

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
NEVADA INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

LCB File No. R047-19

September 11, 2020

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-3, NRS 385B.060.

A REGULATION relating to interscholastic activities; increasing the number of levels of competition in which a pupil is authorized to participate during a day; providing that two games, contests or meets participated in at two levels of competition during a day shall be deemed to be one game, contest or meet for certain purposes; prohibiting a pupil from participating in more tournaments in a sanctioned sport during a season than the team of which the pupil is a member is authorized to participate for that season; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes the formation of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association, composed of all the school districts of the State, for the purposes of controlling, supervising and regulating all interscholastic athletic events and other interscholastic events in the public schools and requires the Association to adopt regulations governing those events. (NRS 385B.050, 385B.060)

Under existing regulations, a pupil who participates in a sanctioned sport other than basketball or football is authorized to participate in any number of games for the sanctioned sport during a day. However, a pupil is prohibited from participating in more than one level of competition for a sanctioned sport during a day. (NAC 385B.386) Existing regulations set forth certain exceptions from that prohibition to authorize, under certain circumstances: (1) a school to obtain a waiver from the prohibition; (2) certain pupils who are enrolled in a Class 1A school to participate in a junior varsity level and varsity level basketball game in a single day; and (3) certain pupils who are enrolled in a Class 1A school to participate in a junior varsity level and varsity level volleyball game in the same day. (NAC 385B.386, 385B.426, 385B.524)

Sections 1 and 3 of this regulation eliminate the exceptions to the prohibition on a pupil participating in more than one level of competition in a single day. **Section 1** of this regulation instead prohibits a pupil who participates in a sanctioned sport from participating in more than two levels of competition during a day, thereby allowing a pupil to participate in two levels of competition in a single day.

Existing regulations set forth the maximum number of games, contests or meets and tournaments in which a pupil is authorized to participate during a season for each sanctioned sport. (NAC 385B.378) Under existing regulations, if a pupil participates in more than one game in a single day, each additional game counts toward the maximum number of games in which the pupil is authorized to participate for the season. (NAC 385B.386) **Section 1** provides that if a pupil participates in two games, contests or meets at two levels of competition during a day, those two games, contests or meets are deemed to be one game, contest or meet for the purpose of determining the total number of games, contests or meets in which the pupil is authorized to participate for the season. Additionally, **section 1** prohibits a pupil from participating in more tournaments during a season than the team of which the pupil is a member is authorized to participate for that season, regardless of the level of competition of the tournament. **Section 2** of this regulation makes a conforming change.

Section 1. NAC 385B.386 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385B.386 1. ~~{Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a}~~ A pupil who participates in a sanctioned sport may not participate in more than ~~{one level}~~ *two levels* of competition for that sanctioned sport during a day. ~~{If a school is unable to complete its schedule for a sanctioned sport during the season for that sanctioned sport because the number of pupils who participate in the sanctioned sport at the level of junior varsity is insufficient, the school may submit a request to the Executive Director to waive the provisions of this subsection. Before approving a request for a waiver pursuant to this subsection, the Executive Director shall obtain the approval of the request from each school that competes against the school that submits the request in the sanctioned sport for the season.}~~

2. A pupil who participates in a sanctioned sport other than ~~{basketball or}~~ football may participate in any number of games , *contests or meets* for the sanctioned sport during a day. A coach who participates in a sanctioned sport shall consider the safety and well-being of a pupil before allowing that pupil to participate in more than one game , *contest or meet* for a sanctioned sport pursuant to this subsection. ~~{}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if* a pupil participates in more than one game , *contest or meet* for a sanctioned sport pursuant to this

subsection, the pupil shall include that game , *contest or meet* in the total number of games , *contests or meets* in which he or she may participate pursuant to NAC 385B.378.

