

BY-LAWS*(Note: gray shaded areas highlight 2009-2010 changes)***ARTICLE I – Eligibility of Players** *(see page 29 , number 1)*

- Section 1:**
- (a) Eligibility to participate in Association athletic activities is limited to high school students who meet all of the Association's eligibility requirements.
 - (b) Ninth grade students enrolled in junior high schools, if otherwise eligible, may participate in Association activities with an appropriate high school. Students may participate in Association activities while enrolled in the ninth grade if the school permits. A student who is enrolled in a junior high school but participates in Association activities for a high school shall be deemed to have attended that high school. If such a student shall enroll in a different high school for the tenth grade, that enrollment shall be considered a transfer and shall be subject to the requirements of the Association's Transfer Rule (Article I Section 8).
 - (c) Any student who is suspended from a member school for violation of the Safe Schools provision of that district Board of Education shall be declared ineligible for participation (including practice) in any activity for a period equal to any suspension, bar or dismissal, but in no case shall the period exceed twelve months. If the student is transferred to another school, the transfer rule provisions will apply.
 - (d) A student may establish initial eligibility either by trying out for a team or by a student's first day of attendance at any member high school subject to the policies, rules and regulations of the governing school board.

Age Rule

- Section 2:** No student shall be eligible to participate in Association activities who has reached nineteen years of age prior to the first day of September of the school year in which such participation is intended.

Sports Season Rule *(see page 29 , number 2)*

- Section 3:**
- (a) No student shall participate in Association activities in more than four seasons in any one activity and not more than three seasons in any one activity after entering the tenth grade.
 - (b) A student may participate in only one season per sport in any school year. Participation, for purposes of this rule, includes trying out for a team.
 - (c) A school may sponsor an activity only once in any school year.

Attendance Rule

- Section 4:** At the time a student first enters the tenth grade of a high school or an equivalent level of education in any other system, that student shall have three consecutive years of eligibility for Association activities.

Playing on Team of Higher Institution *(see page 29 , number 3)*

- Section 5:** No student shall be eligible to represent his or her school in interscholastic competition who has ever participated on the team of an institution higher than that of secondary grade.

Amateur Rule *(see page 30, number 4)*

- Section 6:** In order to protect the high school athlete from exploitation, undue influence or unthinking action which may jeopardize a student's athletic future, the following rule definitions and interpretations shall apply to participants in athletic programs of member schools: an amateur sports person is one who engages in sport solely for the pleasure and the physical, mental and social benefits derived therefrom. A student must be an amateur to be eligible to represent his or her high school. An athlete has forfeited his or her right to compete as an amateur and has thereby

become ineligible for further high school competition by any of the following actions:

- (a) Having knowingly competed as a member of a team which included professional athletes in organized athletic competition, or against a team composed all or in part of professionals.
- (b) Having competed for money in any organized athletic activity.
- (c) Having competed under an assumed name in any organized athletic activity.
- (d) Having accepted an award in non-school athletic activities which he or she has converted into cash by sale or by pawning.
- (e) Having signed a professional athletic contract.

Scholastic Rule *(see page 30, number 5)*

Section 7: To be eligible to participate in Association sanctioned activities, a student:

- (a) Must be a full time student in the school he or she intends to **represent**, or otherwise comply with all Utah State Board of Education dual enrollment requirements.
- (b) Cannot fail more than one subject in the preceding grading period (for purposes of this rule, a failure in a multi-period subject shall be counted as the number of failures equal to the number of periods in the class); and,
- (c) Must have obtained a minimum grade point average (gpa) of 2.0 or its equivalent in the preceding grading period.
 - A student who has failed to meet the minimum requirements set forth shall be ineligible for participation in UHSAA activities throughout the next grading period, provided however, that deficiencies in the final grading period of the school year may be made up prior to the first term of the succeeding year by any method acceptable to the school district or the member private school. Deficiencies must be made up in the same subject area.
 - The scholastic regulations apply to students who are entering high school for the first time. They also apply to any ninth grade student at a junior high or middle school, who has established eligibility at a member high school as provided in these by-laws.
 - Eligibility under this rule is determined when grades are posted. Grades are "posted" when the school registrar enters all grades electronically and are available to students, parents and teachers. In no case may the posting date be more than five (5) school days following the last day of the grading period. Grade changes after the posting date cannot restore lost eligibility, except for a documented clerical error.
 - These scholastic regulations are the minimum required for participation in Association activities. Nothing in this rule shall prevent local boards of education or governing boards of private schools from establishing standards, related with grades, that exceed those of the Association. Any such rule, however, is not binding on the Association.

