To: High School Principals and Athletic Directors

Re: **Changes in the 2019-2020 CIAC Handbook and Information**

From: CIAC Staff

Date: August 2019

Please note the following changes/updates in the 2019-2020 Handbook:

## Section 1.0 CIAC Story

The CIAC Membership Agreement is now listed as Appendix A at the back of the CIAC Handbook.

## Section 2.0 CAS Constitution

No Changes.

## Section 3.0 CIAC By-Laws

* ARTICLE XI – COOPERATIVE TEAM SPONSORSHIP(Pages 62-69)

The language in the section on Cooperative Team Sponsorship was reorganized and clarified. We recommend that you review this entire section. Among the more significant changes are:

* + *Any attempt to stifle team growth or to discourage turnout to maintain lower numbers in order to co-op is considered a cutting policy and is prohibited.(Page 63-- number 9)*
	+ *Decision Making Power(Page 64)*

*Decisions to approve or disapprove all cooperative team applications are relegated to the Cooperative Team Committee by the CIAC Board of Control.*

## Section 4.0 Athletic Administration

* **Forfeits**

*Individual forfeit results may not be counted as wins for individuals receiving the forfeits.(Page 96—number 3)*

* **Sports Information**

In order to better communicate rules for each sport, all sports specific rules have been removed from the CIAC Handbook and will be communicated via the Sports Packet for each sport.

## Section 5.0 Committees

No Changes

## Section 6.0 Eligibility

* **CIAC Interpretation for Online Courses (Page 135)**

*CIAC requires, for eligibility purposes, that grades for online courses be determined in accordance with traditional course grading periods.*

* **F1 Visa Students (Page 138)**

*A foreign exchange student not in an approved CSIET program will be eligible providing:*

*The student is living with a parent or legal guardian (****as determined by Probate Court****);*

*The student is not considered a high school graduate or its equivalent;*

*The student meets all other CIAC eligibility requirements – age, academic standards, number of seasons played (eight consecutive semester rule), etc.*

*However, students attending a CIAC member school while on an F-1 Visa are ineligible for participation in varsity athletics for 365 days upon enrollment and may only participate in varsity competitions for two years.*

*Note:  If any F-1 Visa student transfers into a CIAC member school the 365 days of ineligibility in varsity athletics will restart to coincide with the date of transfer.*

* **Unified Partner Eligibility(Page 144)**

*Further options would allow a Special Partner who is a varsity/junior varsity, or freshman athlete to participate on a Unified Sports team as a partner, assistant coach, or a one-on-one aide during their sport season.*

## Section 7.0 Fees and Finance

Updates to fees.

## Section 8.0 National Federation

No Changes

## Section 9.0 Personnel

No Changes

## Section 10.0 Policy Statements

No Changes

## Appendices

* Appendix A – Membership agreement relocated to here.
* Appendix B – Under “Rules of Eligibility”

A. The student shall be a member of that school in grades 9, 10, 11 or 12 *and is only eligible to participate in the athletic program associated with that school.*