

NILES NORTH HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



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INTRODUCTION TO THE NILES NORTH ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

This handbook has been prepared to make information and suggestions readily available to you and to help in making your athletic career at **Niles North** more successful. Read it carefully, and also make it available to your parents. A thorough knowledge of our rules as well as our Central Suburban League (CSL) and state association's (IHSA) rules and procedures will smooth many "bumps" in the road which lies ahead.

It is the intent of the athletic department and the administration that no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation or be denied benefits or subjected to discrimination under the education programs or activities described herein. In addition District 219 ensures equal opportunities to all students regardless of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, or handicap under the by-laws of the IHSA and the Central Suburban League.

Please remember that all the coaches, instructors and custodians are here to help you, and that they have a place above you in lines of authority at this point in your life.

A great deal of money is spent annually to purchase and maintain our facilities and equipment. Your parents, your friends and you help to finance our program in various ways. Do your part to help keep these costs down by taking **pride** in what we have, and in exercising good judgment in its use.

Your presence on an athletic team draws the focus of public attention to you as a representative of Niles North High School. Be consistently on your toes in the gymnasium, on the field, in the classrooms at home, and in public to display mature behavior. Assume more than your share of this responsibility and Niles North athletes will be respected and admired everywhere as champion citizens as well as fine athletes.

Niles North has a great tradition in interscholastic athletics. Our athletic teams are respected by all. Your decision to participate on an athletic team at Niles North indicates that you are willing to make a commitment to uphold the tradition that has been earned by many great athletes.

There is a lot of material to digest within this handbook. It contains information that will impact your life daily. Please keep it in a handy location. The staff and administration of Niles North stand ready to assist you at all times.

NILES NORTH PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Participation in interscholastic athletics provides students with opportunities to acquire important, lifelong skills for future success in life. In addition, the athletic program is designed to positively contribute to the Niles Township community. Through intentional teaching and positive reinforcement, we strive to teach our students the power of success through humility, and perseverance through challenges, obstacles, and defeat.

The primary objective of the athletic programs in the Niles Township High School District is to provide wholesome opportunities for students to compete and learn important life lessons, values, and favorable habits and attitudes in social settings. To realize this goal, District 219 athletic programs recognize the value of participation and commitment to developing a competitive interscholastic athletic program, and emphasize the importance of balancing victory with defeat in order to develop and improve positive character traits among all participants. Every effort is made to support District 219 athletic programs with the best facilities, equipment, and most qualified staff available. Coaches, directors, and sponsors must be positive role models with knowledge of their activity, ethical behavior, strong leadership, and interest in the holistic development of all student athletes.

All student athletes are held to high expectations of academic achievement and success in the classroom. Coaches and teachers work as partners to provide opportunities for the success of every student. District 219 athletic programs seek to provide a positive image of athletics at Niles North and Niles West High Schools, strive for excellence that will produce winning teams within the bounds of good sportsmanship, and ensure growth and development that will increase the number of individual participants in interscholastic athletics.

THE OBJECTIVES OF PARTICIPATION

To provide a positive image of high school athletics at Niles North.

To strive always for competitive excellence that will produce winning teams within the bounds of good sportsmanship and health of the student athlete.

To ensure growth and development that will raise the number of individual participants.

Administrative Procedures: Code of Conduct for Extra-Curricular Activities
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This Code of Conduct applies to all school-sponsored activities and athletics that are neither part of an academic class nor otherwise carry credit or a grade. Sponsors shall create a roster of students who are members or participants in an extra-curricular activity and maintain attendance records in order to implement this procedure.

The goal of our extra-curricular program is to provide opportunities for students to pursue interests and develop life skills beyond the classroom. An additional goal of our athletic program is to develop the physical skills of our athletes, which will allow them to compete to the best of their ability within the Board of Education policies and the by-laws of the Illinois High School Association.

Students must behave in ways which are consistent with good sportsmanship, leadership, and appropriate moral conduct. The Code of Conduct below describes the expectations and goals of the athletic program and other extra-curricular programs. This code does not contain a complete list of inappropriate behaviors for students in extra-curricular activities and athletics.

