJSIAA and the Board of Education is obtained.

Section 3. Reinstatement of Amateur Eligibility – The Executive Committee of the NJSIAA is the only body that may reinstate a Student-Athlete of a member school to eligibility status under the provisions of the organization's Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations. In cases where the Executive Committee has determined that a Student-Athlete inadvertently participated in an activity that has caused his/her loss of eligibility, the Executive Committee may reinstate said athlete after a period of not less than one year. An application for reinstatement must be made in writing by the high school Principal to the Executive Committee and shall include all data pertinent to the case.

Section 4. Eligibility Requirements - Eligibility rules herewith stated shall apply

to all *freshman, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity teams involved in interscholastic athletic competition.

Eligibility Lists. Member schools must submit one (1) affidavit of eligibility to the Executive Director of the NJSIAA annually, by October 1. This form, signed by the Principal, will certify that any and all students competing on the interscholastic level for that school meet all eligibility requirements of the NJSIAA.

Page 45

This affidavit should be based on carefully compiled eligibility lists which are on file in each member school and in the event of any question, are available upon request by other member schools and/or appropriate NJSIAA officials.

Sample available on NJSIAA website.

CL 1 This record must be compiled prior to the student's participation in the first interschool scrimmage or game in that sport and kept on file in the Principal's office.

The eligibility record must include the (a) name of the students, (b) date of birth, (c) place of birth (city or county and state) (d) documentary proof of age (birth certificate, baptismal certificate, insurance policy or school record, (e) date of first enrollment in 9th grade, and (f) school from which student transferred, if such transfer was effected during the current or just past school year and (g) credits passed previous year (first semester eligibility) or previous semester (second semester eligibility), and (h) participation prior to entry into the 9th grade.

A. Eligibility Certification - Upon the request of the Executive Director, schools must furnish him with eligibility lists for their various teams, containing such information as he may deem necessary for establishing the eligibility of the players named on the list.

B. Eligibility Responsibility - The Principal of a school is responsible for the observance of the eligibility rules contained in this Article and for the entire program of his member school.

CL 1 It is local option for schools to permit ineligible students to practice while ineligible for games and scrimmages. Such practices will count to satisfy the six (6) days practice rule. The above is applicable provided the school meets the medical examination and parental permission as required by the State Board of Education.

C. Age - An athlete becomes ineligible for high school athletics if he/she attains the age of nineteen prior to September 1. However, any athlete attaining age nineteen on or after September 1 shall be eligible for the ensuing school year. A birth certificate, issued at the time of birth, is the normal proof of age; in the absence of this, other proofs may be used. The records used will be baptismal records or the earliest school records.

CL 1 Junior High/9th Grade regulations provide that a student becomes ineligible for 9th grade athletics if they reach age sixteen (16) prior to September 1 of that school year. However, said students may participate above the 9th grade athletic level based upon a waiver as set forth in CL 4 noted below.

CL 2 *The following evidence of proof of age can be used when the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state of birth reports no records exist:*

- a. *Birth certificate.*
- b. *Affidavit of attending physician.*
- c. *Documentary evidence, such as family record of birth in Bible, certificate of arrival in the United States, or a passport.*
- d. *Public school records, school, state or national census records.*
- e. *Baptismal certificate.*

CL 3 *This requirement will not be waived for the sole reason that a student was born day(s), week(s), or month(s) just prior to September 1.*

CL 4 *In order to assure the opportunity for eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility, member schools may request waivers to permit students who are enrolled in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades and who are otherwise academically eligible, to participate on the junior varsity or varsity teams where such students will be sixteen (16) years of age or older upon entrance into the 9th grade prior to September 1st. Guidance Departments/School Administrators of elementary schools should provide the Athletic Director with ages of all students so they can be assured of four (4) years of eligibility prior to becoming ineligible at age nineteen.*

D. Athletic Recruitment - The granting of "athletic scholarships," free tuition, or other assistance of monetary value at any level is forbidden when there is evidence that such grant was offered to induce a student to attend a school for athletic reasons.

