



2024-25

OFFICIALS GUIDEBOOK

Officials at an interscholastic athletic event are participants in the educational development of high school students. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility. The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all interscholastic officials.

Officials shall master both the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.

Officials shall work with each other and their state associations in a constructive and cooperative manner.

Officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interaction with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues and the public.

Officials shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.

Officials shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.

Officials shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that student-athletes, coaches and the public hold for the profession.

Officials shall, while enforcing the rules of play, remain aware of the inherent risk of injury that competition poses to student-athletes. Where appropriate, they shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear unreasonably hazardous.

Officials shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.

General Regulations & Policies

Substantive changes to this Officials Guidebook for the 2024-25 school-year are indicated with a shaded background.

100. Getting Started

101. Authority of FHSAA

101.01 FHSAA Bylaw 8.9.2 authorizes the Board of Directors to establish policies and procedures for the registration and regulation of contest officials.

101.02 Individual officials or local officials' associations that violate the policies expressed in this Officials Guidebook are subject to reprimand, probation and/or monetary penalties and/or suspension or expulsion as an individual official or official's association by the FHSAA.

102. Registration of Officials

102.01 Registration is Mandatory.

(1) An individual who intends to officiate as either a baseball umpire, basketball official, football official or clock operator, flag football official, lacrosse official, soccer official, softball umpire, swimming & diving official, track & field official, volleyball official, water polo referee, and/or wrestling referee in an interscholastic athletic contest involving an FHSAA member school must register with the FHSAA Office every year before he/she officiates.

(2) Applications can be completed via the Officials Central Hub www.fhsaa.arbitersports.com.

(3) The application for registration must be completed by the following deadlines each school year to receive the early registration fee of \$60 in the sports of football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, baseball, soccer, softball & track & field.

(4) The registration must be completed by the following deadlines each school year to receive the early registration in the sports of swimming & diving, flag football, lacrosse and water polo \$55:

- Fall Sports (football and volleyball) – Aug. 12
- Winter Sports (basketball, soccer and wrestling) – Oct. 21
- Spring Sports (baseball, softball and track & field,) – Jan. 13

The application for registration must be completed by the following deadlines each school year to receive the early registration fee of \$60 or \$55 depending on the sport:

- Fall Sports (swimming & diving) – Aug. 12
- Spring Sports (flag football, lacrosse & water polo) – Jan. 13

After the initial deadline the registration fee will increase by \$5

(4) Registrations for the current year will not be accepted in the FHSAA

Office after the administration date of the examination in the sport for which application is being made, with the exception of officials transferring from another state and have already taken the rules exam. Volleyball registrations (boys and/or girls) will not be accepted after the last date of the fall online exam.

102.02 Requirements for Registration.

(1) To be registered as an official an individual must:

(a) Be 19 years of age or older [for exception, see s.102.02(4)].

(b) Register via the FHSAA's approved process

(c) Pay the appropriate non-refundable and non-transferable registration fee, as well as any assessed late fee and any outstanding fines and/or penalty fee for all previously registered sports;

(d) Join and maintain membership in a local official's association which has been sanctioned by the FHSAA Office; and

(e) Certify that he/she has never been arrested for or convicted of a felony; or any crime or offense which involved dishonesty; or any crime or offense which involved possession, use or distribution of any illegal substance; or any crime or offense which involved any immoral conduct, regardless of the punishment therefore; or has never been denied registration to officiate by the FHSAA or a high school association in any other state. If arrested for or convicted of a felony, the applicant must submit a police/court report verifying the reason, date of arrest/conviction and conclusion of the incident followed by a letter of reference from a person in the judicial system or a local officials association officer. Any official who fails to disclose, or falsify, this information on their FHSAA Application will immediately be suspended for FIVE years, pending termination of membership. Note: FHSAA contest officials must comply with the Jessica Lunsford Act. Pursuant to the Jessica Lunsford Act, a Level 2 Background screening is necessary for each school or school district to check your name against the state and national listings of sexual offenders and sexual predators for those school districts that do not apply the line of sight provision as outlined in statute. Some counties may be more restrictive than others regarding Level 2 screenings. Any official who purposely avoids, falsifies or fails to obtain the required Level 2 screening, after written notification, may be immediately suspended for up to FIVE years, pending possible termination of membership. A level 2 background screening is necessary to work the FHSAA state series.

(2) An individual official who has an outstanding balance with the FHSAA as a result of unpaid registration fees, monetary fines or penalties, or other assessed fees shall not be permitted to renew his/her registration until the outstanding balance has been paid in full.

(3) An individual official who has been suspended or expelled from officiating by the FHSAA shall not be permitted to renew his/her registration

until the individual's period of suspension has lapsed or he/she has been reinstated.

(4) Individuals who are between the ages of 16-18 years of age may register as a "student official" and be assigned to a "mentor" official for training. "Student officials" will be allowed to register at a reduced fee of \$10 per sport while an active student official. Student officials will be allowed to work middle school (6th-8th grades), junior high contests (8th-9th grades) and non-varsity contests once registered. Student officials may not officiate the middle school in which they attended.

(5) The FHSAA Office reserves the right to reject any application for registration as an FHSAA official. Local officials' association officers and/or boards of directors are required to report criminal misconduct on the part of any member of their association to the FHSAA Office for investigation.

(6) The individual must indicate during his/her registration process the name of the association of which he/she is a member. An individual who is not a member of a sanctioned local officials association will not be able to be a FHSAA Official. An individual cannot contract with or otherwise offer his/her services to a member school as an independent official.

(7) An individual may join and maintain membership in more than one local official's association. However, for administrative purposes, the individual must designate one local official's association as his/her "primary" association for each registered sport. Individuals may join additional local associations on a secondary basis. An official must advise his/her primary association of his/her secondary association affiliations and vice versa. However, the individual official is responsible for providing any associations of which he/she is a member on a secondary basis with information regarding exam grades and current status with the FHSAA. The individual official is also responsible for providing his/her primary association with the number of varsity games officiated as assigned by his/her secondary association(s) prior to the deadline for filing that report with the FHSAA.

102.03 Termination Date of Registration. All registrations terminate June 30 each year regardless of the date the application for registration is made and accepted.

102.04 Officials Not Employed by FHSAA. Individuals registering as FHSAA officials do so as independent contractors and not as employees of either the member schools or the FHSAA. Schools must contract with FHSAA-sanctioned officials associations for officials as individual contractors and not as school or FHSAA employees.

102.05 Registration Fees.

(1) Registration fees, as well as all outstanding monetary penalties, must be paid at the time of registration to the FHSAA Office. Officials may pay fees by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) online. Registration fees for the 2024-25 school year are as follows:

- First Sport – \$60 or \$55
- Each Additional Sport –\$45 per sport registration

The discounted registration fee for each additional sport after the first sport is available only to those individuals who register for more than one sport during the same school year. Individual insurance is covered in the registration fee. This coverage provides an accident and health package for the individual referee's injury as well as a personal liability policy to protect the INDIVIDUAL official from lawsuit involving their work as an official. Since it is an INDIVIDUAL insurance plan, certificates of insurance are not provided, nor can any other person or business be named as an additional insured.

(2) Registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

102.06 Supplies. Registered officials will receive a National Federation rules book & case book if published by the NFHS. Officials will also receive a subscription to the NFHS Network. Officials will receive rule books, case books and other materials through their primary local associations. The exception is swimming and diving officials.

102.08 State Series Pass. A registered contest official may purchase an FHSAA State Series Pass via the FHSAA's approved process. This pass will admit the bearer only to all district, regional and FHSAA Finals state championship games, tournaments and meets in all sports sanctioned by the FHSAA during a school year. This pass is not valid at any preseason or regular season event. State Series Pass holders must sign in at the pass gate, provide proper photo identification and record the pass number. State Series Passes are non-refundable and non-transferable. Abuse of a State Series Pass will result in its confiscation. State Series Passes are not valid for students or for individuals under the age of 18. State Series gates are open through half-time only.

103. Online Examinations

103.01 Rules Examinations.

(1) Each FHSAA official, with the exception of Football Clock Operators and student officials, must take the FHSAA online rules examination in the sport(s) in which he or she is registered each year.

(2) At the end of the examination cycle in each sport, officials who fail to take the mandatory FHSAA rules examination in the sport(s) for which they are registered shall be suspended, effective immediately, from officiating at any level for the sport in which the exam was not completed.

(3) FHSAA will not accept any waivers for not completing the rules exam.

(4) The local official's association which each official designates as his/her primary local association will be notified of the official's grade via muster reports generated through the Arbiter reports. Secondary local associations must consult with primary local associations as to the status of secondary members. Grades will be available through the online testing center but will not

be given to individual officials over the telephone or via e-mail.

(5) An official who is found guilty of cheating on rules examinations will receive a grade of zero on the examination, be placed on probation for one year and receive a fine of \$100.

(6) Individuals who register online may view their test scores via the online testing center after all rules examinations have been graded.

103.02 “75” Required to Officiate Varsity Contest.

(1) In order for an FHSAA official to officiate varsity level contests, the official must receive a grade of 75 or higher on the current year FHSAA online rules examination in the applicable sport. Any official who does not take the regularly scheduled FHSAA online rules examination will receive a grade of zero and will be ineligible to officiate varsity level contests during the current school year, or sub-varsity contests. Local officials' associations may not assign officials who are not in compliance with this provision to officiate varsity or sub-varsity level contests.

(2) If, for any reason, the FHSAA Office is unable to grade the current year rules examination prior to the start of a sports season, the grade an official received on the previous year's rules examination will be used to determine his/her eligibility to officiate a varsity level contest until such time as the current year grades become available or until the FHSAA announces an effective date.

(3) An official who fails to post an exam score prior to the initial exam deadline for the online exam will lose their eligibility until the exam is completed.

(4) There will be two windows to complete the exam.

a. If the exam is completed during the first exam window officials will meet the testing requirement to be eligible for postseason.

b. If the exam is completed during the second window officials will ONLY be eligible up through the district tournament.

(5) Individual officials and official's associations which violate the provisions of s.103.03(1), s.103.03(2) or s.103.03(3) will be subject to monetary penalties, possible denial of registration and sanction for the following school year until all monetary penalties have been paid.

104. Membership in Other Organizations

(1) The FHSAA does not require its registered officials to join or maintain membership in any organization other than a sanctioned local officials association. However, membership in such outside organizations is permissible provided: (a) the organization does not have guidelines, regulations, policies or procedures which conflict with those of the FHSAA; and (b) the organization

does not practice discrimination.

(2) Business unrelated to the FHSAA officials' program, such as recreational or youth league assignments, etc., shall not be a part of the agenda for any FHSAA-related meeting conducted by a local officials' association. The assignment of officials to officiate FHSAA athletic events shall not be influenced in any way by assignments to work non-FHSAA events.

105. Cancellation of Registration

An official who registers with the FHSAA and who, during the same school year, is unable to continue to work as a contest official, must cancel that registration in writing to the FHSAA Office before the sport specific rules examination deadline to avoid fines for not taking the FHSAA rules examination. All financial obligations to the FHSAA outstanding at the time of cancellation must be cleared. Officials canceling their registration WILL NOT receive credit for experience or games officiated in the sport in which registration is being canceled. Application fees for canceled registrations WILL NOT be refunded. Officials canceling their registrations in a given year are encouraged to register again in subsequent years as their individual situations permit. Officials are not required to register with the FHSAA in a given year if they do not intend to officiate during that year.

106. Rules of Conduct

The following provisions are rules of conduct by which all FHSAA officials are expected to abide. A violation of any one of these provisions may subject an offending official to a monetary penalty, suspension as an official, or both.

(1) All FHSAA officials must conduct themselves on and off the athletic field/court in a manner conducive to the best interests of the FHSAA, its member schools and the interscholastic athletic program in general. No FHSAA official may pursue a course of action which is detrimental to the welfare of the FHSAA or its member schools.

(2) All FHSAA officials must comply with all FHSAA guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures as contained in this Officials Guidebook.

(3) All FHSAA officials must be neatly dressed in the appropriate uniform as prescribed in this Officials Guidebook, and project a physically fit appearance, when officiating a contest involving an FHSAA member school.

(4) All FHSAA officials must arrive on time for the contest as required by the rules of the applicable sport.

(5) All FHSAA officials should be in good physical condition, mentally ready to officiate the best possible contest and be fully cognizant of the sport's rules. Officials are expected to make each call as they see it without fear or favor, regardless of the score, and to hustle at all times.

(6) No FHSAA official may officiate a contest involving a school in all the following stipulations within the last four (4) years:

- a. His/her child or immediate relative attends or attended
- b. The official himself/herself and/or a relative works or worked

c. The official attended, graduated or coached

(7) No FHSAA official may officiate a varsity district contest in which the official currently serves as a coach at a school in that particular district.

(8) No FHSAA official may cancel a contract made between his/her local officials association and a member school or violate any provisions thereof without a reason that is satisfactory to the FHSAA.

(9) No FHSAA official may arrive or appear at the contest site with the odor of an alcoholic beverage on his/her breath.

(10) No FHSAA official may use tobacco, tobacco-like or vaping products during the contest or in the vicinity of the athletic court or field.

(11) No FHSAA official may engage in unsporting conduct.

(12) No FHSAA official may refuse to officiate any contest with another FHSAA official because that same other FHSAA official is or is not also a registered member of a national or international officials' organization.

(13) No FHSAA official may officiate a contest or part of a contest which is classified as an "exhibition," "practice game" or "alumni game" including one or more-member schools. Such games are prohibited by FHSAA Bylaws. This provision, however, does not preclude an FHSAA official from officiating an intra-squad contest or scrimmage in which all participants are students at the same one school.

(14) No FHSAA official may publicly criticize or berate a coach or other employee of a member school or other official. Professional ethics require that officials use proper channels to report their problems rather than airing them publicly.

(15) All officials must go to a dressing facility or secluded area provided by the school during halftime and not discuss any calls made previously in the contest to anyone who is not a part of the officiating crew. Additionally, once the contest has concluded, the officials are to vacate the playing area immediately. The officials are not to monitor post-game activities like handshakes. The administrators at the schools are to monitor those activities.

107. Athletic Injury Guidelines

The following guidelines are to be followed in the event an athlete is injured during a contest. These guidelines are for the protection of the injured athlete and the official(s).

(1) Coaches and medical personnel must be aware that some sports rules will require officials to charge the injured athlete's team with a timeout.

(2) Coaches and medical personnel should be allowed to enter the field or court and should be given unlimited time to evaluate an injury and give emergency care. Officials should not request that coaches move an injured athlete.

(3) The officials' only role in dealing with athletic injuries is to stop play as soon as possible so that the injured athlete can receive attention as soon as possible. Officials must not offer medical advice or take any action to manage

or treat any injury.

(4) Suspected Concussions. Mechanics for Removal from Athletic Contest: The NFHS concussion rule calls for the immediate removal of the participant from the contest or practice. The revised language reflects an increasing focus on safety, given that the vast majority of concussions do not involve a loss of consciousness. The change in this rule simply calls for contest officials to be cognizant of athletes who display signs, symptoms or behaviors of a concussion (see NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion) and immediately stop play for injury evaluation by school personnel within the rules of the game. At that point, the contest official's job is done. It is important to note that the responsibility of the contest official is limited to activities that occur on the field, court or mat. Once the participant has been removed from a contest due to a suspected concussion, the coach, school and appropriate healthcare professional(s) assume full responsibility for that athlete's further evaluation and safety.

200. Local Officials Associations

201. Sanction

201.01 Sanction is Mandatory.

(1) Each local official's association must make application for or renew sanction each year with the FHSAA Office online web form via the FHSAA website. A local officials association which fails to make application for or renew sanction with the FHSAA Office, or to which sanction is denied, will not be permitted to assign officials to athletic contests in which FHSAA member schools participate.

(2) A list of sanctioned local officials' associations will be sent each school year to FHSAA member schools. Member schools may contract only with those officials' associations sanctioned by the FHSAA Office.

(3) Proposed new local officials' associations may not contact member schools regarding contracts for contests until sanctioned by the FHSAA Office.

201.02 Request for New or Additional Sanctions. Associations that were not sanctioned by the FHSAA in the preceding school year may be considered for sanction by the FHSAA if they meet the following criteria:

(1) Such an association must successfully demonstrate in writing to the FHSAA's satisfaction the need for sanction of a new association in its geographic area.

(2) Such an association must properly complete and return to the FHSAA Office an Application for Sanction as a Local Officials Association after satisfying s.201.02(1).