Transfer Rule *(see pages 31-36, numbers 8,9 and 10)*

Section 8: Any student transferring from one high school to another shall lose eligibility for participation in Association sponsored athletic activities (varsity, j.v., sophomore and freshman) for twelve months from the day of attendance at the new school under the following circumstances:

- (a) The transfer resulted from the student's intent or purpose to participate in athletics at the transferee school.
- (b) The transfer does not otherwise comply with the rules of the State Board of Education.
- (c) The student does not receive confirmation from the Association that the transfer meets the conditions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this rule. To receive confirmation, any transferring student must provide the Association with specific information regarding the circumstances of the transfer.
- (d) The transfer was mandated by a school district for disciplinary reasons. In such case, the member school shall provide the Association with notice of the action and the reasons therefore. In transfers which have been mandated by a school or district for disciplinary reasons, whether intra-district, inter-district, or between private and/or public schools, the transferred student shall lose eligibility for Association sponsored activities for a

period equal to any suspension, bar or dismissal from the transferring school, but in no case shall the period exceed twelve months.

Undue Influence

Section 9: The use of undue influence by any person, connected or not connected, with a member school, to secure the transfer of a student to a member school for the purpose of participation in Association athletic activities shall cause the student to be ineligible for Association activities for the period of one year and may result in fines and/or suspension of the member school.

Undergraduate Standing

Section 10: No student shall compete in any high school activity who is a graduate of a regular four-year high school or who is a graduate of a secondary school which has the same requirements for graduation as a regular four-year high school. However, a student who finishes the required number of credits for graduation in fewer semesters than are normally required and is doing college undergraduate work shall not be barred from interscholastic competition to which he or she would otherwise have been eligible until the termination of so many semesters as normally would have been available for such a student's eligibility or participation.

Limited Team Membership *(see page 36, number 11)*

Section 11: A student, while participating as a member of a high school team, may not participate on a team not sponsored by his or her school in the same activity during the same season. A student may compete in a non-school sponsored contest as an individual, not a team member, while a member of a high school team during an activity season.

Physical Examination Required *(see page 37, number 12)*

Section 12: No student shall be eligible to compete in any athletic contest sponsored by this Association unless such student has a physician's certificate stating that he/she is physically able to compete in inter-school athletic contests.

Charter/Home/Private Schools

Section 13: Students exempted from compulsory public school education by the local board for instruction in charter, home or private schools may be eligible for participation in extracurricular public school activities provided they earn credit as outlined in R277-700 and R277-438-3 & 4. The charter, home or private school student may only participate in extracurricular activities at the school within whose boundaries the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) resides or at the public school from which the student withdrew for the purpose of home schooling or attending a charter or private school. Charter and private school students may only be eligible at a public school for sports or activities which are not available at their charter or private school.

ARTICLE II – Eligibility Lists

- Section 1:**
- (a) Each member school shall provide the UHSAA a list of all students who are eligible and who participate in each activity. This list must be certified by the principal and submitted to the UHSAA prior to or as per established dates. In doing so, the principal is certifying that those students whose names are listed meet all of the requirements and are eligible under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association.
 - (b) Certification shall be based on complete information concerning the students age and scholastic history.
 - (c) Participation on varsity, junior varsity, 10th grade or 9th grade teams is to be considered as a season of competition.

ARTICLE III – Violations and Protests

Responsibility of Principals

Section 1: It shall be the duty and responsibility of the principal of a member school to determine that participants have met all eligibility requirements.