- (1) The total value and dignity of the individual should not only guarantee to all an equal opportunity to participate in athletics, but should also preclude any excessive emphasis on the importance of athletics.
- (2) The proselytizing and recruiting of grammar school students for athletic reasons is strictly forbidden.
- (3) Such proselytizing and/or recruiting shall be understood as attempting to induce a student to attend a particular school for athletic reasons by means of:
 - a. mail, in the form of letters and brochures, news media, comparing high schools and contrived to point out the assets of the sender, and sending district;
 - b. proselytizing interviews, initiated by school personnel or associates, and often further aggravated by the offering of an "athletic scholarship" either from the school directly or indirectly through some affiliated body or individual.
 - c. recruitment by Student-Athletes to attend a school for athletic reasons, with the knowledge of that school's administration.

E. Credits

- (1) To be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester (September 1 to January 31) of the 10th grade or higher, or the second year of attendance in the secondary school or beyond, a pupil must have passed 25% of the credits (27.5) required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (110), during the immediately preceding academic year.

- (2) To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester (February 1 to June 30) of the 9th grade or higher, a pupil must have passed the equivalent of 12 1/2% of the credits (13.75) required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (110) at the close of the preceding semester (January 31). Full-year courses shall be equated as one-half of the total credits to be gained for the full year to determine credits passed during the immediately preceding semester.

CL 1 *The NJSIAA does not establish grading policies or standards for granting credits. The local school's Board of Education has the exclusive authority to address such matters within the parameters of the State Board of Education guidelines. Therefore, the NJSIAA will not waive, either the standards set by a member school or the minimum standards set forth in Article V, Section 4.E except as provided in Section 4.F (1).*

CL 2 *The credit status of a transferred student, determined by the previous school, may not be changed by the present school.*

CL 3 *There is no provision for make-up work for credits for second semester.*

- (3) The above paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to incoming students from grammar school (8th grade).
(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 1 and 2 above, a pupil who is eligible at the beginning of a sports season shall be allowed to finish that season.

CL 1 *According to regulations of the New Jersey State Board of Education, credit must be assigned equally to all secondary school courses. Thus, courses which at one time were considered "minor," e.g., physical education, art, music, industrial arts, etc., must be included in the determination of academic requirements.*

CL 2 *Graduation Requirements - The provisions of Article V, Section 4.E (1) and (2) of the Bylaws will not be waived even though a school allows a student to carry only those courses necessary to meet minimal graduation diploma credit requirements.*

- a. *If a student has received a diploma, he/she is ineligible. However, he/she may continue to represent his/her school until the official end of that semester - either January 31 or June 30.*
- b. *If a student has left school, but re-enrolls, he/she will be eligible thirty (30) calendar days from the date of re-enrollment.*
- c. *If a student has continued enrollment while absent from school, he/she will be eligible provided he/she is enrolled in and attends at least one course*

CL 3 *It is recognized that students may accelerate their academic programs during their first three years of secondary schooling. Consequently, such students may be eligible in the second semester of their senior year even when they carry less than 12 1/2% of the State minimum (13.75 credits) during the first semester provided they are meeting their*

school district's graduation requirements and are passing all courses in which they are enrolled at the start of the first semester. Seniors who withdraw from courses with a passing grade (wp) will be eligible providing they are carrying sufficient credits for graduation purposes.

CL 4 When a student does not fail a course and/or withdraws passing and is unable to pass the required credits for reasons not under the control of the student, or the school, a waiver shall be granted. A student who enters from an out-of-state school or a foreign country, who has passed all courses in which the student is enrolled, meets the requirements of this Section.

CL 5 Students receiving credits for courses at their previous school may use those credits to satisfy the credit requirements for athletic eligibility even though the present school does not grant credit for same. Such a situation is acceptable only on an immediate basis at the time of the transfer. The student subsequently becomes subject to the requirements of the present school.

CL 6 An athlete, whose education is interrupted after his/her entrance into the 9th grade (4 or 6 yr. high school) or 10th grade (3 yr. high school) and who does not pass the required courses as provided for in Article V, Section 4.E (1) and (2) of the Bylaws at the end of the semester, upon being readmitted at the beginning of the next semester, is ineligible for failure to meet the requirements of this section.

Exceptions to this rule are returned servicemen/servicewomen who have been honorably discharged and cases of unavoidable absence due to illness. Substance abuse is not considered as unavoidable absence due to illness; when illegal substance is the reason for not passing the required credits, a waiver will not be granted.