(3) Such an association, if approved, must have a unique name (i.e. one that is not already used, or similar to one being used, by a currently sanctioned local association) and adopt and submit a proposed constitution and bylaws. The constitution and bylaws must contain provisions for election of officers, establishment of committees, recruitment of new and minority officials, training

of member officials, procedures for assigning member officials to contests, procedures for recommending member officials for State Series assignments and a procedure for addressing grievances made by member officials. The proposed constitution and bylaws must be approved by the FHSAA Office and must be reviewed every five (5) years.

(4) Such an association must provide to the FHSAA Office a copy of the IRS letter showing the association's name and the taxpayer identification number assigned to that name, along with an IRS Form W-9.

(5) A proposed new local officials association making application for sanction to the FHSAA must include with its application a list of the names of individual officials who are prospective members. Such prospective members shall not presently be "primary" members of any other viable local official's association sanctioned by the FHSAA.

(6) Consideration for sanction will not be forthcoming until the FHSAA has received a sufficient number of Applications for Registration as a Contest Official from individuals listing the applicant association as their primary association, such that the applicant association's membership will meet or exceed the FHSAA's minimum membership requirements set forth in s.201.04. Applicant associations that do not meet the minimum membership requirement in a specific sport by the date of the FHSAA's first registration material mailing WILL NOT receive final approval of sanction in that sport. In the event final sanction is withheld, individuals listing the applicant association as their primary association on their Applications for Registration as a Contest Official will be asked to re-designate their choice of local association for the affected sport.

201.03 Renewal of Existing Sanction. Local associations sanctioned by the FHSAA in the PRECEDING school year, provided they are in good standing with the FHSAA, may renew their sanctions May 12- June 13 if they meet the following criteria.

(1) An association requesting renewal of sanction must properly complete the online renewal process. No members of a local association may register until the sanction is renewed by the association president.

(2) An association requesting renewal of sanction must submit to the FHSAA Office a copy of the IRS letter showing the association's name and the taxpayer identification number assigned to that name, a current IRS Form W9, as well as a current copy of its constitution and bylaws.

(3) The total number of member officials in the sport(s) for which an association is requesting renewal of sanction must meet or exceed the FHSAA's minimum membership requirements as set forth in s.201.04. Associations that do not meet the minimum membership requirement in a specific sport will not be sanctioned in that sport.

(4) An association sanctioned by the FHSAA in the preceding school year requesting sanction in a sport for which it was not sanctioned during the preceding school year must meet the criteria outlined in s.201.03(1) in the sport for which a new sanction is being requested.

201.04 Minimum Membership Requirements.

(1) In order to receive and/or renew a sanction for a given sport, local officials associations must meet the following minimum membership requirements: For sanction in the sports of baseball, basketball, flag football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, track & field, volleyball and water polo, 10 officials per sport. For sanction in the sport of football, 25 officials. For sanction in the sport of wrestling, five (5) officials. Local associations are sanctioned on a “by sport” basis, and membership totals in each sport will be computed as described in s.201.04(2).

(2) For sanctioning purposes, total membership in an association shall be defined as the total number of officials registered with the FHSAA who have designated the association as their PRIMARY local association in the specific sport(s) for which an association is sanctioned. This total shall be computed by the FHSAA after the administration date of the examination in each sport and be the basis for sanction renewal decisions for the next school year. Officials affiliated with an association on a secondary basis WILL NOT be counted as part of an association’s total membership. Officials registered with an association in one sport WILL NOT be counted in another sport unless they also are registered in that sport.

(3) **Insurance.** In order to conduct business as an FHSAA recognized official’s association, this coverage is required:

(a) **General Liability.** General liability provides protection against lawsuits involving bodily injury or property damage. A policy that has a minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate per year is required. This type of policy is the one most important to protect your business and is required by many school districts and other public agencies in order to use their facilities for a meeting or clinic. If an official’s association are going to host their own clinics, they must have this type of insurance. They will be asked to provide a certificate of insurance and name the property owner (usually a school) as “an additional insured”. They would ask their insurance agent who sold the policy to provide this certificate.

(4) **Optional Insurance.** This insurance is recommended but optional.

(a) **Crime Insurance.** Crime insurance provides protection against financial loss caused by the dishonest disappearance of money, securities or negotiable instruments. This Crime Insurance Plan includes coverage for loss by theft or forgery by an officer or volunteer. Examples of covered losses under this plan are the loss or dishonest disappearance of: moneys or securities in the league treasury; moneys collected from fund raising activities; or moneys set aside for the purchase of uniforms and equipment.

(b) **Directors and Officers Insurance.** This provides protection for claims arising out of allegations of errors, omissions or wrongful acts committed by its directors, officers, employees or volunteers. This coverage will respond to allegations of discrimination against a third party, acts beyond granted authority, failure to deliver services, wrongful dismissal, and wrongful employment practices. Defense costs are paid in addition to the limit of liability.

202. Membership in Local Association

202.01 Officials Required to Join. All FHSAA officials must join and maintain membership in a local official's association which has been sanctioned by the FHSAA Office. Individual officials may not contract with or otherwise offer their services to member schools.

202.02 No Official in Good Standing May be Refused. Each local official's association must afford membership to any FHSAA official in good standing who requests to join the sanctioned local official's association. Membership to an FHSAA official in good standing may not be refused. Any official denied membership must be shown documentation for the denial.

202.03 Conditional Membership for First-Time Officials. Only registered FHSAA officials, in good standing, may be given membership in a local official's association. However, individuals making application for registration to the FHSAA Office for the first time may request and must be allowed to join a local officials association on a conditional basis until such time as the individual has been approved by the FHSAA Office.

202.04 Administration and Governance. Each local official's association shall adopt bylaws establishing its organizational structure and governance. These bylaws shall not be in conflict with any provision of FHSAA bylaws, guidelines, regulations, policies or procedures. Individual officials who have been placed on probation by the FHSAA shall not be eligible for election or appointment to any office within the local official's association until such time as his/her period of probation has expired or been rescinded.

203. Obligations of Officials Associations

The FHSAA has assigned the following obligations to each local official's association.

203.01 Education of Member Officials. Each local official's association is responsible for educating FHSAA officials in the rules of the sport in which they will officiate. It is important that each FHSAA official has a thorough knowledge of the rules before he/she officiates his/her first contest and takes the FHSAA rules examination.

203.02 Training of Member Officials. Each local official's association must hold a minimum of two training sessions for its member officials during the regular season in each sport. These training sessions should focus on application of the rules to specific situations and mechanics. Dates and content of training sessions must be submitted to the FHSAA Office in writing according to the calendar on page 4. Each training session shall be a minimum of one hour. Each association must offer its contracted schools at least one training session in which the school's athletic director and/or head coach may attend to hear and discuss the sport's new and emphasized rules.

203.03 Distribution of Materials. Each local association will receive a mailing consisting of cards, rulebooks as well as other materials deemed necessary from the FHSAA. It is the responsibility of the local association to distribute this material to its primary members.

203.04 Changes in Membership. Local associations are responsible for informing the FHSAA of any changes to, or discrepancies on, the muster reports (membership lists) that the FHSAA provides to the local association. This information should be provided to the FHSAA as soon as possible. Local association membership lists should match the FHSAA's association muster reports exactly. Officials have up until two (2) weeks after their sports registration deadline has passed to change associations.

204. Committees

204.01 Committees are Mandatory. Each local official's association is required to have an evaluation, assignment, recommendations, grievance and education/training committee. These committees exist to ensure that each local official's association operates in a fair and democratic manner which is in the best interest of each of its member officials. Any exception to the committees as established herein must be approved in writing by the FHSAA Office.

204.02 Composition of Committees. Neither an executive board member nor the assignment officer (booking commissioner) may serve as a voting member of any committee established herein, except for the recommendation committee. The assignment officer (booking commissioner) may serve on the recommendation committee as a voting member. Only one of these officers may serve on a committee in an ex-officio capacity. No member may serve on more than one committee. An executive board member must recuse himself/herself if he/she is party to or otherwise involved in an appeal. Committees must consist of three or five members. Committees shall be selected/appointed based on the local association's Articles of Incorporation.

204.03 Responsibilities of Committees.

(1) Evaluation Committee. The Evaluation Committee is responsible for setting up the process and selecting those individuals who will assist with the evaluation of member officials within the local official's association. Each official with two or more years' experience should be evaluated at least once during each season. First-year officials should be evaluated periodically throughout the season so that mini-clinics may be offered, if necessary, to re-enforce good

officiating skills.

(2) Assignment Committee. The Assignment Committee is responsible for overseeing the entire contest assignment procedure within the local official's association. This includes ensuring compliance with requirements on the composition of officiating crews, reviewing and approving each member official's schedule of assigned contests and making the assigning officer aware of any corrections that need to be made before the assignment schedule is submitted to the membership. It is not implied that the Assignment Committee is to make assignments.

(3) Recommendations Committee. The Recommendations Committee (minimum of 3 individuals) is responsible for reviewing the evaluations of each member official during the regular season. This committee is also responsible for preparing and submitting to the FHSAA Office a list of member officials who deserve consideration for assignment to State Series contests. If the assignment official (booking commissioner) is not on the committee as a voting member then the recommendation committee should work with the assignment official (booking commissioner) to prepare and submit to the FHSAA, the list of member officials who deserve consideration for assignment to State Series contests.

(4) Grievance Committee. The Grievance Committee is responsible for hearing complaints and appeals made or brought by one or more of its member officials. Member officials who have grievances because of penalties may appeal under the provisions of the local official's association's Constitution and Bylaws.

(5) Education/Training Committee. The Education/Training Committee is responsible for the planning, content and implementation of training sessions, including on-the-field/court training. This also includes educating local officials on FHSAA policies and procedures, NFHS rules and mechanics and developing a curriculum that is current and effective in both content and methodology.

205. Regular Season Contest Assignments

205.01 Must be Made by Assignment Officer. The assignment of each member official to regular season contests (events that do not require FHSAA and/or NFHS sanctioning) must be made by the local officials' association's assignment officer and approved by the association's Assignment Committee before being issued to the member official.

205.02 Criteria to be Followed in Making Assignments.

(1) The criteria to be followed in assigning a member official to a regular season contest are:

(a) The qualifications and ability of the official as determined by his/ her FHSAA ranking, the official's performance on the most recent FHSAA rules examination and evaluations of the official made by the local official's association;

(b) No official may be assigned to work more than two home football games during a season for the same one team or more than four home games during a season for the same one team in any other sport;

(c) If a local officials association permits a school with which it is contracted to scratch or otherwise request that a particular official not be assigned to officiate its contests, the assignment officer must not assign that official to that school's home contests.

(2) Assignments giving preference to a particular school or official are prohibited.

(3) Crews assigned to officiate varsity level boys' and girls' contests must have one official with four or more years' experience (Rank 1 or 2) unless a Rank 3 official is evaluated to be exceptional. The assignment of the referee for football should be a Rank 1 or Rank 2 official with a minimum of five years of FHSAA experience or its interscholastic equivalent.

(4) Crews assigned to officiate junior varsity contests must have a minimum of one Rank 1 or Rank 2 official.

206. Officials Advisory Committee

206.01 Responsibilities of the Committee. The FHSAA has established three Officials Advisory Committee (Fall Sports, Winter Sports, and Spring Sports) to advise the Board of Directors on matters pertaining to the officials' community. Each committee shall meet annually to make such recommendations and forward such comments as it deems appropriate to the FHSAA Board of Directors.

206.02 Nomination of Candidates.

(1) Candidates for election to the Officials Advisory Committee must be FHSAA officials in good standing, be registered in the same sport as the seat for which they are being nominated and be nominated by their primary local official's association. Each local official's association may nominate one official for each sport in which they are sanctioned by the FHSAA. No official may be nominated in more than one sport.

(2) Local associations will not be eligible to nominate a candidate for the Officials Advisory Committee in a particular sport if they currently have a member of their association serving on the Officials Advisory Committee in that sport (i.e., a member of a particular official's association may not succeed another member of the same official's association in the same sport).

(3) No official may succeed himself/herself as a member of the Officials Advisory Committee, in a particular sport.

(4) Officials nominated by their local association for election to the Officials

Advisory Committee will not be placed on the ballot if they are not properly registered and in good standing with the FHSAA at the time the ballot is prepared or if their nomination does not meet one or more of the other provisions of the section.

206.03 Conduct of Elections. Elections will be held online every three years on a rotational basis by sectional representation. Odd sections (1 and 3) will be held on odd years beginning with 2004-05. Even sections (2 and 4) will be held on even years beginning with 2005-06. Each official is entitled to vote for one representative in the sport in which he/she officiates. All committee members shall be elected by those officials who are registered and in good standing in that sport. The candidate(s) (as applicable, in accordance with the provisions of s.206.02) with the most votes in each sport shall be declared the winner(s). The votes shall be counted upon the completion of the election as determined by the FHSAA office.

Pursuant to FHSAA Policy 19.2.5, should a vacancy occur in any seat with an unexpired term on an advisory committee, the Executive Director shall appoint a qualified individual from the represented group to fill the vacant seat for the duration of the term.

206.04 Length of Terms. Each elected official will serve a term of three (3) years. To ensure that the terms of the members of the Officials Advisory Committee do not all expire in the same year, terms will be staggered.

300. Assignments to Officiate State Series

301. District Tournaments/Meets

301.01 Must be made by Assignment Officer. The assignment of officials to officiate district tournaments/meets (with the exceptions of swimming & diving, and track & field) must be made by the assignment officer of the local official's association to which the officials belong and approved by the Assignment Committee, according to the following procedure:

(1) The principal of the district coordinator school should submit to the assignment officer of the appropriate local official's association a list of officials who have been selected by the school representatives (coaches) present at the district meeting to officiate their district tournament/meet;

(2) If the officials selected by a particular district already have been assigned to other district tournaments/meets, the assignment officer may assign other officials from his/her association to officiate the district tournament/ meet. If, however, the officials selected by a particular district were specifically requested in writing by the district and those officials are unavailable, the assignment officer must notify the district coordinator of their unavailability.

301.02 Criteria to be followed in Making Assignments. Criteria to be followed in assigning a member official to officiate a district tournament/meet are:

- (1) The recommendation of the coaches in each district;
- (2) The qualifications and ability of the official as determined by his/her FHSAA ranking, the official's performance on the most recent FHSAA rules examination (must have a minimum score of 80) and evaluations of the official made by the local official's association.

302. Regional & State Tournaments/Meets

302.01 Assignments.

(1) The assignment of officials to officiate a regional tournament or meet, as well as a state tournament or meet, will be made by the FHSAA Office. These assignments may or may not be made from the list of officials compiled by the association's Recommendations Committee as required in s.302.01(2), with the exceptions of swimming & diving and track & field.

(2) The Recommendations Committee within each local official's association must compile and submit by the prescribed deadline to the FHSAA Office a list of member officials who deserve consideration for assignment to a regional tournament contest or state tournament contest. This list of recommended officials must be approved by majority vote of the local officials' association membership prior to its submission to the FHSAA Office.

Officials may only be on one association's recommendation list. It is the responsibility of the official to notify his/her association which association that he/she wishes to officiate for during the state series.

302.02 Criteria to be followed in Making Assignments. Those officials in each sport who have met the following criteria will be given priority consideration for selection to officiate State Series contests:

(1) Officials who are classified by the FHSAA as Rank 1 or Rank 2 in that sport;

(2) Officials who were selected to officiate a district tournament contest in that sport;

(3) Officials who have scored "80" or above on the FHSAA rules examination for that sport;

(4) Officials who are recommended to the FHSAA Office by the local official's association to which they belong. (The FHSAA Office may request the local association to submit regular season evaluations for recommended officials.)

302.03 Payment of Fees for State Series Contest. The host member school will be notified of the appropriate fees to be paid to officials assigned to officiate State Series contests on the regional level. Checks in payment for officials' services must be issued to the local official's association to which the officials belong. Checks issued to officials' associations for payment of state series games may be presented to the crew at the game site or mailed immediately to the association's address.

400. The Coach-Official Conference

401. Calls Based on Rules

401.01 Procedure for Conducting Conference. A conference requested by a coach or by a team captain on behalf of the head coach to discuss rule enforcement should be conducted according to the following procedure:

(1) The coach or team captain must request a time-out when the rules governing the contest allow;

(2) The coach or team captain must inform the referee or umpire-in-chief that he/she requests a conference at the sideline to discuss a rule;

(3) The referee or umpire-in-chief must honor such requests;

(4) The rule in question should be briefly and courteously discussed and the correct decision should be reached;

(5) The referee or umpire-in-chief must correct all errors, if errors are made, providing they are correctable according to the rules governing the contest;

(6) Finally, the contest should be resumed without delay.

402. Judgment Calls

402.01 Conference to Discuss Judgment Call Prohibited.

(1) A judgment call on the part of an official is not subject to question or discussion. No conference to discuss a judgment call may be granted by an official.

(2) An official must refrain from discussing a judgement call made during a contest with coaches and players.

