

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS
The Fifty-Second Annual Meeting
May 13, 2004

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CIAC BYLAWS
(To be voted on by the CIAC membership only)

CHANGE #1: ARTICLE X (RECRUITMENT), SECTION H.2

Explanation of change: Eliminate the requirement that the individual serving as an investigating officer in a recruitment rule violation case must be an active principal.

Proposed change:

Section H

2. If a charge of recruiting is brought against a member school, the CIAC Board of Control shall appoint from among the CIAC membership ~~a principal who shall serve as~~ an investigating officer, whose duty it shall be to determine the facts in the case.

Reason for change: The existing requirement is more restrictive than necessary. The current regulation requires the CIAC board to select only an active principal to serve as an investigating officer. Often times, however, there are retired principals, ex-CIAC board members, assistant principals, and many highly regarded athletic directors who could function in this role with a high degree of expertise.

CHANGE #2: ARTICLE IX (CODE OF ELIGIBILITY), SECTION III.A.

Explanation of change: Remove the specific penalties assigned to violations of Section II of the Code of Eligibility

Existing Rule III:

III. PENALTIES

A. Violation of Rule IIC. shall mean that the student shall be ineligible for (365) days from the date of transfer. B. Violation of Rule II.D. shall mean that the student shall be ineligible for the remainder of the season. C. Violation of Rule II.E. shall mean that the student shall be ineligible for the remainder of the season. D. Violation of Rule II.F. shall mean that the student is suspended from all interscholastic athletics until he or she shall have been reinstated by the Board of Control of the CIAC after voluntary petition to the Board of Control. The Board of Control shall not consider any petition for reinstatement until at least three (3) school months after the presentation of the petition. E. Violation of Rule II.G. shall mean that the student shall be ineligible for one calendar year from the date of such participation. F. A student of any member school of the CIAC may be barred from participation in athletic contests for violation of the CIAC By-laws. A student against whom a charge or protest has been filed shall have the privilege of having his or her case presented by his or her principal at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Control.

Proposed Rule III (changes appear in *bold italics*):

III. PENALTIES

Violations of any sections of Rule II (Student Eligibility) shall mean that the student is suspended from all interscholastic athletics until he or she shall have been reinstated by the Board of Control of the CIAC.

A student of any member school of the CIAC may be barred from participation in athletic contests for violation of the CIAC By-laws. A student against whom a charge or protest has been filed shall have the privilege of having his or her case presented by his or her principal at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Control.

Reason for change: In cases where a student violates any of the Student Eligibility provisions, the CIAC board would like greater flexibility to determine, on a case by case basis, the appropriate length of time for which that athlete should be suspended from participation.

CHANGE #3: ARTICLE XII (OUT-OF-SEASON PLAY), SECTION 2.0

Explanation of change: Clarify the language concerning the conditions under which a coach is allowed to coach/instruct his/her athletes in a non-school team setting.

Proposed language (changes appear in *bold italics*):

2.0 DURING SCHOOL YEAR OUT-OF-SEASON INCLUDING THE SUMMER

2.1.b. Member schools may not permit their coaches to coach or instruct their member school athletes* in the sport which they coach.

* *Member school athletes are CIAC athletes whose names appear on the previous year's eligibility list and who have eligibility remaining in the sport.*

Exceptions to 2.1.b.

3. A member school coach may coach *one* non-school team *per year* provided no more than *the number of member school athletes listed in the chart below are on the out-of-season team roster. Out-of-season rosters must remain fixed. Individual athletes may not be rotated on and off out-of-season non-school team rosters.*

Girls Team Sports			Boys Team Sports		
Sport	# Reg. Season	# Out-of-Season	Sport	# Reg. Season	# Out-of-Season
Field Hockey	11	6	Football	11	6
Soccer	11	6	Soccer	11	6
Volleyball	6	3	Basketball	5	3
Basketball	5	3	Ice Hockey	6	3
Softball	9	5	Baseball	9	5
Lacrosse	12	6	Lacrosse	10	5
			Volleyball	6	3

Reason for change: Two years ago, at the urging of the Connecticut High School Coaches Association (CHSCA), the CIAC board established an ad hoc committee to review the Out-of-Season Regulation. The committee was asked to look at ways of revising the rule to provide greater flexibility for coaches to work with their athletes in the off-season as long as this could be accomplished without compromising the underlying purpose of the regulation. The committee achieved its objective and a change in the Out-of-Season Regulation was adopted by the membership at the annual meeting in 2002. This subsequent revision simply clarifies the language of the regulation to make it more easily understood and adds a definition for “member school athletes.” The revision still preserves the intent of the original regulation.

PROPOSAL REGARDING ARTICLE III (MEMBERSHIP), SECTION B

NOTE: The following language is being put forth for consideration as a change. This is not being presented for adoption, but merely for the purposes of stimulating dialogue and generating feedback.

Explanation of change: (1) Provide the CIAC with the authority to sanction individuals, including coaches, for violations of CIAC rules and regulations; (2) provide the executive director with the authority to bring charges against a member schools and/or school personnel for violations of the provision of the CIAC handbook.

Proposed language (changes appear in *bold italics*):

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section B. Violation of By-laws, Regulations, *Rules, Standards of courtesy, Fair Play and Sportsmanship, Code of Ethics or Handbook Provisions.*

1. The Board of Control shall have the power to assess *and to enforce* such penalties, *including fines, against member schools, principals, athletic directors, coaches and/or members of the coaching staff*, as it deems suitable for violations of its By-laws, Regulations, *Rules, Standards of Courtesy, Fair Play and Sportsmanship, Code of Ethics, or any other standard of conduct or any other provision of this handbook*. Any such penalties will be administered in accordance with established due process procedures. *A charge for any of the above violations may be brought against a member school, principal, athletic director, coach and/or member of the coaching staff by another member school or by the Executive Director of CAS-CIAC. Charges made by a member school must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director by the principal of the school making the charge. Charges made by the Executive Director must also be in writing.*
2. The Executive Director shall transmit a copy of the charge or protest to the principal of the school *or other such person* against which *or against whom the charge or* protest has been made. *The Executive Director shall also provide a copy of the charge or protest to the CIAC Board of Control's chairperson.*
3. *There shall be a hearing before the CIAC Board of Control at which the charging party shall have an opportunity to present the facts of its charge or protest and the party charged or against which a protest has been made shall have an opportunity to present its response to the charge or protest.*
4. The Executive Director, upon notification from the chairperson, shall give due notice of the time and place of the hearing to all schools *and/or persons* concerned.
5. All member schools of the Conference shall be notified in writing of any case of suspension of a member school.
6. *Any fine imposed against a principal, athletic director, coach, assistant coach, other member of the coaching staff or other person shall not be paid by the member school, but shall be paid by the individual(s) fined.*
7. A member school *or other person against which or against whom a charge or protest has been made who is* dissatisfied with a decision of the Board of Control, with the exception of eligibility cases, may within fourteen (14) days after distribution of the written decision, appeal in writing to the Board of Directors of CAS whose decision shall be final and binding upon all parties.

REASON FOR CHANGE: (1) To provide the CIAC Board of Control with the flexibility to place sanctions where they properly belong without necessarily punishing an athlete who violated a rule of eligibility through no fault of his/her own; (2) to provide the executive director with the authority to bring charges for violations of **any** CIAC regulations in the same way that he/she can bring charges of recruiting under Article X.