A student may be excluded from competition or activities during any period of time in which an investigation is being conducted by the school regarding that student's conduct. Members of ALL extra-curricular programs and athletics will be expected to demonstrate good citizenship and exemplary conduct in the classroom, in the community, and during all facets of the activity.

This Code of Conduct will be enforced 365 days a year 24 hours a day. Students and their parents are encouraged to seek assistance from the Student Assistance Program (SAP) coordinator reporting adolescent alcohol or other drug problems. Family referrals or self-referrals to the SAP will be taken into consideration in determining consequences for Code of Conduct violations.

Code of Conduct

A student participating in the athletic or activity program in the Niles Township High Schools will be subject to disciplinary action if he or she violates the Athletic and Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct. Anonymous reports of Code violations may be investigated by District administrators. Students not currently involved in extra-curricular activities at the time of an investigation will have the results of any such investigation entered into the violation record. Should such a student later become involved in the extra-curricular program, additional violations will be treated cumulatively.

Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations. The student shall not:

- a. use a beverage containing alcohol (except for religious purposes, culinary course work or the use of containers or packaging as props for theater);
- b. use tobacco in any form;
- c. use, possess, buy, sell, barter, or distribute any illegal substance or paraphernalia;
- d. use, possess, buy, sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is denominated as a "look alike" weapon (except that this prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in sports, such as archery, martial arts practice, target shooting, hunting, and skeet);
- e. attend a party or other gathering and/or ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors;
- f. act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
- g. vandalize or steal;
- h. haze other students;
- i. violate the written rules for the activity or sport;
- j. behave in a manner which is detrimental to the good of the group or organization;
- k. falsify any of the information contained on any permit or permission form required by the activity or sport.

Due Process Procedures

Students who are accused of violating the District Code of Conduct for Extra-Curricular Activities are entitled to the following due process:

The student should be advised of the disciplinary infraction with which he or she is being charged.

The student, along with his/her parents, shall be entitled to a hearing before the appropriate administrator leveling the charges against him or her and the school's Student Assistance Program Coordinator.

The student will be able to respond to any charges leveled by the administrator against him or her.

The student may provide any additional information he or she wishes for the administrator to consider.

The administrator may interview material witnesses or others with evidence concerning the case. If the administrator finds, after reviewing the evidence, that the violation occurred, he/she will impose sanctions on the student, as follows:

Sanctions for violations other than drug and alcohol will be based on the nature of the offense, and the number of previous offenses, and may include suspension from all activities or sports, to be determined by the Building Principal or designee:

- for a specified period of time or percentage of events, competitions, or practices;
- for the remainder of the season or for the next season;
- for an entire calendar year;
- for the remainder of the student's high school career.

Sanctions for alcohol and other drug violations will be based on the following minimum guidelines and may increase, based on the severity of the offense and the determination of the relevant administrator(s):

First violation:

- a. A suspension of one-third of performances, activities, or competitions (or the equivalent time period).
- b. The student will be required to practice with the group, regardless of the violation (unless suspended from school by the Deans).

Second violation:

- a. A suspension of one season, including suspension from all performances, activities; or competitions during this period.
- b. The student may be required to practice with the group.
- c. To participate again in any activities, the student must successfully participate in and complete a school-approved alcohol and other drug abuse assessment and follow all recommendations from that assessment.

Third violation:

- a. A suspension of one calendar year from the date of the suspension, including all extra-curricular activities during this period.
- b. To participate again in any activities, the student must successfully participate in and complete a school-approved alcohol and other drug abuse assessment and follow all recommendations from that assessment.

Fourth violation:

- a. A suspension from all extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the student's high school career.

Students will be required to serve any suspensions immediately, or at the start of competition of the next athletic or activity season. Students involved in multiple activities will be required to serve equivalent suspensions for each activity.

Students may reduce sanctions for their first Code of Conduct violation by taking part in any of the following, although no suspension may be eliminated entirely by a combination of these activities:

- a. The penalty will be reduced by one week if the student successfully participates in and completes a school-approved awareness program.

- b. The penalty will be reduced at a rate of one day for every two hours of community service completed in coordination with the school's Student Assistance Program Coordinator. The maximum reduction for community service will be seven days.
- c. The penalty will be reduced by one week for students who self-report a violation of the Code of Conduct. (This reduction may be applied to any single violation, including and beyond the first.)