403. Media Communication

403.01 Media Communication

(1) An official must refrain from discussing any calls made during a contest with spectators and members of the media at any time.

500. Disqualifications (Ejections) of Athletes and Coaches

501. Sportsmanship and Unsporting Conduct (Policy 30)

501.01 Sportsmanship and Ethics. Student-athletes, coaches, administrators, spectators and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with a member school, as well as contest officials, shall adhere to the principles of good sportsmanship and the ethics of competition before, during and after all contests in which they participate and/or attend.

502. Procedure for Disqualification of an Athlete

An FHSAA official must adhere to the following procedure when disqualifying (ejecting) an athlete from a contest:

(1) Call timeout. Stop the action.

(2) Do not hurry. Go directly to the head coach and clearly notify the head

coach directly that the player is disqualified (ejected). Provide both the athlete and the head coach with a statement of explanation as to why the athlete is disqualified (ejected). Be professional, courteous and assertive. Do not debate the issue with the coach.

(3) Go to the opposing head coach and notify him/her that the athlete has been disqualified (ejected) and provide him/her with the exact same statement of explanation.

(4) Report the disqualification (ejection) to the official scorekeeper if the rules of the contest so require.

(5) Resume the contest.

503. Disqualification (Ejection) of a Coach

503.01 Procedure for Disqualification. An FHSAA official must adhere to the following procedure when disqualifying (ejecting) a coach from a contest:

(1) Call timeout. Stop the action.

(2) Do not hurry. Go directly to the head coach and clearly notify him/her that he/she or, if applicable, another member(s) of his/her coaching staff is disqualified (ejected). Provide the head coach with a statement of explanation as to why he/she or the member(s) of his/her coaching staff is disqualified (ejected). Inform the disqualified (ejected) individual that he/she must leave the premises (facility) for the remainder of, and after, that contest and that he/she may not give any further instruction to, have any further contact with, or confer with athletes or other members of the coaching staff for the remainder of the contest. Be professional, courteous and assertive. Do not, debate the issue with any member of the coaching staff.

(3) Go to the opposing head coach and notify him/her that the coach has been disqualified (ejected) and provide him/her with the exact same statement of explanation.

(4) Report the disqualification (ejection) to the official scorekeeper if the rules of the contest so require.

(5) Resume the contest.

503.02 Disqualified Coach Must Leave Premises.

(1) A coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest must leave the premises (facility) and may not give any further instruction to, have any further contact with or confer with athletes or other members of the coaching staff for the remainder of the contest, including halftime, breaks between quarters and other intermissions and following the contest. The coach may not sit in the spectator seating area, stand beyond the fence, etc. The coach must remove himself/herself from the (premises) facility to a position where he/she is no longer visible to the participants and spectators and the competition is no longer visible to the coach. The coach may not communicate to his or her team, assistant coach(es) or fans by any means of technology.

(2) If a coach who has been disqualified (ejected) from a contest, refuses

to leave the premises (facility) as specified in s.503.02(1) or is intent upon continuing to coach his/her athletes or conferring with other members of his/her coaching staff in defiance of the officials, the officials are instructed to discontinue the contest and declare it a forfeit.

(3) If a coach or coaches are disqualified (ejected) from contest and no other authorized school personnel is available to take charge of the athletes, the contest must be suspended. In volleyball, the offending team must forfeit per NFHS Rule 1-7-2b.

504. Protocol after Disqualification is administered

504.01 Official May Not Hear Appeal or Reverse Decision. Once an official has disqualified (ejected) an athlete and/or coach, the official may not entertain any appeal from the athlete, coach, athletic director, principal, parent, spectator or any other individual associated with the school. The disqualification (ejection) of an athlete and/or coach is a judgment call and may not be reversed. The official's decision is final. All questions regarding appeals must be referred to the FHSAA Office.

504.02 Official May Not Discuss Penalty for Disqualification. Under no circumstance should an official discuss with an athlete, coach, athletic director, principal, parent, spectator, news media or any other individual the disciplinary penalty which may be assessed an athlete or coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest. That penalty will be decided and processed by the FHSAA Office, which will communicate such penalty directly to the school's principal or FHSAA representative.

504.03 Official Not Responsible for Enforcing Penalty. An official is not to enforce any disciplinary penalty assessed an athlete and/or coach who is disqualified (ejected) from a contest. Should, however, the official be aware of a school, coach or athlete's failure to comply with such disciplinary penalty, it is the duty of the official to report the offense to the FHSAA Office. Under no circumstance may an official approach the offending individual(s) directly.

505. Policy on Crowd Control

FHSAA policy requires the home school administration be responsible for the control of spectators during an athletic contest and recommends that the home school secure uniformed security to assist with this responsibility. However, the officials assigned to officiate a contest are responsible for the conduct of the contest. In the event a spectator or spectators interfere with the conduct of a contest or cause an official to become distracted through continual, unrelenting verbal abuse, the official should immediately stop the action and report the spectator or spectators to the home school administration or the nearest uniformed security officer and ask that they be restrained or removed

from the facility.

If the home school administration or uniformed security is unwilling or unable to comply and the official does not believe the contest can be safely continued, the official must declare the contest ended at that point. Under no circumstance should an official ever engage with, confront, challenge, rebuke or threaten a spectator, or make gestures of any kind toward a spectator before, during or after a contest.

506. Notifying FHSAA Office of Incidents

506.01 When Written Reports Must Be Filed. Officials must file a written report online with the FHSAA Office within 24 hours (preferably by the end of the contest) using Form AT6, the “Unsporting Conduct Incident Report” form, which is provided on the [FHSAA Central Hub](#), when:

- (1) An athlete or coach is ejected for any reason from a contest (with the exception of an athlete who receives a blue card in soccer);
- (2) An athlete or coach is guilty of a flagrant act and/or unsporting conduct before or after a contest for which he/she is not ejected;
- (3) A contest must be temporarily stopped due to unsporting conduct on the part of a spectator or spectators;
- (4) A contest, for whatever reason, does not go to its normal conclusion;
- (5) The contest facility is, in the official’s opinion, judged to be unsafe for participants, or hazards are present; and
- (6) The contest facility or team equipment/uniforms do not meet rule specifications.

506.02 When Verbal Reports Must Be Filed. Officials are required to notify the FHSAA Office at (352) 372-9551 ext. 300 the following morning when a bench-emptying brawl occurs, or when a contest, for whatever reason, does not go to its normal conclusion. Such verbal reports are in addition to the necessary written reports.

506.03 Responsibility for Filing Reports. The referee or umpire-in-chief is responsible for ensuring that reports as required by s.506.01 and s.506.02 are filed with the FHSAA Office on the “Unsporting Conduct Incident Report” form, which is provided on FHSAA.org. The actual reports, however, may be written by the official who ejected the athlete or coach or who witnessed the behavior that required a contest to be temporarily stopped or discontinued.

506.04 Content of Written Reports. Written reports as required by s.506.01 should be made on the required form, must provide complete and detailed information concerning the incident that prompted the report and must be neat and legible. The report must always include:

- (1) The sport and gender being contested (e.g. football, girls basketball);
 - (2) The level of competition (e.g. junior high, junior varsity, varsity);
 - (3) The date and site of the contest;
 - (4) The names of the participating schools;
 - (5) The first and last name of any athlete and/or coach who was ejected from a contest, as well as the jersey number of the athlete (if the name of the athlete is unknown, providing the jersey number will be sufficient);
 - (6) The score of the contest and the time remaining in the contest if it was necessary to declare it ended prematurely;
- (7) A detailed narrative of exactly what occurred and exactly what was said to prompt the action that required the filing of the report; if abusive/profane language is used by anyone, the language must be specifically written in its entirety. The report must be factual and must not contain opinions of what suspension shall be levied;
- (8) The name, signature, address and daytime telephone number of the official filing the report.

600. School's Responsibilities to Officials

Member schools are charged with the following responsibilities relative to FHSAA officials when serving as host for an athletic contest to which the officials are assigned.

- (1) An authorized representative of the host school shall greet the officials upon their arrival.
- (2) The host school should provide a private, secure place for the officials to park.
- (3) The host school should provide a secure dressing facility which affords privacy [See s.1001.07 regarding dressing facilities for state series contests]. (4) The host school should provide the officials access to private shower facilities.
- (4) The host school should provide the officials with refreshments (i.e., water and/or sports drinks) during the halftime intermission and other appropriate times.
- (5) The host school must provide pregame, halftime and postgame security for the officials. A school official or principal's designee must escort the officials to and from the playing field or court to prevent harassment.
- (6) The host school principal or game administrator must indicate to the referee or umpire-in-chief his/her seat location should a situation develop where assistance is needed during the contest.
- (7) School personnel, including coaches, shall not enter the officials' dressing facility while the officials are in attendance except when requested by the officials.
- (8) The host school for state series contests beyond the district level

shall provide contest officials with a secure and adequate dressing room (one each for mixed gender crews) with properly operating bathroom facilities, including showers with warm water, at the site of the contest. If the site does not have such facilities, the host school shall obtain and provide at its expense an appropriate hotel/motel room(s) reasonably close to the site. The host school is required to complete dressing room arrangements and have the information available to the head referee at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest. It is the responsibility of the head referee or umpire-in-chief to contact the school administration at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest to verify the arrangements for the contest. The referee or umpire-in-chief shall report to the FHSAA Office the failure of any host school to provide dressing facilities as required.

700. Dress Code

701. Required Uniforms

Note: The use of the blue and green FHSAA Shield insignia is mandatory in all sports on all levels.

701.01 Baseball.

- (1.) Major League Style (Smitty BBS-300) Carolina blue, black or navy pullover shirt with the FHSAA shield insignia embroidered or sublimated above the left chest or pocket and the letters FHSAA in blue (on black and navy shirts) or black (on light blue shirt) embroidered or dye sublimated on the right sleeve. American flag with white border applied or dye sublimated on left sleeve.
- (2.) Gray slacks
- (3.) Shoes as required by NFHS rules
- (4.) Navy blue or black cap with FHSAA acronym embroidered in FHSAA silver and blue on the front and vertical shield logo embroidered on the back (Smitty or Richardson brands are approved).
- (5.) Black or navy-blue jacket or navy-blue V-neck pullover, if worn
- (6.) Home plate umpires must wear all necessary protective equipment
- (7.) Umpires working in the post-season (beginning with the district tournament) will be required to wear the FHSAA approved postseason uniform available from FHSAA approved vendors.

701.02 Basketball.

- (1.) Smitty's NCAA black/white 1" striped shirt with black raglan style shoulders, sleeves and side panel with the FHSAA insignia dye sublimated on the left sleeve and the letters FHSAA dye sublimated in blue on the right sleeve. American flag with white border dye sublimated on the back of the shirt.
- (2.) Black slacks
- (3.) Black shoes as required by NFHS rules
- (4.) Black belt, if worn
- (5.) Black jacket, if worn

701.03 Flag Football

- (1.) Collared 2 1/4" black and white striped shirt FHSAA shield dye sublimated above left chest pocket. American Flag with white border applied or dye sublimated on left sleeve.
- (2.) Black pants or shorts
- (3.) Black socks
- (4.) Solid black football shoes
- (5.) Black baseball cap with white piping
- (6.) Additional essential equipment includes a plastic whistle, penalty marker, blue or white bean bag to mark non-penalty spots (crew should be consistent for uniformity), game card, pencil and rubber bands or some device to keep track of the down number. The penalty marker shall be a light gold flag (15" x 15") with a middle pouch weighted with sand, beans, etc.

701.04 Football

- (1.) Collared 2 1/4" black and white striped shirt (long sleeve permitted if necessary) with FHSAA shield dye sublimated above left chest pocket.
 - a. 1" or 2" striped shirts are allowed provided the entire crew is dressed alike.
- (2.) Full length black pants with a single 1 1/4" stripe down each leg with FHSAA shield on right pocket with black socks, white knickers with one-piece hose with northwestern stripes, or black shorts with black socks.
- (3.) Black shoes, which may include some white accents, with black laces as required by NFHS rules. Shoes should be shined before each game.
- (4.) Black belt
- (5.) Black baseball cap with white piping. The Referee must wear a white baseball cap.
- (6.) Black jacket, if worn
- (7.) If using split crews, the host crew shall determine the dress for that game
- (8.) Proper Equipment: a whistle, penalty marker (light gold flag 15"x15"), blue or white bean bag (all members of the crew should use the same color) to mark non-penalty spots (back judge shall carry two different colored bean bags; one for marking the end of the kick and one for marking first touching), game card, pencil and rubber bands or some device to keep track of the down number. (Per NFHS).

(9.) FHSAA playoff uniform:

- Full length black pants with a single 1 ¼ inch stripe down each leg with FHSAA logo near right pocket (purchase from approved vendor).
- Collared 2 1/4" black and white striped shirt with FHSAA logo above shirt pocket. American flag with white border on left sleeve. Flag placement: 2" above the top of the black ribbing of the left sleeve or 3" down from the left shoulder seam on a long-sleeved shirt.

701.05 Lacrosse.

(1) Girls.

- (1.) Black and white 1" striped shirt with Byron collar with FHSAA shield dye sublimated above left chest pocket (black undergarment if visible). American flag with white border sublimated on left sleeve.
- (2.) White or black shorts or solid black wind pants (female officials may wear a black kilt)
- (3.) Black belt
- (4.) Solid black shoes with black laces
- (5.) Solid black baseball cap or visor, if worn
- (6.) Black jacket with white stripes, if worn

(2) Boys.

- (1.) Black and white 1" striped shirt with Byron collar with FHSAA shield dye sublimated above left chest pocket (black undergarment if visible). American flag with white border dye sublimated.
- (2.) White or black shorts or black wind pants (female officials may wear a white kilt)
- (3.) Black belt
- (4.) Solid black shoes with black laces
- (5.) Black baseball cap with white piping
- (6.) Black jacket with white stripes, if worn

701.06 Soccer.

- (1.) Aqua (PMS 319c), black, blue, green, red or yellow shirt with pin stripes with FHSAA shield on left chest pocket and the letters FHSAA dye sublimated in black on the right sleeve. American flag with white border dye sublimated on left sleeve.
- (2.) Black shorts or trousers
- (3.) Black belt, if worn
- (4.) Black knee socks with white horizontal stripes
- (5.) Shoes as required by NFHS rules
- (6.) Black cap, if worn
- (7.) Black jacket, if worn

- (8.) Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, officials working in the post-season (beginning with the district tournament) will be required to wear the FHSAA approved postseason Aqua (PMS 319c) uniform available from FHSAA approved vendors.

701.07 Softball.

- (1.) Major League style (Smitty BBS-300) powder blue or navy pullover with the FHSAA shield dye sublimated above the left chest pocket and the letters FHSAA in blue dye sublimated on the right sleeve. Long-sleeved powder blue or navy shirts are optional.
- (2.) Non-pleated light gray (Heather) or navy-blue slacks. Black leather belt. Patent leather belts are not authorized.
- (3.) Solid black shoes. Plate shoes will have a hard shell or steel reinforced toe and a steel or reinforced tongue. Patent leather shoes are not authorized.
- (4.) Navy blue or black socks
- (5.) White or navy-blue undershirts. Long-sleeved undershirt sleeves shall NOT be exposed. The crew must be dressed the same.
- (6.) Navy blue cap with FHSAA acronym embroidered in FHSAA silver and blue on the front and vertical shield logo embroidered on the back. (Smitty or Richardson brands are approved).
- (7.) Navy blue jacket, navy blue jacket with light blue and white stripes. Any or all umpires may wear a jacket/pullover. However, if more than one umpire wears a jacket/pullover, they must match.
- (8.) Home plate umpires must wear all necessary protective equipment. (Mask with throat protector, chest protector, shin guards, cup (for male umpires)).
- (9.) Ball bags will be unadorned navy blue.
- (10.) During the FHSAA State Series (District - State Finals) umpires must wear the official "State Series" uniform shirts available through the FHSAA approved uniform vendors, in addition to all other required uniform items listed above.

701.08 Swimming & Diving.

- (1.) White collared polo with FHSAA shield sublimated on left chest and the letters FHSAA dye sublimated in blue on the right sleeve or on a lanyard
- (2.) Navy or khaki pants/shorts/skirts/capris
- (3.) Solid white socks and shoes
- (4.) White jacket, sweater, or hat if worn
- (5.) The FHSAA Finals uniform will be announced at a later date for those officials who are eligible.
- (6.) Small and unobtrusive jewelry is permitted.

701.09 Track & Field.

- (1.) Blue polo with FHSAA insignia on the left chest and the letters FHSAA in white on the right sleeve. Beige or khaki pants or shorts are encouraged.
- (2.) Small and unobtrusive jewelry is permitted.
- (3.) During the FHSAA State Series (District – State Finals) officials must wear the official uniform shirt (listed above) in addition to all other required uniforms items listed above. FHSAA may designate and/or provide a different shirt for the state championship meet.

