



To: NJSIAA Advisory Committee

From: Paul Popadiuk, Chief Compliance Officer

Date: November 30, 2022

RE: NJSIAA New Transfer Proposal

The NJSIAA staff proposes to amend the Transfer Rule. This proposal presents a significant change in the way transfers are handled. It balances the need to allow good faith transfers to occur while discouraging multiple transfers, which undermine the level playing field. It also reduces the administrative burden on schools. Among other things, it removes the need for a bona fide change of address and no longer relies on varsity participation status when determining a student-athlete's eligibility. Here is how the proposal would work:

- Student-athletes are entitled to one penalty-free transfer during the first six semesters of their high school career, provided that the transfer occurs before the competition start-date of the sports season in which the transfer occurs.
- Student-athletes who transfer after the competition start-date will be subject to a 30-day period of ineligibility (or $\frac{1}{2}$ the maximum number of contests) and will not be eligible for NJSIAA post-season competition for that season.
- Student-athletes who transfer a second time (and any subsequent transfers), will be subject to a 30-day period of ineligibility (or $\frac{1}{2}$ the maximum number contests) for all NJSIAA-sanctioned sports in which the student-athlete participated during the past 12 months.
- This transfer rule applies to all student-athletes at all levels of participation (not just varsity athletes) and is applicable to all NJSIAA-sanctioned sports in which the student-athlete participated during the past 12 months. Student-athletes may participate in a new sport without penalty.
- Immediate eligibility, without penalty, will still be granted for DCP&P placement, court placement, HIB transfers (as currently defined), and military transfers.
- Senior transfers: Student-athletes who transfer in their senior year, or whose 1st transfer occurs for their senior year, in a particular sport will be subject to a 15 day sit (or $\frac{1}{4}$ of the max. number of contests) for all NJSIAA sanctioned sports in which the student-athlete participated during the past 12 months. This period of ineligibility is increased to 30 days (or $\frac{1}{2}$ the maximum number of contests) for all subsequent transfers.

Scenarios:

Ex. 1: Jane transfers from School A to School B in July following her freshmen year. This is her first transfer.

Result: Jane is immediately eligible without penalty.

Ex. 2: Jane transfers from School A to School B in January of her sophomore year. This is her first transfer.

Result: Jane must sit 30 days (or $\frac{1}{2}$ the number of max. contests) for the winter season and is ineligible for the NJSIAA post season tournament for the winter season. No restrictions on other seasons.

Ex. 3: Jane transfers from School B to School C in July of her sophomore year. This is her second transfer.

Result: Jane sits 30 days (or $\frac{1}{2}$ the number of max. contests) in all sports participated in during the previous year.

Ex. 4: Jane transfers from School B to School C in January of her junior year. This is her second transfer.

Result: Jane sits 30 days (or $\frac{1}{2}$ the number of max. contests) in all sports participated in during the previous year, is ineligible for the NJSIAA post season tournament for the winter season, but eligible for the NJSIAA spring tournaments.

Ex. 5: Jane transfers from School A to School B in July after completing 6 semesters in high school (following her junior year). This is her first transfer.

Result: Jane sits 15 days (or $\frac{1}{4}$ of the max. number of contests) in all sports participated in during the previous year.

Ex. 6: Jane transfers from School A to School B in July after completing 6 semesters in high school (following her junior year). This is her second transfer.

Result: Jane sits 30 days (or $\frac{1}{2}$ the number of max. contests) in all sports participated in during the previous year.

Ex. 7: Jane transfers from School B to School C in January of her junior year. This is her second transfer. She transferred because her father was issued a military transfer.

Result: Jane is immediately eligible without penalty.

Ex 8: Jane transfers from School A to School B on December 1st of her junior year. This is her first transfer.

Result: Jane is immediately eligible without penalty for all winter and spring sports. During her senior year, Jane sits 15 days (or $\frac{1}{4}$ of the max. number of contests) in any fall sport she participated in during her previous (junior) year.