Protest Procedures

- Section 2:** (a) Protests or complaints alleging a violation of rules or policies of the Association must be submitted to the Association in writing. All protests concerning the outcome of a game or contest must be made and concluded by appropriate officials and school leaders prior to the end of the protested game or contest. After a game or contest has been completed, protests regarding the outcome are not allowed. No protest shall be considered if the protest is based upon a judgment call of an official. (The foregoing is not to be construed as prohibiting the Association from initiating action on a rule or policy violation.)
- (b) Particular protests involving sportsmanship, lack of crowd control and inappropriate actions of players, spectators and/or coaches may be submitted directly to the Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee.

Withdrawal of a Team

Section 3: No member school may withdraw its representatives from an Association activity prior to the termination of the activity, except by mutual consent of the responsible faculty representatives from the participating schools.

Duty to Report and Cooperate

- Section 4:** (a) It shall be the duty of the principal or coach who has knowledge or information that places in question the eligibility of any student who is likely to participate in any contest to report such knowledge or information immediately to the principal of the participant's school. Failure to do so shall be an indication of bad faith, and the school officials, by their failure to report such knowledge or information immediately, shall forfeit the right to protest the result of the contest(s) in which the ineligible contestant participated.
- (b) All representatives of member schools shall fully cooperate with the Executive Director, the Association's Staff, the Region Board of Managers, the Executive Committee or the Board of Trustees to further the objectives of the Association and its investigation and enforcement programs. The Association's investigation and enforcement policies and procedures are an essential part of the athletic program of each member school and require full and complete disclosure of any information requested by the Association during the course of any investigation and/or enforcement proceedings and full and complete compliance with all Association decisions, directives, sanctions and penalties.

Power of Association

Section 5: The Association upon having knowledge of an infraction of a rule or policy, may initiate action.

Penalties

- Section 6:** In assessing penalties, the Association may consider any of the following:
- (a) **Reprimand:** An official letter to the individual and/or school concerned in regard to the offense committed and warning against acts of a detrimental nature which are contrary to the aims and philosophies of the Association. This letter will become a part of the permanent file of the individual and/or school involved.

- (b) **Probation:** An official letter to the individual and/or school concerned in regard to the offense committed clearly stating what conduct, activity or behavior needs correcting. Offending individuals and/or schools would be advised that their continued participation in the Utah High School Activities Association would be on a probationary status for a period of one year. In addition, the offending individual and/or school would be warned that any failure to correct these specified problems may result in more severe action by the Association, including, but not limited to: Restriction, Suspension, Fines or any combination thereof.
- (c) **Restriction:** Action which would restrict participation in district, group or state level activities. The restriction may be applied to an individual, to a team or group or to a school.
- (d) **Suspension:** The effect of a suspension shall be to drop the school from membership and prohibit participation in any or all UHSAA sponsored activities. The length of suspension shall be determined by the Board of Trustees.
- (e) **Forfeit:** The forfeiture of an interscholastic athletic contest, title or championship.
- (f) **Fines:** A coach, principal and/or school may be assessed a fine not to exceed \$1000.
- (g) **Costs:** The Association may assess against a member school all or any part of the costs of litigation, including attorney's fees, if the Association is required to defend itself as a result of the failure of a member school to adhere to the Association's Constitution or By-laws.

Review

Section 7: All penalties or sanctions imposed at a hearing conducted by the Association shall be subject to an appeal to an Appeals Committee.

Breach of Contract

Section 8: In case of breach of contract, the regional board of managers shall have authority to assess a penalty from a minimum of \$100.00 to a maximum of \$1000.00 against the offending coach and/or school. The amount shall be sent to the region chairperson, who shall remit that portion due to the offended school and deposit the balance in the regional treasury. In the event that the breach of contract occurs between schools of different regions, the regional boards of managers from the two regions shall resolve the case. The acceptance of a schedule of league games, pre-season or practice by the principals of the schools concerned shall be understood as constituting a contract. The above includes freshmen (where applicable), sophomore, junior varsity and varsity schedules.