701.10 Volleyball.

- (1.) White or Blue polo with FHSAA insignia on the left chest and the letters FHSAA in white on the right sleeve.
 - a. A White or Blue polo is allowed provided the entire crew is dressed alike.
- (2.) Black slacks
- (3.) Solid Black Athletic Shoes as required by NFHS rules
- (4.) Black socks
- (5.) Black belt, if worn
- (6.) Black jacket, if worn
- (7.) Small and unobtrusive jewelry is permitted
- (8.) During the FHSAA State Series (District - State Finals) officials and line judges must wear the one of the official “State Series” uniform shirts available through the FHSAA approved uniform vendors, in addition to all other required uniform items listed above.
- (9.) FHSAA playoff uniform:
Blue polo with FHSAA insignia on the left chest and the letters FHSAA in white on the right sleeve

701.11 Water Polo.

- (1.) White shirt with FHSAA insignia on left chest or pocket
- (2.) White trousers
- (3.) White shoes
- (4.) White jacket, if worn
- (5.) White hat, if worn

701.12 Wrestling.

- (1.) Black and white 1” striped short-sleeve shirt or gray short sleeve shirt with black pinstripes with the FHSAA shield sublimated on left chest and the letters FHSAA in black (for gray shirts) or blue (for black and white shirts) sublimated on the left sleeve. American flag with gold border dye sublimated on the back of the shirt.
- (2.) FHSAA insignia on left chest or pocket
- (3.) Black slacks
- (4.) Shoes as required by NFHS rules
- (5.) Black socks
- (6.) Black belt, if worn
- (7.) Black jacket, if worn

- (8.) During the FHSAA State Series (District - State Finals) officials must wear the official "State Series" uniform shirt available through the FHSAA approved uniform vendors, in addition to all other required uniform items listed above.

702. Restrictions

702.01 Jewelry. Officials are prohibited from wearing jewelry while officiating a contest. The only exceptions to this policy are a wedding band, game timing device and a medical alert bracelet which, if worn, must be taped to the body with clear tape so that it remains visible. Not applicable to swimming & diving, track & field or volleyball officials (see 701.08(6), 701.09(3) & 701.10(7)).

702.02 Numbers. The wearing of numbers on shirts by FHSAA officials is strictly prohibited.

702.03 Local Association Patch. A local association patch may be worn on the upper front of the jacket or left shoulder of shirts, provided a request is made. Patches may not exceed three (3) inches in diameter and must be black and white in color. Other color combinations are prohibited.

702.04 FHSAA Insignia Prohibited at Non-FHSAA Contests. The FHSAA insignia, including "FHSAA" and the "Florida Shield," is the property of the FHSAA and may be used by contest officials only as approved by the FHSAA Office. An FHSAA official may not wear any part of his/her uniform containing the FHSAA insignia at any time other than when officiating a contest involving an FHSAA member school. For example, an FHSAA official may not wear the FHSAA insignia on any article of clothing as a spectator or while officiating AAU, American Legion, ASA, city recreational league contests, etc. This requirement does not preclude officials who have just finished officiating a contest from watching part of a succeeding contest while in uniform nor does it preclude officials who have arrived early for a contest from observing the preceding contest while in uniform.

703. Exceptions to Dress Code

Any exceptions to this dress code must be approved in writing by the FHSAA Executive Director or his/her designee.

800. Rankings for Officials

801. Rankings

801.01 Designations and Criteria.

(1) Each FHSAA official will be ranked each year by the FHSAA Office, with the exception of track & field and swimming & diving officials. The rankings to be used for this purpose are: Rank 1; Rank 2; and Rank 3.

(2) Rankings will be determined according to the following criteria:

- (a) Score on the current year's FHSAA rules examination;
- (b) Completed years of experience as a high school official to date;

801.02 Definitions and Qualifications.

(1) **Rank 1 Official.** A Rank 1 Official is that individual who has demonstrated consistent superior performance over a sustained period of time. This official is at the top of his/her peer group and has met standards of performance in excess of those required of Rank 2 and Rank 3 officials. The qualifications for a Rank 1 Official are as follows:

- (a) The official must score a 90 or better on the FHSAA rules examination for that year;
- (b) Completed the exam within the initial deadline window.
- (c) The official must have a minimum of seven (7) completed years' experience as a high school official, either with the FHSAA or another state association that is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations.

(2) **Rank 2 Official.** A Rank 2 Official is that individual who has demonstrated the competence and gained the experience necessary to officiate at all levels of athletic competition in his/her sport. This official is in the broad middle range of his/her peer group. The qualifications for a Rank 2 Official are as follows:

- (a) The official must score an 80 or better on the FHSAA rules examination for that year;
- (b) Completed the exam within the initial deadline window.
- (c) The official must have a minimum of three (3) completed years' experience as a high school official, either with the FHSAA or another state association that is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations.

(3) **Rank 3 Official.** A Rank 3 Official is an individual who has not met the minimum qualifications to become a Rank 2 official in a given year.

801.03 Transferring from Another State Association. An official who transfers his/her registration from another state association that is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations and who meets all FHSAA qualifications will be assigned a ranking by the FHSAA Office in accordance with his/her record in the previous state association. Documentation from the previous state association must be received on the state association's official letterhead for verification of the official's grade on the rule's examination for the current year, rules clinic attendance for the current year, number of contests officiated during the previous year and completed years of experience to date. The official must submit this information for processing within thirty (30) days of his/her registration with the FHSAA. If received and processed later than 30 days after registration, the official may

be credited in the next year of registration.

802. Officials Recognition Program

802.01 Purpose. The FHSAA will operate an official's recognition program through which deserving officials will be recognized for (1) meritorious achievement; (2) milestones in years of service as a high school official; and (3) selection to officiate an FHSAA state championship event.

802.02 Meritorious Achievement. The meritorious achievement award will be presented to each official who qualifies under the following criteria in the same one year: (1) 10 or more years completed service; (2) Rank 1 status; and (3) a score of 95 or better on the rule's examination. The award, which will be in the form of a commemorative certificate, will be presented only one time in his/her career in each sport.

802.03 Milestones in Years of Service. Officials will be recognized by the FHSAA when they reach different milestones in years of service as follows: 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years. Officials will be presented certificates commemorating this award at each of these marks.

802.04 Officiating State Championship Event. Officials may purchase FHSAA Finals contest official souvenir rings through the FHSAA-approved vendor.

900. Officiating Fees

901. Establishing Fees

901.01 Agreements with Schools.

(1) Officiating fees should be agreed upon by negotiations between local officials' associations and the member schools that they serve.

(2) The FHSAA requires that local officials' associations enter into a written agreement or contract with each school, district school board, conference, league, etc. that the association serves during the regular season. This document should contain all financial terms and conditions, as well as detail the obligations of both parties. Events requiring sanction from the FHSAA Office and/or NFHS must be submitted under a separate contract and may have no bearing on the regular season contract. District tournament assignment as in s.301 may not be included in the regular season contract. The agreement shall require the signatures of the authorized representatives of both parties. Each local official's association shall submit a copy of its contract to the FHSAA Assistant Executive Director for Athletic Services not later than one full calendar week prior to the start of regular season competition.

(3) The accomplishment of any agreement or contract can be complete only when the fee or fees agreed upon are within the ability of the school to pay and

are also commensurate with the services rendered. Any agreed upon fees must be within the maximum allowed by the FHSAA official pay scale.

902. Maximum Pay Scale

902.01 Fees. In all cases, the agreed upon fees are the maximum fees, inclusive of the game plus travel, that may be paid by any FHSAA member school to any FHSAA registered officials association. This fee structure does not preclude the payment of lower fees, if agreed upon.

Baseball			
Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity	\$99.00	\$109.00	\$119.00
Sub-Varsity	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$95.00
State Series			
District Tournament	\$109.00		
Regional Tournament	\$119.00		
FHSAA Finals	\$129.00		

Basketball (both genders)			
Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity	\$93.00	\$103.00	\$113.00
Sub-Varsity	\$70.00	\$80.00	\$90.00
State Series			
District Tournament	\$103.00		
Regional Tournament	\$113.00		
FHSAA Finals	\$123.00		

Flag Football

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity (3 Officials)	\$64.00	\$74.00	\$84.00
Sub-Varsity (3 Officials)	\$59.00	\$69.00	\$79.00

State Series

District Tournament	\$74.00
Regional Tournament	\$84.00
FHSAA Finals	\$94.00

Football

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity (field officials)	\$125.00	\$135.00	\$145.00
Sub-Varsity (field officials)	\$86.00	\$96.00	\$106.00
Clock Operator	\$77.00	\$87.00	\$97.00

State Series

Regional Tournament (field official)	\$145.00
Regional Tournament (clock)	\$87.00
State Semifinal (field official)	\$155.00
State Semifinal (clock)	\$97.00
FHSAA Finals (field)	\$165.00
FHSAA Finals (clock)	\$107.00

Lacrosse (both genders)

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity	\$93.00	\$103.00	\$113.00
Sub-Varsity	\$79.00	\$89.00	\$99.00

State Series

District Tournament	\$103.00
Regional Tournaments	\$113.00
FHSAA Finals	\$123.00
FHSAA Finals (4th Official)	\$80.00

Soccer (both genders)

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity	\$89.00	\$99.00	\$109.00
Varsity- AR	\$79.00	\$89.00	\$99.00
Sub-Varsity	\$74.00	\$84.00	\$94.00
Sub-Varsity- AR	\$64.00	\$74.00	\$84.00

State Series

District Tournament (Center)	\$99.00
District Tournament (AR)	\$89.00
Regional Tournament (Center)	\$109.00
Regional Tournament (AR)	\$99.00
Regional Tournament (4th Official)	\$65.00
FHSAA Finals (Center)	\$119.00
FHSAA Finals (AR)	\$109.00
FHSAA Finals (4th Official)	\$75.00

Softball

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity	\$90.00	\$100.00	\$110.00
Sub-Varsity	\$70.00	\$80.00	\$90.00

State Series

District Tournament	\$100.00
Regional Tournament	\$110.00
FHSAA Finals	\$120.00

Swimming and Diving

Regular Season

Contract directly with schools

State Series

Stroke and Turn Judge	\$83.00
Chief Judge	\$83.00
Starter/Admin	\$93.00
Meet Referee	\$108.00

Track and Field

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Meet Referee	\$164.00	\$174.00	\$184.00
Starter and Clerks	\$144.00	\$154.00	\$164.00
Field and Running Judges	\$92.00	\$102.00	\$112.00
Weights and Measurements	\$48.00	\$58.00	\$68.00

State Series

District Meet Referee	\$176.00
District Starter and Clerks	\$155.00
District Field and Running Judges	\$104.00
District Weights and Measures	\$60.00
Region Meet Referee	\$196.00
Region Starter and Clerks	\$178.00
Region Field and Running Judges	\$122.00
Region Weights and Measures	\$77.00
State Meet Referee	\$223.00
State Meet Starter, Clerks and Awards Stewards	\$205.00
State Meet Umpire	\$155.00
State Meet Judge	\$133.00
State Meet Weights and Measures	\$133.00

Volleyball (both genders)

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity Referees (3 out of 5)	\$84.00	\$94.00	\$104.00
Line Judges (3 out of 5)	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$65.00
Varsity Tournament Referees (2 of 3)	\$68.00	\$78.00	\$88.00

Line Judges (2 of 3)	\$40.00	\$50.00	\$60.00
Sub-Varsity Referee	\$64.00	\$74.00	\$84.00
Sub-Varsity Line Judge	\$35.00	\$45.00	\$55.00

State Series

District Tournament Referee	\$94.00
District Tournament Line Judge	\$55.00
Regional Tournament Referee	\$104.00
Regional Tournament Line Judge	\$65.00
FHSAA Finals State Tournament Referee	\$114.00
FHSAA Finals State Tournament Line Judge	\$75.00

Water Polo (both genders)

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity	\$62.00	\$72.00	\$82.00
Sub-Varsity	\$53.00	\$63.00	\$73.00

State Series

District Tournament	\$72.00
Regional Tournament	\$82.00
FHSAA Finals	\$92.00

Wrestling

Regular Season	Under 50 miles	50-74 miles	75+ miles
Varsity Meets/Duals (inc. Tourns.)	\$97.00	\$107.00	\$117.00
Sub-Varsity Meets	\$87.00	\$97.00	\$107.00
Per match wrestled IBT-Varsity	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
Per match wrestled IBT-Sub-Varsity	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Weigh-ins IBT/Dual	\$36.00	\$46.00	\$56.00

State Series

1st Day – Dist. Tourn IBT	\$146.00
2nd Day – Dist. Tourn IBT	\$68.00
Weigh-ins – Dist. Tourn IBT	\$35.00

Dual – Dist. Tourn	\$108.00
Weigh-ins - Dual Dist. Tourn	\$47.00
1st Day - Reg Tourn IBT	\$169.00
2nd Day - Reg Tourn IBT	\$90.00
Weigh-in - Reg Tourn IBT	\$59.00
1st Day - State IBT	\$210.00
2nd Day - State IBT	\$210.00
3rd Day - State IBT	\$101.00
Weigh-in - State IBT	\$70.00
1st Day - Dual Reg	\$119.00
Weigh-in - Dual Reg	\$59.00
1st Day - Dual State	\$248.00
2nd Day - Dual State	\$248.00
Weigh-in Dual State	\$70.00

902.02 Booking Fees.

Booking Fees for Preseason and Regular Season		
	Fee per Home Game	Football per home game
Middle School (Per Gender):	\$8.00	\$15.00
Sub Varsity (Per Gender):	\$10.00	\$20.00
Varsity (Per Gender):	\$12.00	\$25.00

Wrestling Booking fees:	1-6 officials - \$25	7-10 officials - \$50
	11-15 officials - \$75	16+ officials - \$100

Late Deadline to Submit Schedule or Enter Into Arbiter	
\$100.00	

Late Deadline to Submit Payment	
\$200.00	

Online Schedule Entry Fee: (Arbiter/other online software)	
\$50.00	If school chooses to have association enter

Official Scratches:	
\$50.00	Per Official - Max 3 (If association allows scratches)

Game Change Fees (unless related to weather/safety/security):	
10+ days before a match / game	\$0.00
9 days and under before a match / game	\$25.00

Game Day Cancellation complete referee crew will be paid, unless it's related to safety / security / weather

902.03 Mileage.

(1) State Series.

Districts: Sixty (60) cents per mile, one way, per officiating crew. Two vehicles per playoff crew are permitted in football for state series contests.

Regionals/State Tournament: Eighty-Nine (89) cents per mile, one way,

per officiating crew. Two vehicles per playoff crew are permitted in football and track & field for state series contests.

(a) Per FHSAA discretion, mileage may/may not be paid depending on the sport(s).

903.01 Suspended Contests. If a game is suspended due to weather or other uncontrollable events, the officiating crew will receive the full travel fee and half of the game fee. The officiating crew will receive another full travel fee and the remaining game fee for the continuation of the contest the following day(s). In the event there are multiple suspensions, the officiating crew will always receive a full travel free if they arrive at the facility. The FHSAA Staff will make the final determination on payment.

1000. FHSAA Athletic Regulations That Apply to Officials

1001. General Policies and Regulations

1001.01 Playing Rules. Unless waived by at least a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors, the rules published by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), or those approved by it, shall be the official rules for interscholastic athletic competition in all sports. (Bylaw 8.2.1) All NFHS contest official's mechanics manuals will be adopted, unless otherwise noted for a specific sport.

1001.02 Protests of Officials Decisions Not Allowed. Any decision made by a contest official shall not be contested. The decisions of the contest officials are final. (Bylaw 8.1.2)

1001.03 Interrupted or Suspended Outdoor Contests.

(1) **Storms.** If a severe thunderstorm or electrical storm occurs in the area prior to the start of or during any outdoor contest, the officials must immediately contact the principal, or his/her designee, of each school involved to determine if the contest should be played as scheduled, delayed, suspended or postponed. If the principal, or his/her designee, of either of the schools involved requests that the contest be interrupted or postponed, the officials must immediately honor such request. If the principal, or his/her designee, of only one of the competing schools is available, his/her request must be honored. In the event that neither the principal nor his/her designee is present, the head coach will be presumed to be the principal's designee. (Policy 32.1).