CL 7 An athlete who is ineligible under Article V, Section 4.E (1), may become eligible for the remainder of the winter sports season on February 1 if he/she meets the requirements of Article V, Section 4. E (2).

CL 8 Any summer work for makeup purposes for failed courses, completed and approved by the school before the sixth school day, in the Fall semester, may be used for eligibility purposes.

CL 9 A student who becomes ineligible on account of scholarship at the end of a semester is ineligible for the entire following semester. However, a student eligible to represent his/her school in Winter Sports on December 1, may continue to do so until the end of that season.

Page 49

CL 10 A passing grade for a semester can only be used once for eligibility purposes. A student who has a semester's passing grade in a subject may not repeat that subject during a later semester and use it for eligibility purposes.

F. Handicapped/Classified Students

- (1) Course Waiver - All handicapped/classified students, as defined by the New Jersey State Department of Education, defined as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – (IDEA) shall comply with the athletic eligibility rules and regulations of the NJSIAA (with the**

exception of Section 4.E of this Article V re: Credits), and in addition the student must have evidence of the following:

- a. Parents, or guardians, must give consent for such competitive experience.
- b. The Child Study Team must certify that the student successfully completed the I.E.P. in the previous year/semester commensurate with the student's ability. Final approval for participation must be given by the Principal.

CL 1 A student who is initially classified after failing to have satisfied the provisions of Section 4.E Credits (27.5 or 13.75) cannot regain eligibility until the Child Study Team has monitored that classified student for a semester.

- c. The medical inspector of the school district must certify that the youth has physical ability to compete equally with other participants.

(2) Definition - Since handicapped or "disabled" children (as defined in this section) are not subject to Section 41 of this Article V, the academic credit rule, it is important that schools understand what children may be eligible.

- a. Any handicapped child must be in a program approved by the State Department of Education for handicapped children.
- b. Any handicapped child must be classified as such by an examiner approved by the State Department of Education.
- c. Any handicapped child must be approved by the local Child Study Team to attend regular high school classes, home instruction, or he/she must be a member of a class in which he/she spends the greater part of each school day with other children under a teacher holding a certificate to teach.
- d. All handicapped students, assigned to another school by the Board of Education, Division of Youth & Family Services and the courts and classified by the Child Study Team, will be eligible to compete on the interscholastic athletic teams of the school district in which the student resides, providing such receiving school does not sponsor an interscholastic athletic program in that sport, and so long as such students meet all other applicable NJSIAA eligibility requirements.

Page 50

CL 1 Exception: In County Special Services School Districts, e.g., Bergen County where the district is not an adjunct school of the local public school district and where all schools are under the authority of the same Superintendent of Schools, all students are eligible to participate in the interscholastic athletic Programs of that County's high school(s) unless they are approved to participate at the public high school where they reside and are processed as provided for in Section 4.F (2)e. and 4.G-CL 3.

- e. A handicapped student is permitted to participate in the interscholastic program of the school where the student is enrolled or the school where the student resides, when extenuating circumstances are present. A waiver shall be granted, upon review by the NJSIAA Executive Director or designee when agreed to by the principals of the involved schools.

G. Enrollment

- (1) Late Enrollment - A student who enters school after the first Monday in October shall not be eligible to represent that school until after the

lapse of thirty (30) calendar days from date of his/her first entrance.

NOTE: The term "entrance" as used in this section and elsewhere in these Bylaws, means registration plus actual attendance at a school.

CL 1 *Late enrollment refers to a student who does not enroll at any school at the beginning of the school year,*

CL 2 *A short period enrollment at any school will not be treated as entrance to that school and/or subsequent transfer will be recognized as uninterrupted enrollment at the original school absent any appeal from the previous school.*

- (2) Initial Enrollment - At the beginning of his/her secondary school career a student is free to choose any secondary school he/she may legally attend, (9th grade in a 4- or 6-year high school or 10th grade in a 3-year high school).

NOTE: After this initial enrollment a student is subject to the transfer provision as provided for in Section 4.K (2) of this Article.

