



To: NJSIAA Executive Committee  
From: Colleen Maguire, Executive Director  
Date: October 13, 2021  
RE: Rules and Regulations Amendment – Out-of-State Competition – Specific Sport Regulations,  
Note 3

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Many state athletic associations impose restrictions regarding out-of-state competition, but the NJSIAA currently does not have a clear standard in this regard. In order to protect our member schools, and to ensure that they are playing like competition, NJSIAA proposes the below rule clarification to make clear that member schools may only schedule contests against teams that are members in good standing of their respective state high school athletic association, or have otherwise been approved for competition by their high school athletic association.

Recently, across the country, there have been highly publicized cases of athletic teams that purport to be “high school” teams, but in actuality these “high schools” offer inadequate or no academic programs. There is little to no oversight of these programs, and to ensure the safety of our student-athletes, and the integrity of NJSIAA’s mission statement to administer “education-based interscholastic athletics,” NJSIAA’s member schools should not be competing against such programs.

## **PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS AMENDMENT**

### **Rules and Regulations, Specific Sport Regulations, Note 3**

**[Proposed Additions are underlined.]**

3. Member schools may schedule games or scrimmages with any school that is academically accredited by its regional accrediting agency and having athletic eligibility standards similar to the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. Member schools may schedule regular season games or scrimmages with non-member schools, or with member schools of the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools; however, in such case, any waiver of the NJSIAA eligibility rules must be agreed upon and set forth in the contract. Under this section, competition is limited to teams (or individuals) whose participants are in the first year of post-high school matriculation. Waiver of NJSIAA eligibility rules will not be granted for sanctioned tournaments.

CL 1: Member schools may not compete with “club” teams. Competition is not permitted with teams composed of post-high school students (private schools, junior colleges, colleges) whose participants are beyond the first year of post-high matriculation or are beyond the first year since graduating from high school. All Independent Schools holding dual membership (NJSIAA and NJISAA) must adhere to all regulations provided for by the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations and they may not be waived.

CL 2: A school is permitted to sponsor only one team at the varsity level. A and B teams at the varsity level are not permitted in any sports.

CL 3: All NJSIAA member school athletic teams are bound by NJSIAA rules. No member school may have any team that operates outside of NJSIAA’s jurisdiction in any NJSIAA sanctioned sport.

CL 4: No member school may engage in athletic competition, scrimmage and/or practice with an out-of-state school which is not a member in good standing of its respective state high school athletic association or has not been approved by the respective association as an affiliate.