(2) **Safety is Paramount.** The safety and welfare of all concerned is of paramount importance. In no case may an official deny a request by a principal, or his/her designee, to delay, suspend or postpone an outdoor contest due to inclement weather or imply that the contest will be forfeited as a result of such a request. (Policy 32.2)

(3) **Suspended Contests.** A suspended contest shall be resumed from

the point of interruption. Otherwise, National Federation Rules regarding the resumption of suspended contests will apply. (Policy 32.3)

1001.04 Sideline Cheerleading Policy for Indoor Contests. The following policy on sideline cheerleaders must be governed by officials with regard to indoor contests:

(1) Sideline cheerleaders must remain in their seats along the sidelines at all times when the ball is alive, or a contest is in progress. (Policy 33.2.1)

(2) Officials are responsible for the enforcement of this regulation. First offense – warning; Second and subsequent offense(s) – technical foul in basketball; awarding of point against violating school in volleyball and wrestling. (Policy 33.2.2)

1001.05 Policy on Alcohol and Tobacco Products. The use of alcohol, tobacco or tobacco-like products by student-athletes, coaches and officials is prohibited during the contest and in the vicinity of the playing field or court. A student-athlete in violation of this policy is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, will be ejected from the contest, and will be suspended from subsequent contests for a period of up to six weeks in accordance with the FHSAA Policy on Unsportsmanlike Conduct. Additionally, the official must report any violation of this policy by either a student-athlete or coach to the FHSAA Office. Violation of this policy by a student-athlete or coach will subject the school to a monetary penalty. Violation of this policy by an official will subject the official to a monetary penalty or suspension or both. (Policy 31.1)

1001.06 Bands, Noisemakers, Signs at State Series Contests.

(1) With the exception of football and flag football, bands will not be allowed to play at state series tournaments/meets in outdoor sports. Bands are prohibited at football district tiebreakers. With the exception of basketball, bands will not be allowed to play at state series tournaments/meets in indoor sports. (Administrative Procedure 2.1.5) In Basketball, bands must not play when the ball is live, including free throws. Bands may play only during pre-game warm-ups, timeouts, and halftime.

(2) Whistles, or artificial noisemaking devices that mimic or simulate a game whistle, air horns, and all other artificial or mechanical noisemaking devices, are prohibited in all state series events. (Administrative Procedure 2.1.4)

1001.07 Dressing Facilities. The host school for each state series contest beyond the district tournament shall provide contest officials with a secure and adequate dressing room (one each for mixed gender crews) with properly operating bathroom facilities including showers with warm water at the site of the contest. If the site does not have such facilities, the host school shall

obtain and provide at its expense an appropriate hotel/motel room(s) reasonably close to the site. The host school is required to complete dressing room arrangements and have the information available to the referee or umpire-in-chief at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest. It is the responsibility of the head referee or umpire-in-chief to contact the school administration at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest to verify the arrangements for the contest. The referee or umpire-in-chief shall report in writing to the FHSAA Office the failure of any host school to provide dressing facilities as required. (Policy 27.9)

2000. Sport-Specific Regulations

2001. Officiating Crews

2001.1 Regular Season. The officiating crew size listed below is the minimum number of officials to be used. The use of additional officials is optional to the school and as agreed to on the game contract between schools.

2001.1.1 Baseball. 2 umpires

2001.1.2 Basketball. 2 referees

2001.1.3 Flag Football. 3 officials

2001.1.4 Football. 5 officials plus 1 clock operator

2001.1.5 Lacrosse. 2 officials

2001.1.6 Soccer. 2 officials

2001.1.7 Softball. 2 umpires

2001.1.8 Volleyball. 2 referees

2001.1.9 Water Polo. 2 referees

2001.1.10 Wrestling. 1 referee

2001.2 State Series

2001.2.1 Baseball. 3 umpires

2001.2.2 Basketball. 3 referees

2001.2.3 Flag Football. 4 officials

2001.2.4 Football. 5 officials plus 1 clock operator for district tiebreakers, 7 officials plus 1 clock operator for remainder of state series

2001.2.5 Lacrosse. 3 officials

2001.2.6 Soccer. 1 referee, 2 side referees and 4th official for Regionals and beyond.

2001.2.7 Softball. 3 umpires

2001.2.8 Swimming. 1 meet referee

2001.2.9 Track & Field. For all meets with seven (7) or more schools, at least one (1) registered FHSAA Track & Field official is required.

2001.2.10 Volleyball. 2 referees and 2-line judges

2001.2.11 Water Polo. 2 referees

2001.2.112 Wrestling. 1 referee for district (optional assistant referee), 1 referee plus 1 assistant referee for region and FHSAA Finals semifinals, last round of region wrestlebacks, region consolation and championship finals.

2002. Baseball Regulations

2002.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Umpire Crew.** A minimum of two umpires is required for all regular season baseball games.

(2) **Suspended Game.** A game called for any reason (darkness, rain, mechanical failure, or other conditions) where a winner cannot be determined, or any game called at any time for mechanical failure (i.e. artificial lights, water systems, etc.) will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, with the lineup and batting order of each team the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of the game. (NFHS Rule 4-2-4 Note).

(3) **Completed Game.** A game that has been called because of darkness, rain, mechanical or other conditions after four-and-one-half or five innings have been completed will be declared a completed game if a winner can be determined.

(4) **Sub-varsity Limitations.** In sub-varsity baseball games, no new inning shall start two hours after the first pitch of the game. Any inning in progress shall be completed. Exception 1: in a game delayed by weather, the delay time shall be added to the 2-hour timeframe. Example: Game starts at 3 p.m. and between the top and bottom of the third inning there is a 45-minute rain delay. No new inning will start after 5:45 p.m. Exception 2: when another game is not scheduled to follow the current game, if the score is tied after the two-hour limit has been reached, additional inning(s) shall be played to resolve the tie. Exception 3: Saturday games. In a double-header situation (ex. A Varsity contest following a sub-varsity contest), at the end of the two-hour time limit, if the score is tied, the contest will end in a tie.

2002.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Umpire Crew.** Three umpires will be used for all State Series baseball games.

(2) **Pregame Warm-up for District, Regional Games.** Each team will be allowed 15 minutes for infield practice before each game. No batting practice will be permitted on the playing field. Batting practice may be conducted on an auxiliary field if one is available.

(3) **Pregame Warm-up for State Tournament.** Each team will be allowed 10 minutes for infield practice before each game. Infield practice time may be reduced or eliminated due to existing field conditions. No batting practice will be permitted on the playing field. Batting practice may be conducted on an auxiliary field if one is available.

(4) **Official Ball for Regional Finals and State Tournament.** The official ball of the FHSAA Baseball Finals is the Wilson A1010 HS1. Schools can use any NFHS approved baseball during the regular season.

2002.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption and other modifications, have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-2-9 Note.** A double first base is permitted.

- **1-4-4.** Commemorative or memorial patches permitted with written approval of FHSAA Office.

- **2-33-1.** Speed-up rules may be exercised by either or both head coaches without any need for agreement.

- **4-2-2.** The 10-run rule will be in effect after four-and-one half or five complete innings.

- **4-2-2.** The 15-run rule will be in effect after three-and-one half or four complete innings.

- **4-2-4.** A game that has been called because of weather, mechanical failure or other conditions in which a winner cannot be determined will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, subject to the rules of the game. A game that has been called because of weather, mechanical failure, or other conditions after four and one-half innings or five innings have been completed will be declared a completed game.

- **4-5-1.** Decision of the officials is final. No protests allowed.

Coaches' Helmets. While occupying the first and third base coaches' box, a coach must wear a non-ear flap style helmet.

2003. Basketball Regulations

2003.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A minimum of two officials (referee and umpire) is required for all interscholastic basketball games. The use of three officials is recommended. However, crews of three officials will be mandatory for a minimum of six boys and three girls' varsity home basketball games at each school during the regular season. The decisions of the game officials shall be final. No protests will be allowed. It is recommended that officials

should not officiate more than two games within the same day.

2003.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Three officials will be used for all State Series basketball games.

(2) **Pregame Warm-up:** The warm-up period for all district, regional and state tournament games will be 15 minutes.

(3) **Official Ball for State Tournament:** The Wilson NCAA Official Game Basketball (29.5) (Boys) and the Wilson NCAA Official Game Basketball (28.5) (Girls) are the official balls of the FHSAA Basketball Finals.

2003.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-12-1 Note.** Either size ball approved for junior high competition.
- **1-12-3.** Adopted specific ball mandated for state finals.
- **2-3; 5-12-5.** TV or radio timeouts may be authorized.
- **3-5 Note.** The use of artificial limb must be approved in writing by the FHSAA Office.
 - **3-5-2e.** Medical documentation is required.
 - **3-5-3 Ex.** The authorized use of a head covering provided it meets authorized criteria and is approved by the FHSAA.
 - **5-4-3.** Interrupted games.
 - **5-5 Note.** Mercy Rule: At any point during the second half when a differential of 35 points or 30 points in games played in 6-minute quarters is reached, the game clock shall begin to run continuously during jump ball possessions, held ball situations, fouls, violations, out-of-bounds plays and free throw shooting situations (non-technical foul free throws) for the duration of the game. The game clock shall be stopped only for timeouts, injuries, administration of technical fouls, or if the officials need to address a situation that requires excessive time to resolve.
- **10-2 & 3 Note.** The second technical charged to a player is not automatically considered flagrant when both violations carry the penalty of a technical foul. [i.e., dunking before the game and delay of game by touching or dislodging the ball on the throw-in, (9-2 Pen. 3).] The player would be disqualified for the remainder of the contest.

2004. Flag Football Regulations

2004.01 Playing Rules. FHSAA Flag Football Rules, are the official rules for all regular season games involving teams participating in the invitational state series as well as invitational FHSAA state series games.

2004.02 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** The game shall be played under the supervision

of 2 to 4 officials. It is recommended strongly that 3 officials be used during regular season competition.

2004.03 State Series.

(1) **Athletic Uniform:** The home team shall wear the darker-colored jersey. The visiting team shall wear the lighter-colored jersey. It is recommended that each participating team bring to the competition site two sets of jerseys (one dark, one light) with identical numbers.

Commercial advertising, with the exception of the manufacturer's logo, is prohibited on all athletic uniforms.

(2) **Size of Officials Crew:** A crew of four (4) officials must be used in all invitational FHSAA state series games.

(3) **Pregame Warm-up:** The warm-up period for all district tournament and FHSAA State Series games will be 15 minutes.

(4) **Official Ball for State Tournament:** The Wilson TDY Youth Leather Football is the official ball of the FHSAA Flag Football Finals. No other ball may be used by any team at the state tournament.

2004.04 FHSAA Rules

(1) The game shall be played under the supervision of 2 to 4 officials. It is recommended strongly that 3 officials be used during regular season competition. Four officials shall be used during FHSAA State Flag Football Series contests.

(2) A 2-yard belt is required to be marked around the perimeter of the field. A non-player shall not be outside the team box unless to become a player or to return as a replaced player. No player, non-player or coach shall be in the restricted area when the ball is live.

(3) Players of opposing teams must wear contrasting solid-colored jerseys, without pockets, numbered on the front and back. Numbers must be the same color on the front and back of the jersey. The number on the front of the jersey must be a minimum of 6 inches in height and centered. The number on the back of the jersey must be a minimum of 8 inches in height and centered. Numbers must be of solid color contrasting with the color of the shirt. The number may have a contrasting color border, which shall not exceed 1/4 inch. No players on the same team shall wear identical numbers.

(4) A mouth piece shall be worn by all players.

(5) Players shall not be permitted to wear sunglasses.

(6) The FHSAA disapproves of any form of taunting that is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances, including comments or remarks regarding race, religion, gender or national origin.

2005. Football Regulations

2005.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Length of Quarters:** The length of quarters must not exceed:

- Combination Seventh & Eighth Grade Games – Eight (8) minutes
- Combination Seventh, Eighth & Ninth Grade Games – 10 Minutes

• Junior Varsity Games & Varsity Games – 12 Minutes

(2) **Length of Halftime:** The halftime for any football game must not exceed 20 minutes in length. This 20-minute period includes all halftime activities and the mandatory three-minute warm-up. Clock operators will set the halftime clock at 17 minutes and will not start the clock until signaled by the referee after all team personnel have vacated the field. Once the 17 minutes have expired, an additional three minutes will be placed on the clock for the mandatory warm-up period. Marching bands are entitled to the field for the full 17-minute period. Teams may take their three-minute warm-up in the end zones if the bands are still on the field after the 17-minute clock has expired.

(3) **Tiebreaker:** The tiebreaker plan which is described in the National Federation Football Rules Book must be used in all football jamborees, pre-season classics, regular season games and state series games which end in a tie. However, the Executive Director may waive the use of the tie-breaker in football jamborees or preseason classics upon written request of the host school principal, provided the request is based on the unanimous desire of the coaches of the participating schools.

(4) **Mandatory Water Breaks:** The referee must call an uncharged one-minute timeout at the first clock stoppage after the 6:30 minute mark of each quarter. If the first clock stoppage is a timeout request by either team, then that timeout is granted and the next clock stoppage that is not a requested team timeout becomes the water break. Coaches may meet with their players during this timeout. This rule must be enforced in all games up to and including the regular season and playoffs, including both fall and spring preseason classics and jamborees.

(5) **Use of “Wireless Microphone” by Referee:** The referee of a varsity football game may wear a “wireless mic” during any game under the following provisions:

(a) That both coaches agree to use the system prior to the start of the game.

(b) Only the type foul and the distance penalty may be given.

(c) A player’s name, position or number may never be given.

(d) The information is given after the captain has made his decision to accept or decline the penalty.

(6) **Jamborees:** FHSAA officials must be used. The Association suggests a different crew of officials be used for each quarter. Officials often donate their services for jamborees and use these contests for training. Regulation football rules must be used. Each period must start with a kickoff. Each team may request two timeouts per period. Each team may participate in a maximum of two 12-minute quarters, excluding tie breakers. Opponents need not be different in each quarter. Pregame procedures, such as marching captains to center of field and flipping coins should be avoided in order to conserve time. Decide in advance which team will kick and which team will receive for each quarter.

(7) **Mercy Rule:** If one team is ahead by a margin of 35 points or more at the end of the second quarter, the clock shall run continuously. Once the running

clock is initiated, it shall run continuously with the exception of during any timeout taken by a team or officials, injuries, unsporting conduct penalties, and during the period between quarters.

(8) **Pregame Warm-ups:** A school's team shall warm up in an area between the end line and the 45-yard line on the side of the field to which it is assigned for pregame warm-ups by the host school management. Enforcement of this policy shall be the responsibility of the host school management until the jurisdiction of the game officials begins. A violation of this policy shall be considered an act of unsporting conduct and shall be penalized pursuant to NFHS Rules.

2005.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Seven field officials and one registered clock operator will be used for all state series. Seven (7)-person crews shall follow the Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) crew of 7-person mechanics football officiating manual. If an association's recommendation committee places a registered timer on a playoff crew as exclusive timer only, that association must also provide an additional alternate field official at no cost to the FHSAA or participating schools. The alternate field official will be paid by that alternate's association. The alternate field official would be expected to accompany the playoff crew and be prepared to step onto the field in the event of an injury to a working official.

(2) **Official Ball for State Series Games:** The Wilson 1003, 1004 or 1005. No other footballs may be used by any team.

2005.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-1-4 Note. Size of Officials Crew:** Five (5) field officials and one clock operator will be used for all varsity football games, with the exception of all state series contests.

- **1-3-1g Note. Size of Ball:** A smaller ball may be used for eighth grade games and below.

- **1-3-2 Note. Official Ball:** The FHSAA has adopted a specific ball for use in the FHSAA Finals [see s.2005.02(2)].

- **1-3-7. Supplemental Equipment:** Supplementary equipment to aid in game administration may be used (e.g., 25-second clock, referee microphone).

- **1-3-7. Play Clock:** If a visible 25-second clock is used it shall be operated by a registered official.

- **1-3-7. Wireless Microphone:** Use of a "wireless microphone" by the referee is permitted as follows: (a) The head coach of both teams must agree to the referee's use of the system prior to the start of the game; (b) Only the type foul and the distance penalty may be announced by the referee; (c) A player's name, position or number may never be announced; and (d) The information is not announced until after the captain has made his decision to

accept or decline the penalty.

- **1-5-2d. Artificial Limbs:** The use of artificial limbs is authorized on an individual player basis. The school must provide the referee with written approval from the FHSAA Office.

- **1-5-3(b) Note 1. Hearing Impaired Players:** Teams with hearing impaired player(s) may use a drum to establish cadence following the ready-for-play signal.

- **1-5-3c. Written Authorization:** The specified written authorization must be date specific with a copy held on file at the school.

2006. Lacrosse Regulations

2006.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew.** A minimum of two officials is required for all regular season lacrosse games.

(2) **Suspended Game.** A game called for any reason (rain, mechanical failure, or other conditions) where a winner cannot be determined, or any game called at any time for mechanical failure (i.e. artificial lights, water systems, etc.) will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, with the lineup of each team the same as the lineup at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of the game.