CL 1 *A high school student is a regularly enrolled student as defined by the Department of Education.*

CL 2 **Voc-Tech/Public Academy Shared Time** - *When a student is carried on the Official Register and attends some classes at a school, but also attends additional classes at another school, he/she is eligible for interscholastic athletics at the school where he/she is carried on the Official Register. If a student is carried on both Official Registers, the student may choose the school at which he/she wishes to participate in all sports on a full school-year basis.*

Page 51

CL 3 **Voc-Tech/Public Academy Full Time** - *If a Vocational/Technical High School Public Academy does not offer the particular sport in which one of its full-time students desires to participate, that student may participate in that sport at his/her sending school upon agreement of both Principals, regardless of the number of sports programs offered at the Vocational/Technical High School Public Academy.*

CL 4 **Voc-Tech/Public Academy** - *When a student elects to transfer to or from a Vocational/Technical High School to or from the district school where the student resides the student is eligible immediately provided such assignment is by the Board of Education of the district where the student resides and the student satisfies all other eligibility regulations*

CL 5 **Charter School** - *If a secondary Charter School does not offer the particular sport in which one of its full-time students wishes to participate, that student may participate in that sport at his/her school of residence upon agreement of both principals, regardless of the number of sports programs offered at the Charter School.*

CL 6 **Choice School** - *A choice student who attends a Choice School, pursuant to regulations adopted by the New Jersey Department of Education, shall be immediately eligible to participate in sports at the Choice School provided a Transfer Waiver Form is executed by both the Choice School and the Residential School, in the manner set forth in Article V, Section 4.K(2) of the NJSIAA Bylaws.*

Any subsequent change of schools, without a parental change of address, will require the student to be ineligible to participate in any sport for which he or she obtained varsity status for 30 days, as provided by Article V, Section 4.K(2).

H. Post-Graduates - No post-graduate student shall be eligible for school competition. When a student graduates from a school (days or weeks) before the official end of the semester that student may continue to represent his/her school until the official end of that semester - either January 31 or June 30. A student becomes ineligible for high school athletics when the class in which he/she originally enrolled is graduated.

CL 1 A League/Conference or County may grant a waiver (as provided for in the Rules & Regulations, Rule 2, Specific Sport Regulations, Note 3) to permit teams or individuals from the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools to participate if such Student-Athletes are in the first year of post-high school matriculation.

I. Pre-High School Students - Students in any 9th grade are eligible for teams in the Senior High School in that district at the discretion of the administrators and the Board of Education in that district. Students in any 6th, 7th, or 8th grades of any school (Jr. High or Sr. High) who play on 9th grade or so-called freshman or sophomore, junior varsity and varsity teams will be ineligible at the conclusion of eight consecutive semesters of such participation. Junior High School 9th grade teams may play against 9th grade teams from 4-year or 6-year high schools.

Page 52

CL 1 Article V, Section 4.1 is applicable to all 9th grades including those which are under the supervision and control of an administrative head (Principal) separate and apart from the administrative head (Principal) of the Senior High School. All 9th grade students in an 8-4, 6-6 or 6-3-3, or other administrative plan may participate on a junior varsity or varsity team without jeopardizing their eligibility to participate on a 9th grade team in that sport; however, when 9th grade students are under a separate administrative head than that of the Senior High School such agreement must be affirmed, in writing, to the NJS1AA over the signature of both administrative heads.

Any 9th grade Student-Athlete who participates on a junior varsity or varsity team or any team at the high school level will be subject to the eligibility provisions of the Bylaws, Article V, 4.G (2). This means that such 9th grade students will be subject to the transfer provisions of Article V, Section 4K

CL 2 Students below the 9th grade are not permitted to practice with students of grade nine (9) through twelve (12), neither may they "suit up" with those teams for games or scrimmages involving grades nine (9) through twelve (12) unless a waiver has been granted (to ensure eight (8) consecutive semesters of participation). Student will be considered to have begun his/her eight semesters of eligibility on a sport specific basis pursuant to Article V, Section 4.1

CL 3 All games in which 6th, 7th and 8th grade students participate will cause forfeiture of said games under this Section

unless a waiver has been granted.

CL 4 Students in 6th, 7th or 8th grades who will reach age sixteen (16) prior to September 1 while properly enrolled in a member school may request a waiver of the Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.1, Pre-High School Student, to have an opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics for four (4) years prior to becoming ineligible.

