

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS
The Fifty-Sixth Annual Meeting
May 8, 2008

CHANGES TO THE CIAC BYLAWS
(adopted by the CIAC membership on May 8, 2008)

**CHANGE #1: Article VII – Tournaments, Meets and Games - Section E.1. AND
Article XI – Cooperative Team Sponsorship - #6**

Explanation of change: To use a school's 9-12 boy-girl combined enrollment figure (rather than the 10-12 enrollment figure) to determine CIAC tournament divisions (e.g., Class LL, L, MM, etc.).

ARTICLE VII, SECTION E.1.

Existing Language:

After the enrollments as of October 1 for the current school year are received and tabulated by the Executive Director the sport committees shall determine the tournament or championship meet divisions for the following school year.

Proposed Language (*changes in bold italics*):

After the **9-12** enrollments as of October 1 for the current school year are received and tabulated by the Executive Director the sport committees shall determine the tournament or championship meet divisions for the following school year.

ARTICLE XI – COOPERATIVE TEAM SPONSORSHIP - #6

Existing Language:

The combined boy or girl enrollments in grades 10, 11 and 12 of the schools involved in the cooperative team will be used to determine the classification of the cooperative for the participation in CIAC tournaments.

Proposed Language (*changes in bold italics*):

The combined boy or girl enrollment in grades **9**, 10, 11 and 12 of the schools involved in the cooperative team will be used to determine the classification of the cooperative for the participation in CIAC tournaments.

RATIONALE: Using 10-12 enrollment to determine tournament divisions was instituted when many Connecticut secondary schools were constituted 7-8-9 and 10-11-12. All Connecticut high schools are now 9-12. The reporting and use of 9-12 enrollment will be a more accurate reflection of the number of students attending each school and will add clarity for schools and the public regarding tournament classifications.

CHANGE #2: ARTICLE XII (OUT-OF-SEASON PLAY)

Explanation of change: To revise the salary threshold that determines whether or not an individual is a “bona fide paid employee” for the purposes of the Out-of-Season Regulation.

**Article XII – Section 2.0 During the School Year - Out-of-Season Including the Summer –
Definitions for Exceptions to 2.1.b. - 1. A Bona Fide Paid Employee**

Existing Language:

A Bona Fide Paid Employee – Is an employee who receives at least \$600 in salary for coaching service and can produce an IRS W-2 form or 1099 form which documents \$600 or more in salary received from the employer.

Proposed Language (*changes in bold italics*):

A Bona Fide paid Employee – Is an employee who receives at least **\$2,000** in salary for coaching service and can produce an IRS W-2 form or 1099 form which documents **\$2,000** or more in salary received from the employer.

RATIONALE: The increase to a minimum salary of \$2,000 more accurately reflects the current pay scale and serves to limit the manipulation of the out-of-season coaching regulations.

CHANGE #3: Article IV (ORGANIZATION), Section E (Committees), #2

Explanation of change: To allow one additional non-voting CHSCA representative to serve on each CIAC sports committee.

Existing Language:

Each committee having to do with state tournaments or meets shall include one or more athletic directors and/or coaches. Voting members of committees shall be appointed by the CIAC Board of Control executive committee and shall consist of administrators of CAS member schools and one delegate per sport tournament division classification as recommended by the Connecticut High School Coaches Association. There will be a limit of two terms of two years each for each coach representative. Rotation of terms shall be staggered, where possible, for the purpose of maintaining continuity of purpose.

All coach consultants to CIAC sports committees must serve a specific tournament function such as a tournament director, assistant tournament director, coordinator of officials or other role that serves a particular tournament responsibility.

Proposed Language (to be added to existing language):

Each sports committee will be allowed to appoint one additional non-voting member as recommended by the CHSCA whose term may not exceed eight continuous years of service on a single sports committee.

RATIONALE: This change is being proposed in deference to the Connecticut High School Coaches Association which request that one additional coach representative be allowed to serve on each CIAC sports committee as a non-voting member. The request was made for the following reasons: (1) it would provide greater continuity at the CHSCA executive committee level; (2) it would re-institute a practice of long-standing which was halted last year for the purpose of complying with CIAC by-laws; and, (3) it would add one more coach representative to committee deliberations.

CHANGE #4: ARTICLE IX (RULES OF ELIGIBILITY), Section IV (General Procedures)

Explanation of change: To require a female athlete who participates on a boys' sports team during the regular season to compete in the boys' tournament for that sport even if a girls' tournament is offered simultaneously.