(3) **Completed Game.** A game that has been called because of rain, mechanical or other conditions after one half or more of the game has been completed will be declared a completed game if a winner can be determined.

2006.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew.** Three officials will be used for all State Series lacrosse games.

(2) **Pregame Warm-up.** The warm-up period for all district, play-in, and state tournament games will be 20 minutes.

2006.03 FHSAA Rules Modifications.

(1) **Playing Rules.** NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rules and U.S. Lacrosse Women's Rules, as modified or amended by the FHSAA, are the official rules for all regular season games involving teams participating in the state series as well as the FHSAA State Lacrosse contests. The following modifications or amendments have been adopted by the FHSAA.

Boys Lacrosse

- **1-5.** Each home team shall supply a minimum of thirteen (13) new white lacrosse balls bearing the NFHS approved authenticating mark.

- **3-1-1.** Sub-varsity games shall be played in four (4) ten (10) minute quarters unless otherwise stated in the game contract.

- **3-5.** A lacrosse game that has completed two quarters or more of play is an official game. A game that has been called because of weather or

darkness prior to the second quarter being completed is a suspended game and, if played, shall restart from the point of suspension. (See also FHSAA Policy 34: Policy on Inclement Weather.)

- **5-12 PEN: 7-12 Delete** “The ejected player ... must be removed from the premises....If there is authorized school personnel present.”

Girls Lacrosse

- **2-1. The Ball.** Each home team shall supply a minimum of thirteen (13) new yellow lacrosse balls bearing the NFHS approved authenticating mark.

- **2-7.** Artificial Limbs are permitted which are no more dangerous to players than the corresponding human limb and do not place the opponent at a disadvantage. Written permission must be obtained from the FHSAA Office.

- **2-7.** A hearing instrument may be used to enhance the efficiency of a required aid prescribed by a licensed medical physician, provided it is not dangerous to the wearer or any other player. Written permission must be obtained from the FHSAA Office.

- **2-7-3. Mandatory Equipment.** All girls' lacrosse field players are required to wear protective headgear that meets the current ASTM standard for women's lacrosse (ASTM 3137) during all competitions. All headgear must be permanently labeled with the SEI certification mark. More information regarding the required headgear can be found on the FHSAA website.

- **4-1-1. Duration of Play.** Sub-varsity games shall be forty (40) minutes divided into four (4) quarters unless otherwise stated in the game contract.

- **4-1-1. Duration of Play.** The length of games at the varsity level cannot be adjusted or changed, unless an emergency situation would cause both head coaches to mutually agree to shorten the game.

- **4-1-1. Suspended/Interrupted Game.** A regular season lacrosse game that has completed one-half or more of play is an official game. A game that has been called because of weather or darkness prior to the first half being completed is a suspended game and, if played, shall restart from the point of suspension. (See also FHSAA Policy 34: Policy on Inclement Weather)

- **12-8 Ejection Penalties.** Anyone receiving two yellow cards in the game will be suspended from further participation in that game but will not be prohibited from participating in the team's next game. Anyone receiving a red card will be suspended from further participation in that game and will be prohibited from participating in the team's next two games minimum, with possible further suspension to follow.

2007. Soccer Regulations

2007.01. Rankings for FHSAA Soccer Officials

2007.01.1 Designations and Criteria.

(1) Each FHSAA soccer official will be ranked every year by the FHSAA Office. The rankings to be used for this purpose are: Rank 1; Rank 2; and Rank 3.

(2) Rankings will be determined according to the following criteria:

- (a) Score on the FHSAA Soccer Evaluation, which is effective for two years after completion;
- (b) Score on the current year's FHSAA rules examination;
- (c) Completed years of experience as a high school official to date;

2007.01.2 Definitions and Qualifications.

(1) **Rank 1 Official.** A Rank 1 Official is an individual who has demonstrated consistent superior performance over a sustained period of time. This official is at the top of his/her peer group and has met standards of performance in excess of those required of Rank 2 and Rank 3 officials. The qualifications for a Rank 1 Official are as follows:

- (a) The official must earn 90 or higher on FHSAA rules examination.
- (b) Complete the exam during the initial window of the exam window.
- (c) The official must score a 4 or 5 on FHSAA evaluation.
- (d) The official must have 4 or more years of previous experience as a high school official.

(2) **Rank 2 Official.** A Rank 2 Official is an individual who has demonstrated the competence and gained the experience necessary to officiate at all levels of athletic competition in his/her sport. This official is in the broad middle range of his/her peer group. The qualifications for a Rank 2 Official are as follows:

- (a) The official must earn 80 or higher on the FHSAA rules examination.
- (b) Complete the exam during the initial window of the exam window.
- (c) The official must score at least a 3 on the FHSAA evaluation.
- (d) The officials must have 2 or more years of previous experience as a high school official.

(3) **Rank 3 Official.** A Rank 3 Official is an individual who doesn't meet the requirements of a rank 1 or 2 official.

2007.02. Regional & State Tournaments/Meets

2007.02.1 Assignments.

(1) The assignment of officials to officiate a regional tournament or meet, as well as a state tournament or meet, will be made by the FHSAA Office. These assignments may or may not be made from the list of officials compiled by the association's Recommendations Committee as required in s.2.1(2).

(2) The Recommendations Committee within each local official's association must compile and submit by the prescribed deadline to the FHSAA Office a list of member officials who deserve consideration for assignment to a regional tournament contest or state tournament contest. This list of recommended officials must be approved by majority vote of the local officials' association membership prior to its submission to the FHSAA Office.

2007.02.2 Criteria to be followed in Making Assignments. Those officials in each sport who have met the following criteria will be given priority consideration for selection to officiate State Series contests:

- (1) Officials who are classified by the FHSAA as Rank 1 or Rank 2 in the sport;
- (2) Officials who have scored “75” or above on the FHSAA evaluation and rules examination;
- (3) Officials who were selected to officiate a district tournament contest,
- (4) Officials who are recommended to the FHSAA Office by the local official’s association to which they belong. (The FHSAA Office may request the local association to submit regular season evaluations for recommended officials.)

2007.02.3 Payment of Fees for State Series Contest. The host member school will be notified of the appropriate fees to be paid to officials assigned to officiate State Series contests on the regional level. Checks in payment for officials’ services must be issued to the local official’s association to which the officials belong. Checks issued to officials’ associations for payment of state series games may be presented to the crew at the game site or mailed immediately to the association’s address.

2007.03 Regular Season.

(1) **Games:** Varsity and junior varsity soccer games will be played in two halves of 40 minutes. Sub-varsity teams may play two 30-minute halves upon mutual agreement of opposing schools. These requirements will apply to all regular season games as well as invitational tournaments.

(2) **Ties:** Regular season contests which end in a tie remain a tie. In the event of a tie in an invitational tournament game, the FHSAA soccer overtime procedure may be used.

(3) **Size of Officials Crew:** The official crew for regular season soccer games will consist of a minimum of two officials. The use of three officials for regular season games is optional. When three officials are utilized during competition, the Diagonal Officiating System shall be utilized.

(4) **Area Behind End Lines:** Officials shall keep areas behind the end lines clear of spectators and media representatives. Photographers may be permitted behind the end lines provided they are at least three yards behind the end lines on the corners and at least six yards behind the end lines near the goals. Photographers shall not be permitted to stand behind the goals when the ball is in play.

(5) **Pregame Warm-up:** Each team will have a 20-minute warm-up period prior to each game. Teams should arrive at the tournament site a minimum of 30 minutes prior to game time.

2007.04 State Series.

(1) **Games:** Varsity soccer games will be played in two halves of 40 minutes.

(2) **Ties:** All state series games that are tied at the end of regulation play

will be resolved according to the overtime procedure contained in s.2007.08.

(3) **Size of Officials Crew:** Three officials will be used for all FHSAA State Series soccer games. The Double-Dual System of Control will be utilized in all season games.

(4) **Pregame Warm-up:** Each team will have a 20-minute warm-up period prior to each game. Teams should arrive at the tournament site a minimum of 30 minutes prior to game time.

(5) **Official Ball for State Series:** The official ball of the FHSAA Soccer Finals is the Wilson Vivdo, however the use of the Wilson VEZA or the Wilson Forte Fybrid II are allowed to be used. The use of this ball will be mandatory by all teams in all games played in the state tournament. During the regular season and throughout the state series, with the exception of the state tournament, schools can use any ball with the NFHS stamp.

2007.05 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **4-1-1(e).** Compression/bicycle shorts may be worn under the uniform bottom in accordance with the National Federation rule. Such shorts, however, may not be worn in lieu of the uniform bottom.

- **6-2-1.** The official time will be kept by a contest official on the field, and if the stadium clock is available, it is unofficial.

- **7-1-3.** A soccer game that has completed one-half or more of play is an official game. A game that has been called because of weather or darkness prior to the first half being completed is a suspended game and, if played, shall restart from the point of suspension.

- **7-1-5.** A n eight (8) goal differential attained at end of the first half or secured at any point during the second half terminates the game. If an eight (8) differential is reached at any time during the first half, the game clock shall continue to run after goals are scored. Once the game clock starts running due to an eight-goal differential, the game clock must continue to run for the duration of the game.

The following modifications to NFHS Rules HAVE NOT been adopted by the FHSAA Board of Directors:

- **7-1-2.** Game-ending procedure or shortening game periods.

2007.06 Card System for Misconduct. Administration of the Card System for Misconduct in all contests must be administered as according to the NFHS Soccer Rulebook.

2007.07 Timeouts. There shall be a one-minute timeout in each half for re-hydration of players and for coaches to deal with player situations. Players shall remain on the field and there shall be no delay in substitution. Substitutes

may enter per NFHS Rule 3-3-1. The timeout shall occur when there is stoppage immediately prior to or after the 20-minute mark at the discretion of the referee when there is no immediate offensive scoring opportunity.

2007.08 Overtime Procedure. The overtime procedure to be used in the state series, as well as invitational tournament games, is as follows (Note: schools hosting invitational tournaments during the regular season may use this entire overtime procedure or go directly to penalty kicks as specified in s.2007.06(3):

(1) Following a five-minute interval, there shall be two (2) 10-minute overtime periods. A coin toss as specified in NFHS Rule 5-2-2(d)(3) shall be held in advance of the first overtime period. After the end of the first 10-minute overtime period, the teams shall change ends of the field and play a second 10-minute overtime period, after a two-minute interval between the first and second periods

(2) If a tie still exists following the second overtime period, the head coaches and team captains for both teams will meet with the officials at the halfway line to review the procedure for penalty kicks as follows:

(a) The referee will choose the goal at which all of the kicks from the penalty line will be taken.

(b) Each coach will select any five players, including the goalkeeper, on or off the field (except those who may have been disqualified) to take the penalty kicks.

(c) A coin toss will be held as in NFHS Rule 5-2-2(d)(3). The team winning the toss will have the choice of kicking first or second.

(d) Teams will alternate kickers. There is no follow-up on the kick.

(e) The defending team may change the goalkeeper prior to each penalty kick.

(f) The team scoring the greatest number of these kicks will be declared the winner.

(g) Add one goal to the winning team score and credit the team with a victory. An asterisk [*] may be placed by the team advancing to indicate the advancement was the result of a tie-breaker system.

(3) If the score remains tied after each team has had five penalty kicks:

(a) Each coach will select five different players than the first five who already have kicked to take the kicks in a sudden victory situation, wherein if one team scores and the other team does not score, the game is ended without more kicks being taken. If a team has fewer than 10 available players at the end of the first set of kicks from the penalty mark due to either injuries or disqualification, the coach must use all players who have not participated in the first five kicks. The coach may choose additional players from the first five kickers to ensure that five different players participate in the second set of kicks.

(b) If the score remains tied, continue the sudden victory kicks with the

coach selecting any five players to take the next set of alternating kicks. If a tie remains, repeat s.2007.08(3)(a).

(5) The Misconduct Procedure as listed in NFHS Rule 12.9 shall be in effect during the penalty kick phase of overtime.

2008. Softball Regulations

2008.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A minimum of two officials are required for all interscholastic softball games.

(2) **Length of Junior Varsity Games:** When varsity and junior varsity teams are scheduled to play back-to-back on the same date, at the same site, and on the same field, no new inning may be started in a junior varsity game after 1 1/2 hours. In situations where the field is properly lighted and there is ample time between junior varsity and varsity games, the junior varsity teams shall be permitted to play a regulation game of seven innings.

(3) **Suspended Game:** A game that has been called because of weather, mechanical failure or other conditions in which a winner cannot be determined will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, with the lineup and batting order of each team the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of the game.

(4) **Completed Game:** A game that has been called because of weather, mechanical failure or other conditions after four-and-one-half innings or five innings have been completed will be declared a completed game.

(5) **Coaches Boxes:** Please see NFHS rule 1-1-4, 3-5-2 and 3-5-3 for rules pertaining to the coaches' box.

(6) **Game Ball:** The game ball as specified in National Federation Rule 1-3 shall be used and the COR shall not exceed .47.

(7) **Pitching Warm-up Areas:** Warm-up areas inside of the field are allowed provided the field has 25 feet or more from the foul line to the fence. All players (pitcher, catcher, protective player) must wear helmets, and an assistant coach or player must be present to protect the catcher/pitcher while the pitcher is warming up. Exception: A pitcher who is facing the field of play and can see all action may elect not to wear the helmet.

(8) **Tournament Time Limit:** For multi-team tournaments, the tournament director has the option to impose a two (2) hour time limit. No new inning shall start after two (2) hours provided the following conditions are met:

(a) All participating coaches are notified of the time limit when they register for the tournament; and

(b) All games MUST be played to four-and-one-half or five innings. If four-and-one-half are not complete after two hours, the game must continue past the time limit in order to complete the required number of innings.

2008.02 State Series.

(1) **Pregame Warm-Up:** Each team will be allowed 15 minutes for infield

practice before each game. No batting practice will be permitted on the playing field. Batting practice may be conducted on an auxiliary field if one is available.

(2) **Official Ball for State Series:** The Wilson A9011 is the official softball of the FHSAA Softball State Series (district, regional and state finals). No other softball may be used by any participating team during the State Series.

2008.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications.

(1) The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-2-1 Note.** Double first base is permitted.
- **4-2-3.** The 10-run rule will be in effect for 4 1/2 or 5 complete innings.
- **4-2-3.** The 15-run rule will be in effect after 2 1/2 or 3 complete innings.
- **4-2-3.** Time limit for sub-varsity level only [see s.2008.01(2)].
- **4-2-3.** A time limit shall not be used for varsity contests.
- **4-2-5.** Tie games are not permitted. If a game is tied and is called at

the completion of the fifth inning or any complete inning thereafter, it will be continued under the provisions of NFHS Rule 4-2-3 as a suspended game.

• **4-2-6.** Beginning in the top of the 8th inning the offensive team will begin the half-inning with a runner on second base - the runner will be the last batter scheduled to bat in this inning (for example, if the No. 6 batter is the lead-off batter, the No. 5 batter in the batting order will be placed on second base). Any eligible player may be substituted for this runner. At least one full inning is played, allowing each team the same chance to score. If the score remains tied, the same process is used in each inning until a victor emerges (one team scores more runs than the other at the end of a complete inning).

• **6-1-1.** Prior to starting the delivery (pitch), the pitcher shall take a position with her hands apart, her pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate, both feet on the ground within, or partially within, the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate. The stride foot may be on or behind the pitcher's plate as far back as desired. Once the pitcher initially sets the toe of her stride foot, she may not step back any farther to increase the distance behind the pitcher's plate.

• **6-1-1b** While in this position, the pitcher shall take (or simulate taking) a signal. The signal need not come from the catcher.

• **6-1-1c** After completing "b" above, the pitcher's hands must come together in view of the plate umpire for not more than five seconds. The hands do not have to come to a complete stop and, therefore, may be moving during the touch.

• **6-1-2b** Once the hands are brought together and are in motion, the pitcher shall not take more than one step which must be forward, toward the batter and simultaneous with the delivery.

2009. Swimming & Diving Regulations

2009.01 FHSAA Rule Modifications. NFHS Swimming & Diving Rules, as modified by the FHSAA, are the official rules for all swimming & diving con-

tests. The following modifications to those rules have been adopted by the FHSAA:

- **Whistles:** The use of whistles as preparatory commands is the method for all starts at all levels of competition.

- **1-3-14, 3-2-3. Declared false starts:** During Florida High School State Championship Series events, no declared false starts are permitted.

- **2-3-1, 2-7-2. Water depth:** In pools with a water depth at the starting end of less than five (5) feet, across all lanes, the start for all swimming events for all contestants must begin in the water. There will be no variances. In pools with a water depth of five (5) feet or more, across all lanes, starting platforms may be used in accordance with NFHS rules.