J. Semester of Eligibility - No student shall be eligible for high school athletics after the expiration of eight consecutive semesters following his/her entrance into the 9th grade. A student becomes ineligible for high school athletics when the class in which he/she was originally enrolled has graduated, This rule shall not apply to an honorably discharged serviceman/servicewoman, in which case the Executive Committee may make any adjustments of this rule as it may deem equitable. **Students below the 9th grade who participate on a high school team will be ineligible at the conclusion of eight consecutive semesters of participation.**

Page 53

CL 1 In order to assure the opportunity for eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility, member schools may request waivers to permit students who are enrolled in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades and who are otherwise academically eligible, to participate on the junior varsity or varsity teams where such students will be sixteen (16) years of age or older upon entrance into the 9th grade prior to September 1st. Guidance Departments/School Administrators of elementary schools should provide the Athletic Director with ages of all students so they can be assured of four (4) years of eligibility prior to becoming ineligible at age nineteen.

CL 2 Even though classified students are ungraded, they will only have eight consecutive semesters of eligibility which will start with the first semester of participation in interscholastic athletics at the freshman, junior varsity or varsity level. Guidance Departments should provide the Athletic Director with ages of all classified students so they can be assured of four (4) years of eligibility prior to becoming ineligible at age nineteen.

K. Transfers - After his/her initial enrollment in a secondary school, as provided for in Article V, Section 4.G (2) of the Bylaws, a student is subject to the following transfer rules:

- (1) A student who transfers from one secondary school to another because of a bona fide change of residence by his/her parents or guardians, or through assignment by the Board of Education, becomes eligible to represent his/her new school immediately upon entrance unless recruitment or transfer for athletic advantage is proven and provided all other eligibility regulations are satisfied. A student who becomes emancipated shall be deemed not to have made a bona fide change of residence.

Definition: A bona fide change of residence takes place when the parent/guardian moves with the student from one public high school district to another public high school district. The term "guardian" refers to that person who has control over the person and property of a child as established by the order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

CL 1 Residential placement by the Division of Youth and Family Services or by the Courts is treated as a change of residence by the parents except in cases involving juvenile or criminal court proceedings.

CL 2 In cases where a student resides with one parent and elects to change residence for transfer to another secondary school where the other parent resides, said student will be declared eligible immediately since this is considered a parental change of residence provided the 12parents do not reside in the same Public high school district, However, depending upon the circumstances, subsequent retransfer to the school Previously attended may be considered a transfer for athletic advantage, which may result in a loss of eligibility.

[Page 54](#)

CL 3 Immediate eligibility will be granted: 1. when a Board of Education has a non-tuition policy for students whose parents are employees of the District provided such transfer takes place at the first opportunity to do so with the provision that a subsequent transfer or a transfer after the initial opportunity for enrollment has passed will be subject to Section 4K (2) i.e., the thirty (30) day rule; or 2. when the previous school terminates their secondary school academic program.

CL 4 When a previous school brings forth a complaint as provided for in 4k (5) recruitment or (6) transfer for athletic advantage, eligibility will not commence under K (1) until the Eligibility Appeals Committee reaches a decision.

(2) Transfers - A student transferring from one secondary school to another, without a bona fide change of residence by that student's parent or guardian, shall be ineligible to participate (including scrimmages) for a period of thirty (30) calendar days which shall commence with the first interscholastic contest played by the involved school, at any level, if that student has earned a varsity letter in a particular sport at the previous school. The ineligible student may not participate in scrimmages before the regular season commences. A student who has not earned a varsity award in a sport at his or her previous school shall be eligible to participate immediately at any level in that sport at the new school. To prevent possible recruitment or transfer for athletic advantage, a Transfer Waiver Form must be executed by the two involved schools and filed with the NJSIAA before any interscholastic participation whenever a bona fide change of residence by the parents/guardians has not taken place.

CL 1 Varsity status shall be determined by a Student-Athlete earning a letter in a particular sport. This definition does not apply to any other section of the NJSIAA Handbook. In schools where varsity status is not recognized by a letter at any grade level, participation in one-third or more of the games scheduled on the varsity level shall constitute varsity status.