3. *If a pupil who participates in a sanctioned sport participates in two games, contests or meets for the sanctioned sport at two levels of competition during a day, those two games, contests or meets shall be deemed to be one game, contest or meet for the purpose of determining the total number of games, contests or meets in which the pupil may participate pursuant to NAC 385B.378.*

4. A ~~school that is placed in Class 1A pursuant to NAC 385B.250 and that~~ *pupil who* participates in ~~volleyball or basketball as~~ a sanctioned sport ~~:~~
~~—(a) May~~ *may* not ~~submit a request for a waiver pursuant to subsection 1; and~~
~~—(b) Shall comply with the provisions of NAC 385B.426 or 385B.524 concerning volleyball or basketball;~~ *, during the season for the sanctioned sport, participate in more tournaments for the sanctioned sport than the team of which the pupil is a member is authorized to participate for that season, regardless of the level of competition of the tournament.*

~~4.1~~ 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection ~~6.1~~ 7, a pupil may not participate in a sanctioned sport as a member of:

- (a) The freshman team for the sanctioned sport unless the pupil is in the 9th grade; or
- (b) The junior varsity team for the sanctioned sport unless the pupil is in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade.

~~5.1~~ 6. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 385B.706, a pupil who is qualified to participate in a sanctioned sport pursuant to this chapter may participate in the sanctioned sport as a member of the varsity team for the sanctioned sport regardless of the grade in which he or she is enrolled during his or her participation as a member of that team.

~~16.1~~ 7. The president of the class or league in which a school is placed or aligned pursuant to NAC 385B.250 may waive the provisions of subsection ~~14.1~~ 5 if the school:

- (a) Submits a written request to the president;
- (b) Submits a copy of the written request to the Executive Director; and
- (c) Sets forth in the written request the reasons for requesting the waiver and the level of skill of each pupil for whom the school requests the waiver.

Sec. 2. NAC 385B.738 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385B.738 1. The provisions of this section govern the eligibility of:

- (a) A foreign exchange student; and
 - (b) An international student who enrolls in a school and is not a foreign exchange student.
2. The Association will allow a foreign exchange student to participate in a sanctioned sport if the foreign exchange student:

(a) Is sponsored by and placed with a host family in the United States by an international student exchange program that:

- (1) Is approved for listing by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel or its successor organization;
- (2) Is recognized by the United States Department of State; and
- (3) Assigns students to host families in a manner which ensures that a student, school or other interested party is unable to influence the assignment of the student to a host family for athletic or other purposes or in any other manner which ensures that the student is not chosen or placed because of his or her athletic interests or abilities;

(b) Possesses a J-1 Visa issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security;

(c) Attends the school on the first day of the semester in which the first day of practice for the sanctioned sport is conducted and enrolls in a foreign exchange program at the school that is conducted for at least 1 semester;

(d) Is eligible in not more than 1 school year at any school or combination of schools in this State or any other state;

(e) Has not completed the 12th grade or its equivalent in the United States or any other country; and

(f) Complies with any other requirements for eligibility of the Association during the period in which he or she is a pupil enrolled in a school.

3. If a foreign exchange student transfers to another school during the school year because of a change in residence by the student and the host family with whom he or she was placed at the time of enrollment in the original school, the transfer does not affect the student's eligibility to participate in a sanctioned sport. If the transfer occurs because the student is placed with another host family, the student is ineligible to participate in a sanctioned sport at the school to which he or she transfers for the remainder of the school year.

4. If a school or coach of a school places or arranges for the placement of a student in violation of any provision of this section, the student is ineligible to participate in a sanctioned sport and the Association may impose a penalty against the school or coach pursuant to this chapter.

5. A student from a foreign country who is enrolled in a school because he or she has been issued an F-1 Visa by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security shall be deemed to be a transfer student. If the student is in the 12th grade,

the student is ineligible to participate in a sanctioned sport. If the student is in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade, the student:

(a) Must comply with the provisions for eligibility that are applicable to a transfer student; and

(b) May only participate in a sanctioned sport at a level other than varsity in accordance with subsection ~~4~~ 5 of NAC 385B.386.

6. The eligibility of a foreign exchange student to participate in a sanctioned sport pursuant to this section terminates upon his or her completion of the period during which he or she participates in the foreign exchange program.

7. For the purposes of this section:

(a) A foreign exchange student shall be deemed to be placed with a host family if:

(1) The school that the student attends was not involved in the selection or assignment of the student; and

(2) The principal office for the sponsoring organization approves the placement of the student.