Students shall have the opportunity to appeal the finding of a Code of Conduct violation to a Code of Conduct Review Board, but shall not review the length of the sanctions imposed as the result of such a finding. The Code of Conduct Review Board shall be composed of the following, all appointed by the Building Principal:

- a. Three administrators, one of which shall be a Dean and none of which shall be the administrator(s) responsible for the initial determination of a Code of Conduct violation;
- b. One activities sponsor, who shall not supervise or coach the student in question;
- c. One athletic head coach, who shall not supervise or coach the student in question;
- d. Two students acting in an *ex officio* capacity: one an athlete and one a non-athlete, neither of which shall participate in an activity nor sport with the student in question.

Students may be excluded from the Code of Conduct Review Board at the Building Principal's discretion, on a case by case basis, if a rationale is provided.

The Code of Conduct Review Board will make a written report of its decision and rationale. The decision of this Review Board is final, except where the sanction removes the student from sports and activities for one year or more. In these cases, the student may appeal the decision to the Building Principal. For students attending Niles Central, the appeal decision will be made by the primary Building Principal, in consultation with the Niles Central Principal.

Board Review: February 22, 1999, May 22, 2000, May 23, 2001, May 23, 2001, May 17, 2004, May 18, 2009

"THE NORTH WAY"

I will have the courage of my convictions, supporting that which I believe to be right, and at the same time respecting differing views and ideas.

I will put forth my best effort in all that I do.

I will cultivate a spirit of fairness, honesty, and sincerity in all my actions.

I will take full responsibility for my actions and speech at all times, striving always to attain high standards of personal conduct.

I will consider the rights of others, treating them as I would desire to be treated.

I will continually strive for knowledge, always recognizing its value.

I will show respect and honor for our American heritage and will exercise the privileges and obligations granted to me under the constitution and our democratic way of life.

I will encourage an attitude of good sportsmanship by being modest in victory and gracious in defeat, not only in classroom activities and athletics, but in all aspects of my life.

I will develop and appreciate an understanding of other peoples and their cultures.

I will be loyal to my school, taking pride in its endeavors and accomplishments.

3.000 IHSA ATHLETIC BY-LAWS

Included in this Section:

3.000 Athletic Eligibility By-laws

3.010 Attendance

3.020 Scholastic Standing

3.030 Residence

3.040 Transfer

3.050 Participation Limitations

3.060 Age

3.070 Recruiting

3.080 Amateurism

3.090 Use of Assumed Name

3.100 Independent Team Participation

3.110 Coaching School Participation

3.120 All Star Participation

3.130 Use of Eligible Participants

3.140 Misbehavior during Contests

3.150 Special Provisions for Summer Participation

3.160 Open Gym Limitations

3.170 Classification

Students in member schools shall be eligible to participate on athletic teams in interscholastic athletic contests as representatives of their schools provided:

3.010 ATTENDANCE

3.011 A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term “attend” shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school, and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by the member school, a minimum of twenty (20) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student’s completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student’s compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of all IHSA by-laws. The Board of Directors shall have the discretion to waive the requirement of this by-law for the Illinois schools for the deaf or blind. In unit systems having a 6-3-3 or 6-4-2 type of organization, ninth grade students may participate on senior high school athletic teams at the member high school in the district designated by the Board of Education, provided:

- (a) such participation is approved by the district’s superintendent of schools;
- (b) the senior high school principal shall certify that the ninth grade students:

- (1) are eligible under the requirements of these By-laws,
- (2) are students at a junior high school located in the district which supports the senior high school, and
- (3) are not members of a grade or junior high school team in the same sport; and,
- (c) the senior high school principal assumes full responsibility for the conduct of these students during all athletic contests in which they represent the senior high school.

3.012 They shall have been enrolled and in attendance not later than the beginning of the eleventh school day of the semester. Exception may be considered only if written verification that delay in enrollment or attendance is caused by illness of the students or their immediate family or by other circumstances deemed acceptable by the Board of Directors which are submitted to the Executive Director for presentation to the Board of Directors.

3.013 Including a student’s name on school attendance records for a period of ten (10) or more school days during any given semester, beginning with the date of the student’s first physical attendance and ending with the date of the student’s official withdrawal from school, shall constitute a semester of attendance for the student.