- **3-1-1. An Exception Report** shall be run both by event and by athlete prior to the start of all Florida High School State Championship events to verify there are no over entries either by individual athlete or by the total number of athletes allowed to enter in each event per team. In the event that an exception report is not run, only one report is run, or an over-entry is not caught, and a team over-enters participants, the first four participants listed alphabetically by the team will be advanced where an over-entry was discovered, and any remaining individuals will be disqualified.

- **3-1-2. Entries by team in dual meets:** Each team will be allowed a maximum of two entries per individual event and two entries per relay events in a pool with five lanes or less; a maximum of three entries per individual event and two entries per relay event in a pool with six or seven lanes; and a maximum of four entries per individual event and two entries per relay events in a pool with eight lanes or more. Only two designated relay teams may score for each team in each relay event.

- **3-2-1. Entries by individual:** A competitor will be permitted to enter a maximum of four (4) events, no more than two (2) of which may be individual events. Prelims and finals are considered the same event. If, however, a swimmer competes in only three (3) events in prelims, he/she could compete in those three events as well as an additional relay in finals provided he/she was designated on that relay entry card. In the event of an individual over-entry, all events in which s/he competed in excess of two individual events would be disqualified, in addition to any relays on which the over-entered individual competed.

- **3-2-1(a). Exhibitions:** Exhibition swimming & diving and/or practice diving during a regular season meet is allowed if all head coaches involved with the meet agree and determine which events will be exhibition swims. No exhibition events or entries are allowed during post season events.

- **3-2-3. Relay card procedures:** Relay athletes are to be listed left to right in the order that they will swim. Relay teams are to present completed card to the lane timer at the time of the swim. Names may not be added after preliminary heats have been completed. Only the names listed on the prelim card (up to 8) are eligible to swim in the finals.

- **3-3-1. Uniforms:** All uniform rules are to be followed when a competitor is present at any interscholastic competition site, including, but not limited to,

warm-up periods at all regular season and post-season events. No two-piece or bikini style suits will be allowed during warm-up periods during the FHSAA State Finals; A drag suit may be worn over a legal suit during the warm-up period. A competitor found in violation of this uniform policy will not be permitted to warm-up until the offending attire is replaced. Any uniform that is used by a swimmer must cover ALL of the buttocks and must be made of a material that does not become transparent when wet. Any competitor in violation of this rule will not be allowed to enter into competition until the offending attire is replaced; competitors found to be in violation of the uniform policy after entries have been submitted will not be permitted to warm-up until the offending attire is replaced. If a competitor is found in violation of this rule after entering an event, the competitor will be disqualified from that event and will not be allowed to participate further until the offending attire is replaced.

• **3-3-3. Competitors with Disabilities:** A competitor with a disability may request specific accommodation(s) in the start, strokes, turns etc. which does not require equipment, providing the accommodation(s) does not fundamentally alter the sport and/or no advantage is gained. Disability is defined as a permanent physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. The Referee has the authority to modify the rules for the competitor. Requests for accommodations that are not provided for in this section shall be requested through the FHSAA Office per NFHS Rule 3-3-3.

(a) **Responsibilities.**

• Swimmer — The swimmer (or the swimmer's coach) is responsible for notifying the Referee, prior to the competition, of any disability of the swimmer. The swimmer/coach shall provide any assistant(s) or equipment (tappers, deck mats, etc.) if required.

• Referee — The Referee's responsibilities include:

• Inquiring with regard to the swimmer's needs and determining what modifications will be utilized.

• Instructing the Starter and Stroke & Turn officials as to the accommodations to be made for that swimmer.

(b) **Modifications.** Some of the modifications which the Referee may make to accommodate the swimmer with a disability are:

• A change in starting position.

• Reassignment of lanes within a heat, e.g., exchanging Lanes 2 and 7.

• Allowing the swimmer's assistant(s) on the deck or in the water to assist with a start. Other allowable modifications are further described in this section under the type of disability.

(c) **Use of ID card for swimmers with a disability.** All swimmers with a disability, who have an International Paralympics Committee authorized classification, will be issued an ID card listing their specific International Paralympics Committee swimming rule exceptions on the reverse of the card. Swimmers shall be judged under these specific exceptions, when documentation is presented.

(d) **Blind and visually impaired.**

• Start — With an audible starting system, no modification is usually

required for a blind or visually-impaired swimmer. They may, however, require assistance getting to and on the block. Should they feel insecure starting from the block or deck, an in-the-water start may be allowed.

- **Turns and Finishes** — A blind or visually-impaired swimmer is permitted to have a “tapper”, which is a pole with a soft-tipped end. The swimmer is tapped with the “tapper” as notification of turns and the finish. Sound devices shall not be used. It is the swimmer’s responsibility to provide the tapper(s) and operator(s), who shall be positioned within the confines of the swimmer’s lane at the ends of the pool.

- **Relay Take-Offs** — A physical touch may be required to signal the relay swimmer when his/her teammate has touched the wall. The specific method may be tailored to the swimmer’s preference so long as it does not aid the swimmer’s take-off or interfere with the timing.

(e) **Deaf and hard of hearing.**

- Deaf and hard of hearing swimmers may require a visual starting signal, i.e., a strobe light (when available) and/or Starter’s arm signals. The Referee may reassign lanes within the swimmer’s heat, i.e., exchanging one lane for another, so that the strobe light or Starter’s arm signal can more readily be seen by the deaf or hard of hearing swimmer. Standard Starter’s arm signals are shown in Figure 1. A recall rope is required in the event of a heat being recalled.

- **Strobe light location (when available)**— The Starter shall advise the swimmers about the location of the strobe light and the light shall be located where the swimmers can clearly see it for the start. For backstroke starts, the light should be positioned so that the swimmers don’t have to turn their heads to look backwards.

(f) **Mentally impaired.** A deck or in-the-water start is allowable, and the swimmer may be permitted to have an assistant on the deck when necessary. No other specific rule modifications are required other than patience and clarity in communicating instructions.

(g) **Physical disabilities.**

- **Start** — Swimmers with physical disabilities: May take longer to assume their starting position;

- May not be able to hold onto the starting grips or gutter for a start;

- May need assistance on the deck or from in the water to maintain a starting position;

- May need to assume a modified starting position on the blocks, deck, gutter or in the water in order to maintain their balance.

- For freestyle, breaststroke and butterfly, a forward start (facing the course) shall be used. The Referee, however, may allow modifications such as the following:

- The swimmer may start from a sitting position on the block or on the deck;

- The swimmer may assume a starting position in the water, with or without assistance;

- If the swimmer cannot use a hand and/or foot to maintain contact with the wall, some other part of the body may be used.

- For breaststroke and butterfly, after the start and after each turn, a swimmer who is unable to push off with the leg(s) may perform one asymmetrical stroke to attain the breast position.

- Stroke/Kick — In judging the stroke or kick of a swimmer with a physical disability, the Referee and Stroke & Turn Judge should follow the general rule that: if a part of the body is absent or cannot be used, it is not judged; if it is used during the stroke or kick, it should be judged in accordance with the NFHS rules and Regulations. Judgments should be made based on the actual rule — not on the swimmer's technique. For example, the breaststroke swimmer with one arm or leg shorter than the other, may have a non-symmetrical stroke or kick, but as long as the arm or leg action is simultaneous, it would meet that portion of the rule. No flotation devices should be permitted.

- Turn/Finishes — Touches shall be judged in the same manner as strokes and kicks, i.e., on the basis of the arm(s) and/or hand(s) that the swimmer can use. In breaststroke and butterfly events, the swimmer must reach forward as if attempting a simultaneous two-hand touch. When a swimmer has a different arm length, only the longer arm must touch the wall, but both arms must be stretched forward simultaneously. Swimmers with no arms or with upper limbs too short to stretch above the head may touch the wall with any part of the upper body.

- Relays — Relay swimmers who cannot exit the water immediately may be allowed to remain in the lane until all relays have finished so long as they do not interfere with the other swimmers or the timing equipment.

- **3-3-4 Competitors** shall not wear or use any device or foreign substance to aid their speed, buoyancy or body compression. The following may be used within the stated conditions:

- a. A foreign substance may be applied if not considered excessive by the referee (if excessive, the referee shall require the competitor to remove). Adhesives are not allowed for swimmers of divers.

- b. Divers may wear tape or wraps for support.

Tape may be used by a swimmer to treat a documented medical condition. The referee must be presented signed documentation from an appropriate health-care professional that outlines information related to the injury and the medical necessity for the tape before permitting the athlete to compete. An excused absence from school note is NOT considered an acceptable form of documentation for the use of tape.

- **5-4-5. Alternate Qualifiers:** The next two highest non-qualifiers shall be named in order to guarantee a full complement of finalists. Alternate

qualifiers shall be used provided there is no delay in the meet. During the Florida High School State Championship Series, these alternates may be moved into the consolation finals. The final heats may be reseeded if the meet referee is notified prior to a lane vacancy and if time permits.

• **8-1-1,2. Starts:** All FHSAA events will utilize the NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Starters' Protocol for whistle starts.

• **8-1-4. No Recall Procedures:** No Recall Start Procedures will be conducted during all FHSAA swimming events. Meets are to be conducted according to the following protocol:

(a) **One Official.**

The official shall:

• Upon observing a false start, raise a hand with open palm as soon as possible after the start, but before the swimmers have completed their first length, indicating the violation.

• At the completion of the race, s/he shall notify the swimmer(s) and/or coach(es) of the disqualification.

(b) **Dual Confirmation.**

The referee shall:

• Upon observing a false start, record in writing the lane or lanes that have committed a false start.

• Compare written records with the starter and, upon confirming that both have observed the same violation, will disqualify the swimmer(s). S/he will also notify the swimmer(s) and/ or coach(es) of the violation.

The starter shall:

• Upon observing a false start, record in writing the lane or lanes that have committed a false start.

• Compare written records with the referee to confirm/not confirm the potential violation(s).

(c) **Recalling the Entire Heat.** The starter/referee may recall the entire heat:

• When the start is such that the starter/referee is not satisfied that the race was properly begun, it is always permissible for the starter/referee to recall the entire heat.

• It is not necessary to charge any swimmer with a false start under these conditions, although that may also occur.

• Things that negatively affect the start (such as a loud noise just as the starting signal is given that affects one or more swimmers) should be part of any starter's awareness when commencing a race.

• **9-4-6. Voluntary Dive Groups:** The voluntary dive groups and the corresponding calendar week for the 2023-2024 FHSAA Regular Season are as follows: Week 1 Forward; Week 2 Back; Week 3 Inward; Week 4 Twisting; Week 5 Reverse. In the case of a regular season meet that is postponed and subsequently rescheduled, the voluntary dive group that is required for the calendar week that the meet is rescheduled will be used. Once the five weeks have been completed, the cycle will restart.

• **9-6-1. Diving Officials:** In state series events, a minimum judging panel of five judges is required.

2009.02 State Series.

(1) **Pools.** An eight (8)-lane pool, with adequate warm-up and warm-down lanes, is preferred for all state series meets.

(2) **An Exception Report** shall be run both by event and by athlete prior to the start of all Florida High School State Championship events to verify there are no over entries either by individual athlete or by the total number of athletes allowed to enter in each event per team. In the event that an exception report is not run, only one report is run, or an over-entry is not caught, and a team over-enters participants, the first four participants listed alphabetically by the team will be advanced where an over-entry was discovered, and any remaining individuals will be disqualified.

(3) **Athletic Trainers.** The presence of a certified athletic trainer or medical staff is recommended for all state series meets.

(4) **Squads.**

(1) **Scratched Contestant.** A contestant who is entered into an individual event in the FHSAA State Swimming & Diving Series on any level and is later scratched (removed) from any event or is a no show for an individual or relay event, will be disqualified from participating in all remaining events (individual and relay events) in that meet and as an individual and relay member on succeeding levels. Previous performances are not nullified. Points earned, and times achieved are still recorded

(2) **Substitutions.** No substitution may be made for any individual in any event, once entered, who qualifies to participate in an event but is unable to compete. This applies to individuals who qualify from the district meet to the regional meet and from the regional meet to the Florida High School State Championships, and between the prelims and the finals on any level.

(3) **Relay Personnel.** Relay personnel may be changed between the district and regional meets, between the regional meet and the Florida High School State Championships, and between the prelims and finals on any level as long as such change is made in compliance with procedures established by the FHSAA. Any eligible swimmer may be listed on the relay card to swim on a relay team provided it does not result in an over entry.

(4) **Ties.** In swimming events, all ties in preliminaries which would result in more than eight qualifiers to the consolation or championship finals must be broken by a swim-off.

- (5) **Medical Scratches.** Any competitor who requests a medical scratch at any meet held during the FHSAA State Series must be accompanied by a note from a doctor or certified Athletic Trainer. Once a medical scratch is accepted by the Meet Referee the competitor may not compete in any individual or relay event in that meet, unless or until the individual presents a note of medical clearance from a doctor or is cleared by the certified Athletic Trainer on-site. The medical clearance shall not be issued by a medical professional who is present at the meet in the capacity of an official, volunteer timer, etc. If the competitor does participate in any individual or relay event without proper clearance, the penalty shall be disqualification of the individual and relay.

- (5) **Entries.** District entries must be submitted electronically via a .hyv or .cl2 file.

2009.03 Failure to Appear and Compete.

Failure to Appear and Compete. A student-athlete who qualifies in a Florida High School State Championships meet as an individual is expected to compete on successive levels of the Florida High School State Championships unless ill, injured, suspended due to disciplinary action, or for any other reason acceptable to the Executive Director. If the student-athlete does not compete on a successive level, the student-athlete will not be permitted to compete in any other event in the Florida High School State Championships in that sport. Personnel on relay teams may be changed in accordance with the rules governing those sports. A school must submit in writing to the FHSAA Office the name of the student-athlete and an explanation for the inability to compete in advance of the competition whenever situations make it possible to do so. Failure to participate in the district/regional meet by an individual or relay team is a violation of FHSAA policy and shall subject the school to a \$50 penalty unless the reason for failure to participate is approved by the FHSAA Office.

2011. Volleyball Regulations

2011.01 Regular Season.

- (1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Two officials (first referee and second referee) are required for all interscholastic volleyball matches.
- (2) **Pre-Match Warm-Up Period:** A 15-minute warm-up period (7-7-1) shall precede all matches as follows:
- First seven minutes– Visiting team practices on the full court; the home team may practice ball-handling outside of the six-foot area from the volleyball court sideline on a side court area with volleyballs if the facility permits (this provision does not apply to auxiliary gyms);
 - Next seven minutes – Home team practices on the full court; the visiting

team may practice ball-handling outside of the six-foot area from the volleyball court sideline on a side court area with volleyballs if the facility permits (this provision does not apply to auxiliary gyms);

- One minute clean up— Both teams - clearing the court to play.

When starting a match after a preceding match, a reasonable amount of time should be given to the teams leaving to collect their personal belongings and vacate the bench area.

Prior to the match officials arrive on the court for the required officials-coaches-captains meeting 20 minutes before the start of the match, teams may warm-up on the court with volleyballs. Ball handling and warm-up by both teams on their respective sides of the net will be permitted provided no balls go over the net and the court is ready and supervised by the host.

2011.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Four officials will be used for all state series matches, from the district semifinal match through the conclusion of the state series. They will be a first referee, a second referee and two-line judges.

(2) **Official Ball for State Tournaments:** The Wilson K1 Gold volleyball is the official ball of the FHSAA Girls Volleyball State Series (district, regional and state finals) and FHSAA Boys Volleyball State Series (district, regional and state finals). No other ball may be used by any participating team in these respective state tournaments.

2011.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications.

(1) The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **1-2-1.** All matches shall utilize rally scoring as follows:

(a) **Varsity matches (regular season and state series).** Best 3-of-5 games; each game shall be to 25 points with the exception of the fifth game, if necessary, which shall be to 15 points. A game must be won by a two-point margin with no cap.

(b) **Sub-varsity matches (junior varsity, freshman, middle school, etc.).** Best 2-of-3 games; each game shall be to 25 points with the exception of the third game, if necessary, which shall be to 15 points. A game must be won by a two-point margin with no cap.

(c) **Invitational tournaments.** Best 2-of-3 games; each game shall be to 25 points with the exception of the third game, if necessary, which shall be to 15 points. A game must be won by a two-point margin with no cap. The host school, however, may request to play best 3-of-5 games in its tournament.

- **9-1-2 Note.** Teams shall remain on the same bench throughout the match, unless one side provides an advantage or disadvantage due to uneven playing surface.

2011.04 Taping of Fingers and Hands. Taping, at a minimum, is permitted on individual finger(s) and/or across the palm of the hand. It may not be excessive, give an advantage to a player, have any special surface, or include hard objects, plastic or splints around the fingers. No more than two fingers may be taped together at any time. "Skids" are permitted, but no other wrap around the hand or across the palm may be used.