Defacement of School Property

Section 9: Defacement or marring of school property by members of another school may subject the offending school to suspension from the Association for one year. This offense shall be understood to include disfigurement of any sort, by means of paint, kalsomine, chalk or like material upon school property or upon any other property; also, the commission of any act by a member or members of another school which would tend to throw discredit upon the latter school.

Dishonesty

Section 10: A student who has been guilty of dishonesty regarding his or her eligibility shall be disqualified from further participation in contests of this Association for one calendar year from date of infraction.

Gambling

Section 11: Betting on the part of a player on any contest in which he or she is participating shall disqualify him or her from participation in any athletic contest of this Association for one calendar year from date of infraction.

ARTICLE IV – Activity Limitations and Awards *(see page 37, number 13)*

Schedules

- Section 1:**
- (a) All scheduled interscholastic activities within the jurisdiction of this Association shall be governed by this Association.
 - (b) All schedules of activities shall be approved by the local Board of Education or its duly authorized representatives. All games or schedules shall be so arranged as to interfere with a minimum of school work.

Practice, Post-Season and Pre-Season Contests

- Section 2:**
- (a) The Board of Trustees shall have authority to determine the dates that schools may utilize for practice in each and all activities.
 - (b) Pre-season and, post-season games and contests, shall be governed by the Board of Trustees. The number of games to be played during the sports season shall be governed by the Board of Trustees.
 - (c) The alumni are to be considered as an outside team. *(see page 37, number 13B)*

School Sponsored Summer Programs *(see pages 37-39, number 14)*

- Section 3:** Summer clinics on an individual school basis may be held with the approval and direction of the local school administration and with the approval of the local Boards of Education. The two basic principles governing the development and operation of summer programs should be:
- (a) All educational programs for high school students should be kept in balance so that no single program robs any other program of its fair and proper share of attention in the students' experiences; and
 - (b) All students should have equal opportunity to compete for a position on a team. There should be no discrimination against any student in the operation of summer physical development activities, and participation in such programs will not be prerequisite to membership in a school's athletic program.

Awards

- Section 4:** Individual participants of any interscholastic activity sponsored and/or approved by the UHSAA shall not accept any cash award.

ARTICLE V – Licensed Teachers, UHSAA Coaches Training and Supervision of Students

- Section 1:** All head coaches and paid assistant coaches must receive certification in both First Aid and CPR prior to coaching. All head coaches and paid assistant coaches must receive coaching training by June 30th of the school year in which they begin coaching. A head coach or paid assistant coach shall be prohibited from coaching a second year except that said person complete the UHSAA/USOE coaches training program. Head coaches and paid assistant coaches with a major, minor or endorsement in physical education and/or a minor in coaching are considered trained. It is recommended that a licensed faculty member still be present and in charge of the practice session or activity concerned.

- Section 2:** A licensed faculty member or full-time faculty member must accompany his/her teams or students to all UHSAA state tournaments, meets or festivals for which they have qualified to participate unless arrangements are made with the Executive Director in advance for students to be under the supervision of a licensed or full time faculty member from another school. Teams or individuals without a licensed or full-time faculty representative will be barred from the activity.

ARTICLE VI – Contests with Non-Member Schools Prohibited *(see pg. 37, No. 13)*

- Section 1:** Members of the Utah High School Activities Association shall be prohibited from engaging in contests with Utah high schools that are not members of the Utah High School Activities Association without the approval of the Board of Trustees. For purposes of this Article, an alumni team is exempt from this rule.
- Section 2:** Members of the Utah High School Activities Association shall be prohibited from engaging in contests with high schools outside of Utah who are not members of their respective state high school associations unless that state permits contests with schools not members of its association. In such case, those schools shall be considered eligible for contests with UHSAA members.
- Section 3:** The penalty for violation of the above sections may be suspension from the Utah High School Activities Association for the offending school.

ARTICLE VII – Sanctioning Process *(see page 39, number 15)*

By definition, contests between two, three or four member schools are considered sanctioned.