3.014 If a student does not attend school for ten (10) days in a semester, as defined in Section 3.013, but participates in any interscholastic athletic activity, the student shall be considered to have completed a semester of attendance, unless withdrawal from school occurs prior to completion of ten (10) days attendance and is necessitated by disabling illness or injury which is certified by a physician.

3.015 They shall not have any lapse of school connection during any given semester of greater than ten consecutive school days. Lapse of school connection for greater than ten consecutive school days shall render them ineligible for the remainder of the entire semester. Exceptions may be considered only if written verification that lapse in school connection is caused by illness of the students or their immediate family or by other circumstances deemed acceptable to the Board of Directors which are submitted to the Executive Director for presentation to the Board of Directors.

3.016 Absence of students required by military service to state or nation in the time of any state of national emergency shall not affect students' eligibility.

3.020 SCHOLASTIC STANDING

3.021 They shall be doing passing work in at least twenty (20) credit hours of high school work per week.

3.022 They shall, unless they are entering high school for the first time, have credit on the school records for twenty (20) credit hours of high school work for the previous semester. Such work shall have been completed in the semester for which credit is granted or in a recognized summer school program which has been approved by the Board of Education and for which graduation credit is received.

3.023 They shall not have graduated from any four-year high school or its equivalent.

3.024 Passing work shall be defined as work of such a grade that if on any given date a student would transfer to another school, passing grades for the course would immediately be certified on the student's transcript to the school to which the student transfers.

3.025 Work taken in junior college, college, university, or by correspondence may be accepted toward meeting the requirements of this Section provided it is granted credit toward graduation from high school by the local Board of Education.

3.030 RESIDENCE

A student's eligibility is contingent upon the student meeting the applicable criteria from Sections 3.031-3.034 below. Except as provided in Section 6.010 of these by-laws, a student who does not comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 3.031-3.034 of these by-laws shall be ineligible for a period not to exceed 365 days. Once a student has attended high school, any change of the school attended by the student shall subject that student to the requirements of the rules applicable to transfers under Section 3.040 of these by-laws and its subsections.

3.031 Public School Students: Students attending public member schools shall be eligible at the public high school in which they enroll, provided:

3.031.1 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the public school district in which the high school they attend is located; or

3.031.2 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and have attended a minimum of the seventh and

eighth grades as tuition-paying non-resident students in the district in which the high school they attend is located.

3.031.3 They reside full time with one birth or adoptive parent without assignment of custody or legal guardianship by the court, provided:

- (1) their residence is in the district in which the member school they attend is located; and
- (2) they attended that member school the previous school term.

3.031.4 In all other cases, students shall not participate until a ruling on their eligibility is made by the Executive Director.

3.032 Private School Students: Students attending private member schools shall be eligible at the private high school in which they enroll, provided:

3.032.1 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the public high school district in which the private high school they attend is located; or

3.032.2 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and have attended private schools on a continuous basis for the last two consecutive school years before entering high school or for a total of not less than four school years from kindergarten through eighth grade; or

3.032.3 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and attend the private member school attended by one or both of their parents; or

3.032.4 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, in a residence located within a thirty (30) mile radius of the private member school they attend.

3.032.5 In the event a student who resides full time with his/her parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, attends a private school but does not comply with the provisions of by-laws 3.032.1-3.032.4, or in any other circumstance in which a student attends a private school but does not comply with the provisions of by-laws 3.032.1-3.032.4, the student(s) shall not be eligible and shall not participate in an interscholastic contest until a ruling on their eligibility is made by the Executive Director.

3.033 Students in Public Schools Without Boundaries: Students attending public member schools which do not have geographical district boundaries shall be eligible at such public high school in which they enroll, provided:

3.033.1 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having

proper jurisdiction, or they currently and for at least the last two years prior to the student's enrolling in high school, have lived with another family member or relative who has provided full support and adult supervision for the student, as though they were the guardian, within the boundaries of the public high school district in which the non-boundaried public high school they attend is located; OR

3.033.2 They reside full time with their parents or custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and have attended non-boundaried public schools or private schools on a continuous basis for the last two consecutive school years before entering high school or for a total of not less than four school years from kindergarten through eighth grade; OR

3.033.3 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, and attend the non-boundaried public school attended by one or both of their parents; OR

3.033.4 They reside full time with their parents, custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, in a residence located within a thirty (30) mile radius of the non-boundaried public member school they attend.