(b) A sanctioned sport which is conducted during the fall season of a school year shall be deemed to begin during the first semester of that school year regardless of whether the first day of practice for the sanctioned sport is held before the beginning of that school year.

8. As used in this section, “foreign exchange student” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 483.075.

Sec. 3. NAC 385B.426 and 385B.524 are hereby repealed.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

385B.426 Class 1A teams.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a pupil who is enrolled at a Class 1A school and who participates in basketball as a sanctioned sport may, during the same day, participate in a basketball game for junior varsity players and a basketball game for varsity players. A coach of a basketball team at such a school shall not:

(a) During the same day, allow a pupil who is a member of the team to participate in:

(1) A basketball game for junior varsity players and a basketball game for varsity players if the sole reason for allowing the pupil to participate in the game is to win the game;

(2) A basketball game for junior varsity players if the pupil is a starting member of the basketball team for varsity players at the school; or

(3) More than five quarters during a basketball game; or

(b) Allow a pupil who is in the 12th grade and who is a member of the team to participate in a basketball game for junior varsity players unless, before the game:

(1) The school notifies the Executive Director and the opposing school that the school proposes to allow the pupil to participate in the game; and

(2) The Executive Director approves, in writing, the pupil's participation in the game.

2. If a pupil participates in a basketball game for junior varsity players and a basketball game for varsity players during the same day, the school where the game is conducted shall ensure that the game for junior varsity players is conducted before the game for varsity players.

3. If a team of a Class 1A school participates in a basketball game and the membership of that team consists of junior varsity players and varsity players for the game pursuant to this section, the coach of the team shall, at least 10 minutes before the game:

(a) Identify at least five varsity players who are members of the team for which he or she is a coach who will not participate in a basketball game for junior varsity players during the same day; and

(b) Submit the name of each pupil identified pursuant to paragraph (a) to the scorekeeper for the game.

4. If a pupil who is a junior varsity player participates in a basketball game for varsity players pursuant to this section, the pupil shall, during the period in which he or she participates in the game, wear a jersey that displays a number that is distinguishable from the numbers displayed on the jerseys of the varsity players who participate in the game.

5. If a dispute arises between two schools relating to a provision of this section, each school shall submit the dispute to its principal or athletic director. If the dispute is not resolved after it is submitted to those principals or athletic directors, the schools shall submit the dispute to the president of the class in which the schools participate. If the dispute is not resolved after it is submitted to the president, the schools shall submit the dispute to the Executive Director.

385B.524 Class 1A teams with fewer than 15 members.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a pupil who is enrolled at a Class 1A school and who participates in volleyball as a sanctioned sport at that school may, during the same day,

participate in a volleyball game for junior varsity players and a volleyball game for varsity players. A coach of a volleyball team at such a school shall not allow a pupil who is:

(a) A member of the team to participate, during the same day, in a volleyball game for junior varsity players and a volleyball game for varsity players if the sole reason for allowing that participation is to win the game; or

(b) A varsity player on the team to participate in a volleyball game as a junior varsity player if the team has a sufficient number of junior varsity players to participate in the game.

2. If a pupil participates in a volleyball game for junior varsity players and a volleyball game for varsity players during the same day pursuant to this section, the school where the game is conducted shall ensure that the game for junior varsity players is conducted before the game for varsity players.

3. If a team of a Class 1A school participates in a volleyball game and the membership of that team consists of junior varsity players and varsity players for the game pursuant to this section, the coach for the team shall, at least 10 minutes before the game:

(a) Identify each junior varsity player and each varsity player on the team for the game; and

(b) Submit the name of each pupil identified pursuant to paragraph (a) to the scorekeeper for the game.

4. A pupil of a Class 1A school shall not participate in a volleyball game for junior varsity players and a volleyball game for varsity players during the same day pursuant to this section unless each school against whom the pupil competes during that day agrees to allow the pupil to participate in that manner.

5. If a pupil who is a junior varsity player participates in a volleyball game for varsity players pursuant to this section, the pupil shall, during the period in which he or she participates

in the game, wear a jersey that displays a number that is distinguishable from the numbers displayed on the jerseys of the varsity players who participate in the game.

6. The provisions of this section do not apply to a volleyball team that consists of 15 or more members.