2012. Water Polo Regulations

2012.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** A minimum of two officials is required for all interscholastic water polo games.

(2) **Length of Varsity Games:** Varsity water polo games shall be played in four periods of seven (7) minutes of actual play each.

(3) **Length of Junior Varsity Games:** Junior varsity water polo games shall be played in four periods of six (6) minutes of actual play each.

(4) **Team Uniform:** Any uniform that is used by a swimmer must cover ALL of the buttocks and must be made of a material that does not become transparent when wet. Any competitor in violation of this rule will not be allowed to enter into competition until the offending attire is replaced.

2012.02 State Series.

(1) **Size of Officials Crew:** Two referees will be used for all state series water polo games. Goal judges will be used when available.

(2) **Official Ball for State Series:** The KAP7 model number 105 is the official ball of the FHSAA Boys' Water Polo Finals and the KAP7 model number 104 is the official ball of the FHSAA Girls Water Polo Finals. No other ball may be used by any participating team in these respective state tournaments.

2012.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications.

(1) **Playing Rules:** NFHS Water Polo Rules, as modified or amended by the FHSAA, are the official rules for all regular season games involving teams participating in the state series as well as FHSAA State Water Polo Series matches. The following modifications or amendments have been adopted by the FHSAA.

- **Exhibition Games.** Exhibition games, practice games, non-contract games and scrimmage games with other schools, groups, alumni, or league teams are strictly prohibited.

- **5-4-3 INT.2.** Competitors shall not wear or use any device that could potentially aid their speed or buoyancy.

- **8-8-1. Note.** All players shall always enter the water feet first.

- **Rule 11. Duration of the Game.** A ten (10) goal differential attained at the end of the third period or secured at any point during the fourth period, a running clock shall become mandatory. Once the running clock is initiated, it shall run continuously, with the exceptions of the period between quarters and any timeout taken by a team or officials, injuries, unsporting conduct penalties, or a score by either team.

The following modifications have not been adopted by the FHSAA:

- **Rule 11-6. Tournament Variations.**

- (2) **Game Regulations.**

- **Roster and Lineup.** No later than 10 minutes prior to the competition's start, a coach from each team shall submit in writing to the secretary an accurate roster giving names and cap numbers of all players. Head coach and assistant coach(es) names shall also be submitted.

- **Sounding Device.** The use of a sounding device (i.e., megaphone, horn, etc.) at poolside for coaching purposes is prohibited.

- (3) **Athletic Uniforms.**

- **3-3-1. Uniforms.** Players shall wear non-transparent one-piece swim suits. Suits shall completely cover the buttocks and breasts. The women's suit must have a solid high back with broad straps. The goalkeeper may wear either this type of suit or a competitive one-piece suit with straps at least one inch in width (the straps may not be spaghetti straps).

- **3-3-4.** Jewelry or objectionable attire shall not be worn.

- Non-FHSAA commercial advertising, with the exception of the manufacturer's logo, is prohibited on all athletic uniforms.

2012.04 Overtime Procedure.

- (1) Following a five-minute interval, there shall be a maximum of two sudden-death periods of three minutes with an interval of two minutes to change ends. There shall be a coin toss to determine ends for the first sudden-death period.

- (2) If at the end of the second sudden-death period the score remains tied, then the captain(s) and head coach of each team will meet with the officials at the score table to review the procedure for penalty shots as follows:

- (a) The referee will choose the goal at which all of the shots from the 5-meter line will be taken.

(b) Each coach will select any five players, including the goalkeeper, on or off the field (except those who may have been disqualified) to take the penalty shots. An order must be specified prior to beginning the penalty shots.

(c) A coin toss will be held in which the winner will have the choice of shooting first or second.

(d) Teams will alternate shooters. There is no follow-up on shots.

(e) The defending team may change the goalkeeper prior to each penalty shot.

(f) The team scoring the greatest number of goals will be declared the winner.

(g) Add one goal to the winning team's score prior to the penalty shots and credit the team with the victory. An asterisk (*) may be placed by the score to denote the overtime procedure.

(3) If the score remains tied after each team has five penalty shots, then each coach must choose an additional five players that have not shot in the previous round to take the next round of penalty shots.

(a) If a team has fewer than 10 available players at the end of the first round of penalty shots due to injury or disqualification, then the coach must use all players who did not participate in the first round.

(b) The coach must choose additional players from the first five shots to fill the remainder of the second round and to ensure a different set of five players. If the score remains tied, continue the penalty shots with the coach selecting any five players to take the next set of alternating shots. If a tie remains, repeat s.1012.04(3)(a).

2013. Wrestling Regulations

2013.01 Regular Season.

(1) **Weight Classifications:** All interscholastic wrestling tournaments and meets will be limited to competition in the following 14 weight classifications (boys):

106 pounds and under	150 pounds and under
113 pounds and under	157 pounds and under
120 pounds and under	165 pounds and under
126 pounds and under	175 pounds and under

132 pounds and under	190 pounds and under
138 pounds and under	215 pounds and under
144 pounds and under	285 pounds and under

All interscholastic wrestling tournaments and meets will be limited to competition in the following 14 weight classifications (girls):

100 pounds and under	135 pounds and under
105 pounds and under	140 pounds and under
110 pounds and under	145 pounds and under
115 pounds and under	155 pounds and under
120 pounds and under	170 pounds and under
125 pounds and under	190 pounds and under
130 pounds and under	235 pounds and under

A student cannot wrestle more than one weight class above the weight class in which his/her actual weight places him/her and must never wrestle in a weight class below his/her minimum certified weight class.

(2) **Growth Allowance:** The FHSAA Board of Directors has adopted the use of the 2-pound growth allowance as permitted in National Federation Rule 4-4-4. On or after Dec. 26, each weight class will be permitted a 2-pound growth allowance. This regulation is intended to encourage wrestlers to increase their strength, and thereby their muscle mass; and to discourage wrestlers from crash dieting to reduce weight so as to remain eligible in a lower weight class. Coaches and athletes are encouraged to use this provision accordingly. When there are consecutive days of team competition, there shall be a one-pound additional allowance granted each day for all wrestlers up to a maximum of two pounds. In order to be granted this one-pound additional allowance, a minimum of 48 hours advance notice is required for opponent(s).

(3) **Trackwrestling/NWCA Pre-Match Weigh-In Form:** The Trackwrestling/NWCA Pre-Match Weigh-In form is required in order to weigh-in. Failure to have the Pre-Match Weigh-In form will prevent a team from weighing-in, thus eliminating that team from competing. The Pre-Match Weigh-in form must be used as follows during the weigh-in:

- (a) The wrestler's exact weight will be written in ink opposite the name of each wrestler who weighs in prior to the meet.
- (b) Any challenge of a minimum certified weight class must be made prior to the start of the first match in a dual meet or prior to the end of the seeding meeting of an individually bracketed tournament. A wrestler who has his/her minimum certified weight class challenged will be allowed to compete. The Executive Director must be notified in writing of the challenge.
- (c) Both coaches and the referee must sign the form.
- (d) A copy of the form must be exchanged prior to the final match of the meet. For tournaments, a copy of the form must be given to the

tournament director prior to the start of the tournament. A complete set of all signed forms with the actual weights recorded must be made available to each team entered into the tournament.

(4) Weigh-ins:

(a) Contestants must weigh-in each day they participate for regular season dual meets a maximum of one hour prior to the time a dual meet is scheduled to begin. This rule permits the weigh-in to begin at 7 p.m. for a dual wrestling match which is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. This rule DOES NOT require a 30-minute wait between the end of the weigh-in and the scheduled beginning of the wrestling match. Each team may weigh-in a maximum of two wrestlers for each weight classification. Exact weights are required for each wrestler who weighs in for a contest. Rule 4, Section 5 (weigh-in) may not be revised or modified by conference rule, mutual consent, etc.

(b) The FHSAA requires a minimum of three officials (five is preferred) be present at all tournament weigh-ins. In addition, the host schools shall provide necessary adult personnel to serve as assistants to the weigh master. The weigh master will be the registered FHSAA official who is in charge of the weigh-in. The weigh master will ensure that all NFHS and FHSAA rules and regulations are followed. The following procedure must be used:

1. Staging area (one adult volunteer or fourth official): all wrestlers will be in this area at the time the weigh-in is scheduled. Each wrestler must check in wearing their school issued uniform. Preferably, the staging area will be large enough to accommodate all contestants. The caller will call each weight class in order, beginning with the 106-pound class (for IBT's), or the first weight class to be wrestled as drawn (for dual team events). Wrestlers are required to wear a suitable undergarment as defined by the NFHS underneath the uniform for the purpose of weighing-in. Each wrestler may wear a pair of slip on/off shoes for reporting to the scales; however, only socks may be worn with the uniform when stepping on the scale(s).

2. Line-up area (one adult volunteer or fifth official): each weight class will move to the line-up area where the arranger will place the contestants in bracket order.

3. Scale room (registered officials only): each weight class will then move into the scale room. The contestants will put their gear on one of 16 chairs and remove their shoes. The first official (R1) will check all contestants for nails, skin, hair, etc. Any deficiencies (Nails, Skin, Hair, etc.) will be noted on the Pre-Match Weigh- in Form or the tournament bracket sheet. The second official (R2) will monitor the scale, recording the exact weight of all contestants on the Pre-Match Weigh-in Form. Exception: At the regional and state tournaments, the exact

weights will be recorded on the official tournament bracket sheets. For all tournaments, R3 will be responsible for writing the weight class of the contestant on his/her wrist with a marker.

(c) All scales must be certified annually. Digital scales are required for all multi-school events to ensure the accuracy of the actual weight of the wrestler. This includes dual-team events and individually bracketed tournaments.

(d) No coaches shall be permitted in the staging area, line-up area or scale room, with the exception of the coach of a hearing or visually impaired wrestler.

(f) Second- or third-day weigh-ins should follow the same procedures as defined above. A different color marker should be used each day to mark the wrestler's hand.

(g) A "Wrestler Skin Condition Examination Report Form" (Form WR2) signed by a physician is valid for a maximum of seven (7) days from the date of the examination unless otherwise indicated by the physician. After that time, the wrestler must obtain a new form from the physician if his/her skin condition is still present. The form must be completed completely, which includes the area designated as "IS/ARE NOT communicable" in order to be valid. The form is valid only for those areas of the wrestler's body marked on the form by the physician. If the official observes any questionable area(s) not marked by the physician on the form, the wrestler will not be allowed to participate. A copy of the form must be provided to the official for his/her records with the original remaining with the coach.

(5) Match Limitations.

(a) A school may weigh-in multiple wrestlers at each weight class for a dual-team event. A maximum of two contestants must be declared in each weight class at the time the lineup is presented to the head table.

(b) For a dual-team event, the coach may alter his line-up within the stipulations of NFHS Rule 4-4-2.

(c) A school will be limited to four (4) additional contestants in four (4) weight classifications with a maximum of 18 wrestlers for IBT varsity tournaments. Both varsity entries will score points, however they will receive no bonus points when facing a member of their own team. This does not apply to our state series tournaments. Once a competitor's weight class is established, the competitor must wrestle at that weight class for the duration of the tournament in accordance with NFHS rule 10-2-2.

(d) In sub-varsity tournaments, however, a school may enter multiple contestants per weight class with one or the contestants in the weight class designated as the team scorer.

(6) Multi-School Wrestling Events: Multi-school wrestling events are of two types. The first is dual team events, where dual meets fees shall apply. The second is individually bracketed tournaments (IBTs) where the following

requirements shall apply:

- IBTs with up to 8 teams: minimum of 2 mats, 4 officials
- IBTs with 9-16 teams: minimum of 3 mats, 5 officials
- IBTs with 17-24 teams: minimum of 4 mats, 6 officials
- IBTs with 24-32 teams: minimum of 5 mats, 8 officials

No new match in a multi-school wrestling competition may begin after 10 p.m. on any day. For multi-day competitions, there must be a minimum of 10 hours between the end of the last match on Day One and the start of weigh-ins the next day.

(7) **Uniform:** A contestant's uniform must be in compliance with NFHS Rule 4-1. A wrestler competing in a dual meet or tournament must be in proper uniform at all times while he/she is in public view. The penalty for violation of this regulation is the deduction of one (1) team point. Dropping the shoulder straps after leaving the mat to put on a shirt is permitted *as well as removing the shirt to pull the straps up prior to reporting to the mat.* *Dropping of the shoulder straps or removing the shirt while on the mat is not permitted and is a violation.* **Female wrestlers must wear an undergarment per NFHS rule 4-1-1a.**

(8) **Biting:** The FHSAA Board of Directors has defined biting of an opponent by a wrestler during a match as judged by the official (NFHS Rule 7-4-3) as flagrant misconduct and the wrestler shall be ejected from competition.

2013.02 State Series.

(1) **Wrestleback:** Each district will seed and bracket its District Tournament in accordance with the procedure as outlined in National Federation Rule 10 after the weigh-in has been completed. Brackets will be crossed in the quarterfinal round to better ensure that the best four wrestlers in each District Tournament advance to the Regional Tournament.

2013.03 FHSAA Rule Modifications. The following NFHS rules, which are optional by state association adoption, and other modifications have been approved by the FHSAA:

- **3-2-1.** Use assistant referee during competition.
- **4-2-3.** Form WR2 valid for seven days.
- **4-3-2.** The use of artificial limb provision.
- **4-4-4.** 2-pound growth allowance adoption.
- **8-1-5 & Pen. Chart. Ejection of Coach:** The coach is suspended from the remainder of the dual meet or tournament day and must leave the premises.

3000. Penalty Code

3001. Types of Penalties.

The FHSAA Board of Directors has authorized the Executive Director to assess penalties against local officials' associations and individual officials who violate FHSAA regulations governing the administration and conduct of the FHSAA official's program. The four penalties, in general, that may be assessed, separately or collectively, include:

- (1) REPRIMAND – An official letter of censure to the local official's association or individual official regarding the violation(s). The letter of reprimand becomes a permanent part of the local associations or individual official's record.
- (2) FINE – A financial penalty assessed the local official's association or individual official for the violation(s). Fines range from as little as \$25 to as much as \$250 or more.
- (3) PROBATION – A period of warning for one calendar year during which time any additional violations committed by the local official's association, or the individual official may result in more severe penalties being assessed. Probation may also carry with it restrictions such as prohibition from officiating varsity level contests, prohibition from officiating State Series contests, etc.
- (4) SUSPENSION – A period of time during which the local official's association is prohibited from assigning member officials to officiate contests, or the individual official is prohibited from officiating contests.
- (5) REVOCATION – The most severe penalty that can be assessed any local official's association or individual official. It is the involuntary revocation of the local association's sanction or individual official's registration for a period of one or more years. No member school may enter into a contract with any local official's association who's sanctioned has been revoked. Neither may any local official's association accept into membership any individual official whose registration has been revoked.

3002. Fine Schedule.

The following fines are generally assessed local officials' associations and/ or individual officials for the most common violations of FHSAA regulations. This schedule is not all inclusive and does require the Executive Director to determine fines for violations not specifically covered herein. In all cases, these amounts are minimums and may be increased relative to severity of the violation.

<u>DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM AMOUNT</u>
1. Failure to report ejections of student-athletes or coaches for unsporting conduct within 24 hours.....	\$50.00
2. Failure to submit ejection reports on the proper FHSAA form.....	\$25.00
3. Statements of criticism or other derogatory remarks concerning student-athletes, coaches, schools, etc.....	\$50.00

4. Use of tobacco or tobacco-like products by an official during a contest or in the vicinity of the playing site..... \$100.00
5. Officiating an illegal practice session, illegal scrimmage or other illegal contest \$100.00
6. Use of profanity or other gutter language by an official.....\$150.00
7. Pursuit of coaches, athletes, spectators, etc. with intent, following a contest, by an official \$150.00
8. Physical contact by an official on a coach, other school personnel, student athletes, or spectators\$250.00
9. Failure to submit local association reports by the established deadline .. \$ 50.00
10. Officials officiating varsity level competition without the mandatory "75" score on the rules examination for the current year (per contest officiated) \$ 50.00
11. Associations assigning officials who did not score the minimum "75" score on the rules examination to officiate varsity level competition (per official assigned) \$100.00
12. Falsification of records (registration) \$ 50.00
13. Improper use of uniform and/or FHSAA insignia.....\$ 50.00
14. Assignment of unregistered or unqualified officials –
 Individual\$ 50.00
 Association\$100.00
15. General failure to comply with FHSAA Policies\$50.00

3003. Misapplication of Rules.

Officials who grossly misapply playing rules will be subject to disciplinary action.