3.033.5 In the event a student who resides full time with their parents custodial parent or guardian appointed by a judge of a court having proper jurisdiction, attends a public school without boundaries but does not comply with the provisions of By-laws 3.033.1-3.033.4, or in any other circumstance in which a student attends a public school without boundaries but does not comply with the provisions of By-laws 3.033.1-3.033.4, the student(s) shall not be eligible and shall not participate in an interscholastic contest until a ruling on their eligibility is made by the Executive Director.

3.034 Students in Prescribed Conditions: Students attending member schools under one of the following specifically prescribed conditions shall be eligible in accordance with the requirements set forth under that condition:

3.034.1 Residential Students: Students attending public or private member schools as residential students, shall be eligible at the public or private member school in which they enroll provided they reside full time at such school. Eligibility of residential students who do not reside full time at the school they attend shall be determined under the applicable provisions of By-laws 3.031-3.034.

3.034.2 Students who have attended one school for their entire high school career and whose parents, custodial parent or court appointed guardian moves from the district or community traditionally served by that school following the student's completion of the eleventh (11th) grade, may remain in that member school and retain eligibility regarding residence for the twelfth (12th) grade, provided:

1. The student, if not yet eighteen (18) years of age, resides full time with the parents, a custodial parent, a non-custodial birth parent or a court appointed legal guardian; or the student, if eighteen (18) years of age, continues to reside with parents, custodial parent, a non-custodial birth parent or a court appointed legal guardian, or is accepted for enrollment by the school as a student having reached the age of majority under the laws of the State of Illinois; and,

2. Such attendance is approved by the Board of Education or local governing board of the school; and,
3. There is no evidence of undue influence, including but not limited to inducement, remuneration, pressure, promise or provision of special benefits or any other form of encouragement or persuasion, on the part of any person(s) directly or indirectly connected to the school, to retain the student's attendance.

3.034.3 Foreign Exchange Students: Foreign exchange students attending school in Illinois under the auspices of approved student exchange programs, shall be considered eligible regarding residence for a maximum period of one calendar year, commencing with the date of their enrollment and beginning attendance at an IHSA member school. To be considered for approval, a foreign exchange program must assign students to schools by a method which insures that no student, school, or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The Board of Directors shall establish additional criteria by which it shall approve foreign exchange student programs.

3.034.4 Special Education and Special Vocational Education Students: Students attending a Special Education or Special Vocational Educational Cooperative Center, shall be eligible under the following conditions:

3.034.41 Students taking part of their work at the Special Center and part at their home high school shall be eligible at their home high school only;

3.034.42 Students taking all of their work at the Special Center shall be eligible at either their home high school or the school housing the Special Center. However, once the students elect the school at which they will participate, they may not change their decision without the loss of a period of eligibility not to exceed 365 days.

3.034.5 Students Affected by Deannexation: Students affected by a deannexation/annexation of an elementary district from the current high school district will be permitted the choice of attending in the district from which the deannexation occurs or the district to which the territory is then annexed. Whichever choice is made, all students whose families reside in the territory in question will be permitted to retain eligibility in regard to residence, provided they are high school students at the time of the deannexation action.

3.040 TRANSFER

The eligibility of a student who transfers attendance from one high school to another high school is subject to the following Sections 3.041-3.047 and their sub-sections. Such student must additionally be in compliance with the applicable residency provisions of By-laws 3.031-3.034 and their respective sub-sections after the transfer. Except as provided in Section 6.010 of these by-laws, a student who does not comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 3.041-3.047 of these by-laws and their sub-sections shall be ineligible for a period not to exceed 365 days.

3.041 In all transfer cases, both the principal of the school from which the student transfers and the school to which the student transfers must approve of the transfer and execute a form provided by the IHSA Office. This form is to be initiated and signed by the principal of the

school to which the student transfers and provided to the principal of the school from which the student transfers for signature by that principal. The concurrence of the principals accepting a transfer shall not be determinative of eligibility or binding on the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors who shall have the discretion to investigate the accuracy of such conclusion and to override the acceptance of a transfer if evidence of violation or avoidance of non-compliance with any by-law, or recruiting in connection with the transfer is found. A student is not eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest until the transfer form, fully executed by both principals, is on file in the offices of the school to which the student transfers.