Multi-School Meets

- Section 1:** Any multi-school meet hosted in Utah which involves more than four member schools, whether in-state or out-of-state, must be approved by the UHSAA at least thirty (30) days prior to the event. Applications received after deadline may be fined \$100.00.

National Federation Sanctioning Requirements

- Section 2:**
- (a) Any interstate competition involving two (2) or more member schools which is sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside of the high school community (i.e., a university, a company, a theme park, a community recreation department, etc.) in addition to being sponsored by a member school, shall require sanction of the National Federation.
 - (b) An interstate competition sponsored by a State Association member school is automatically sanctioned by the Associations involved regardless of the number of competing schools, provided all schools are from bordering states.
 - (c) National Federation action is required if one or more of the competing schools comes from a state which does not border the host state, and even then five or more states and/or more than eight schools must be involved. In that case, Federation approval is necessary for schools from ALL STATES INCLUDED.
 - (d) Effective August 1, 2009, the NFHS has changed from the hard copy paper application to an online process for NFHS sanctioned events. For information regarding NFHS sanctioning procedures go to the NFHS website (nfhs.org) and click on the "Sports" tab.
 - (e) Any event involving U.S. and foreign schools must be sanctioned by the state association(s) involved and the National Federation.
 - (f) Application forms for interstate and international contests or tournaments requiring sanction are available from the Association office and must be filled out completely before the request will be considered.

"Together WE must continue to pass on the positive values and principles that high school activities have taught each one of us. WE must help students dream and succeed by creating one of the most powerful and influential educational experiences that can be provided to young people.

-----Robert C. Cuff, UHSAA Executive Director

ARTICLE VIII – Officials *(see page 44, number 26)*

Section 1: Only certified officials may be used in 9th grade, sophomore, junior varsity and varsity competition.

Section 2: Each Region Board of Managers is responsible for the appointment of certified officials to games within its Region or playing league. The Region Board of Managers may delegate such authority to a committee or individual.

ARTICLE IX – Competition Against Higher Institutions *(see page 40, number 16)*

Section 1: No athletic team representing a member high school shall compete or scrimmage in organized competition against a college or university team, nor shall individuals in individual sports compete against a member of a university or college team.

ARTICLE X – Equal Opportunity *(see page 47, number 32)*

Section 1: Equal opportunity shall exist for all students to participate in Association sponsored activities without regard to sex, religion, race or ethnic origin.

ARTICLE XI – Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco *(see page 47, numbers 35-36)*

Section 1: The UHSAA supports the U.S. Supreme Court rulings regarding education. First, to prepare students to be good citizens and second, to teach them to be self-reliant and self-sufficient. Activities of the UHSAA contribute to both of these goals. The use of alcohol, tobacco products or other drugs in almost every instance deters the realization of these goals. Every effort shall be made at the local, region and state levels of participation to eradicate the promotion, use or abuse of alcohol, drugs and tobacco with regard to participation in high school sports and activities. Limitation for participation of students in Utah high school activities regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco products and other drugs during a sports season, as defined in the Utah Code are:

- (a) **First offense:** Suspension from two consecutive games, meets, matches, competitions or performances at the same level of play (and any intervening levels as well). Practice may be continued following a personal assessment of the student by a licensed substance abuse intervention or treatment program and/or participation in a district approved intervention program.
- (b) **Second offense:** A six-week suspension from games, meets, matches, competitions or performances. Student participation in an assessment by a licensed substance abuse intervention or treatment program with prescribed follow-up is required. Practice may continue only after the assessment has been completed and positive participation in the prescribed follow-up is occurring.
- (c) **Third offense:** An eighteen-week suspension from all games, meets, matches, competitions, performances and practices. Reinstatement of eligibility at the end of the eighteen week suspension is predicated upon successful completion of a formal assessment, intervention and treatment program. In all of the foregoing offenses, local school and/or district requirements which deal with discipline, suspension, corrective measures, parent/guardian involvement, rehabilitation and so forth, must be met.

Section 2: Local school or district requirements may exceed those set forth in Section 1.