Section IV -- General Procedures -- F.

Existing Language:

Girls may participate on boys teams. Girls may participate on either a girls team or a boys team in the same sport, but not both, within a time period of one school year. However, a member school has discretion to exclude girls from boys teams when it can demonstrate that its overall sports program does not limit athletic opportunities for girls.

*Girls who participate on boys teams may enter either the boys or the girls state tournament, but not both. Boys may not participate on girls teams.

Proposed Language (changes in bold italics):

Girls may participate on boys teams. Girls may participate on either a girls team or a boys team in the same sport, but not both, within a time period of one school year. However, a member school has discretion to exclude girls from boys teams when it can demonstrate that its overall sports program does not limit athletic opportunities for girls.

* Girls who participate on boys' teams, ***because the school does not offer a girls program in that sport,*** may enter either the boys' or girls' tournament, but not both. ***Girls who choose to participate on a boys' team when the school offers a girls' team in that sport, may only enter the boys' tournament.*** Boys may not play on girls teams.

RATIONALE: Present CIAC rules allow a girl to participate on a boys' team even when an equivalent girls' program exists in a school and gives the athlete the option to participate in either the boys' or girls' post-season tournament. The CIAC Board believes if a female student-athlete chooses to play on a boys' team in the regular season she should be required to play in the boys' tournament. This change levels the playing field and does not give an advantage to a female athlete who has competed against boys all season were she to compete against girls in the post-season.

CHANGE #5: ARTICLE IX (RULES OF ELIGIBILITY), Section IV (General Procedures)

Explanation of change: To clarify the decision-making procedures that will be followed when an unexpected situation arises at a tournament which necessitates an immediate ad hoc decision.

CIAC Code of Eligibility -- Rule IV -- General Procedures - G

Existing Language:

On the eve of a tournament when there is not sufficient time for normal administrative procedures if a question of student or team ineligibility arises the Executive Director of CAS, in consultation with the CIAC Eligibility Committee and the Chairman of the tournament in question, will make an appropriate ad hoc decision in consideration of the best interests of the tournament as a whole.

Proposed language (*changes in bold italics*):

On the eve of *or during a tournament event*, when there is not sufficient time *to follow* normal administrative procedures *regarding* student or team ineligibility, *or when any other issue arises that will interrupt normal tournament procedures*, the executive director of *CIAC (or his/her designee)* in consultation with the *CIAC chairperson*, eligibility committee chairperson, and the chairperson of the tournament *committee* in question will make an appropriate ad hoc decision in consideration of the best interests of the tournament as a whole.

RATIONALE: The CIAC staff has felt strongly for some time now that the existing language in the Code of Eligibility which gives license to a representative committee to take action on behalf of the CIAC Board of Control when it is not possible for full board involvement needs to be improved upon. Most last-minute decisions involve situations which require clarification or interpretation of tournament regulations or conditions resulting from tournament operations and require immediate, decisive action. A greater range of decision-making authority is needed for these types of situations.

CHANGE #6: ARTICLE IX (RULES OF ELIGIBILITY), Section IV (General Procedures)

Explanation of change: To adopt a policy regarding the eligibility of transgender athletes to participate in interscholastic athletic programs.

Article IX - Rules of Eligibility and Control for Boys and Girls High School Athletics in Connecticut - B.

(ALL NEW LANGUAGE)

B. Transgender Participation

CIAC rules and regulations allow transgender student-athlete participation under the following conditions:

1. A student-athlete will compete in the gender of their birth certificate unless they have undergone sex reassignment.
2. A student-athlete who has undergone sex reassignment is eligible to compete in the reassigned gender when:
 - The student-athlete has undergone sex reassignment before puberty, OR
 - The student who has undergone sex reassignment after puberty under all the following conditions:
 - Surgical anatomical changes have been completed, including external genitalia changes and gonadectomy.

- All legal recognition of the sex reassignment has been conferred with all the proper governmental agencies. (Driver's license, Voter Registration, etc.)
- Hormonal therapy appropriate for the assigned sex has been administered in a verifiable manner and for sufficient length of time to minimize gender-related advantages in sports competition.
- Athletic eligibility in the reassigned gender can begin no sooner than two years after all surgical and anatomical changes have been completed.
- A student-athlete seeking participation as a result of sex reassignment can access the CIAC eligibility appeal process.

RATIONALE: While the eligibility of transgendered students has not yet been a “live” issue in Connecticut, the CIAC Board felt that it should be pro-active and have a policy in place for any future eventualities.