CL 2 A student who has earned a varsity letter at the previous school during the immediate preceding school year and transfers during the Sports Season will be ineligible for a period of thirty (30)

calendar days from the date of entrance at the present school to the end of the present school's regular season; any remaining days of ineligibility shall be satisfied from the start of the present school's regular schedule; in that sport during the next school year. The student shall be ineligible for competition at any level (including scrimmages) until the full thirty (30) day period of ineligibility has been served and there will be no waivers of this provision.

CL 3 For purposes of this section, a school's regular schedule shall begin with the first interscholastic contest played the involved school (other than scrimmages).

Page 55

CL 4 Notwithstanding the provisions of (1) and (2) of Section 4.K, a student may be declared ineligible for violations of the recruiting or transfer for athletic advantage regulation.

CL 5 The Transfer Waiver Form must be processed whenever a student transfers from one secondary school to another without a bona fide change of residence having been made by his/her parents/guardians unless the transfer is by Board of Education assignment or by other conditions of 4X (1).

In cases where a student resides with one parent and elects to change residence for transfer to another secondary school where the other parent resides, said student will be declared eligible immediately since this is considered a parental change of residence provided the parents do not reside in the same public high school district. However, depending upon the circumstances, subsequent retransfer to the school previously attended may be considered a transfer for athletic advantage, which may result in a loss of eligibility.

CL 6 Date of entrance means registration plus actual class attendance.

CL 7 When a Student-Athlete earned a varsity letter in a sport but not in the year immediately preceding the transfer; the Student Athlete will be eligible in that sport immediately.

CL 8 A student earning a varsity letter at a previous school(s) in the previous year shall be ineligible for the thirty day period.

- (3) A student whose parents move to another school district maintaining a secondary school of equal grade or higher shall remain eligible to represent his/her present school provided he/she remains properly enrolled; any subsequent transfer will be subject to Paragraph (2) of this section.*
- (4) The fact that a student is expelled from one high school because of academic or disciplinary reasons may not exempt him/her from any of the transfer provisions of this section.*
- (5) Any evidence of recruitment by a member school shall subject the athlete to a prompt determination of eligibility by the Eligibility Appeals Committee and may subject the athlete and the school to appropriate disciplinary proceedings as set forth in Article X herein.*
- (6) Any evidence of a transfer for athletic advantage shall subject the athlete to a prompt determination of eligibility by the Eligibility Appeals Committee and may subject the school and the athlete to*

appropriate disciplinary proceedings as set forth in Article X herein.

A transfer for athletic advantage is defined as, but not, limited to:

- a. seeking a superior athletic team;
- b. seeking relief due to a conflict with the philosophy or action of an administrator, teacher or coach relating to sports;
- c. seeking a team consistent with the student's athletic abilities; or
- d. seeking a means to nullify punitive action by the previous school.

Page 56

L. Administrative Responsibility - The Association must rely upon the voluntary compliance by its member schools in enforcing the eligibility standards set forth in this article. TOWARD THAT END, THE PRINCIPAL IN EACH MEMBER SCHOOL HAS THE AFFIRMATIVE OBLIGATION TO REPORT TO THE NJSIAA, ANY VIOLATIONS OF THESE STANDARDS. THE FACT THAT A SCHOOL HAS DISCLOSED THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN ELIGIBILITY VIOLATION WILL NOT RELIEVE THE AFFECTED SCHOOL OF SANCTIONS THAT MAY BE IMPOSED AGAINST IT, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE X OF THESE BYLAWS, INCLUDING THE FORFEITURE OF GAMES OR EVENTS. HOWEVER, THE FAILURE TO DISCLOSE AN ELIGIBILITY VIOLATION MAY BE GROUNDS FOR IMPOSING ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS UPON THE OFFENDING SCHOOL.

CL 1 Although the penalty of forfeiture for the use of an ineligible player is mandatory and unappealable to the Executive provided such request for waiver occurs prior to the participation by the Student-Athlete.

CL 2 Participation by an ineligible player in any game during the regular season results in forfeiture of said game. If such forfeit(s) would have caused the school's failure to qualify for the tournament or if an ineligible player participates in a tournament game, said SCHOOL will be disqualified from the tournament immediately, unless the championship has been concluded, and their last opponent will advance in their place. Schools eliminated prior to the last opponent will not re-enter tournament competition.