3.042 Once classes begin in a school for the current school year, if a student changes attendance from that high school to another high school, the student shall be ineligible for the remainder of the school year in any sport in which he/she participated or was participating in a practice or interscholastic contest in the current school year at the school from which the transfer occurs; or

Once classes begin in a school for the current school year, if a student changes attendance from that high school to another high school, the student shall be ineligible for a period of thirty days, commencing on the first day of attendance at the new high school, in any sport in which he/she was not participating or had not participated during the current school year at the school from which the student transferred.

3.043 In addition, a student who transfers attendance from one high school to another high school pursuant to these by-laws, shall be ineligible unless:

3.043.1 The student transfers attendance in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent (in the case of a student with one deceased parent), or guardian from one public high school district to a different public high school district; or

3.043.2 The student transfers attendance from one public high school in a school district which supports two (2) or more public high schools to another public high school in that school district, and the transfer is in conjunction with a change in residence by both the student and his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian to a residence within the boundaries established by the governing board of the school district for the high school to which the student transfers; or

3.043.3 The student changes attendance from a private school or a public school with no boundaries to a public high school located in the school district in which the student resides full time with his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian; the student is enrolling for the first time in a public member high school with boundaries; and the principals of both of the high schools involved accept the transfer, concurring that there is no evidence of a) any violation or avoidance of, or noncompliance with, any by-law, b) any recruiting in connection with the transfer; or

3.043.4 The student transfers attendance from one private school to a different private school which is located within a 30 mile radius of his or her residence; the student resides full time with his or her parents, custodial parent, surviving parent, or guardian; the student is changing high school attendance for the first time; and the principals of both private high schools involved accept the transfer, concurring that there is no evidence of a) any violation of, or noncompliance with, any by-law, or b) any recruiting in connection with the transfer; or

3.043.5 The student, who is a child of divorced or legally separated parents, transfers attendance from one high school to another in conjunction with a change in legal custody between the parents by action of a judge of a court of proper jurisdiction, and a change in the student's residence from the former custodial parent to the parent to whom custody has been awarded by the court, provided that a copy of the petition and the court order so changing custody is on file with the principal of the high school to which the student transfers.

3.044 The student, who (a) is an orphan; (b) is a child of divorced, legally separated, or unmarried parents with respect to whom there has not been a change in custody ordered by a court of proper jurisdiction; or (c) is a ward of the state who transfers attendance from one high school to another high school, shall be subject to the eligibility provisions of Sections 3.043.1-3.043.4 as if the student resided with his/her parent(s), provided that following the transfer, the student continues to reside with the same family, foster family, group home or other unit or entity after the transfer as prior to and at the time of the transfer.

3.045 In the case of a student who transfers attendance from one high school to another in conjunction with the adoption of the student after the student has entered high school for the first time, or a change in guardianship of the student by order of a court of proper jurisdiction, the student shall be ineligible pending a ruling by the Executive Director. In such cases, the Executive Director may grant eligibility only if it is determined, after investigation, that the circumstances giving rise to the change of guardianship or adoption and the transfer were completely beyond the control of all of the following:

- (1) the student
- (2) the student's parent(s)/guardian(s)
- (3) the schools to and from which the student transferred.

Any action, inaction, or voluntary or self-initiated decision of the student, parent/guardian or the school to or from which the student transfers, or any one or more of them, which results in, affects, causes or pertains to the transfer shall not be considered to be "circumstances completely beyond the control." The student may practice, but shall not participate in an interscholastic athletic contest until a ruling on the student's eligibility has been made by the Executive Director.

3.046 In all other circumstances involving a transfer, the student shall be ineligible pending a ruling by the Executive Director.

In such cases, the Executive Director may grant eligibility if it is determined after investigation that the circumstances giving rise to the transfer were completely beyond the control of all of the following:

- (1) the student
- (2) the student's parent(s)/guardian(s)
- (3) the schools to and from which the student transferred.

Any action, inaction, or decision of the student, parent/guardian or the school to or from which the student transfers, or any one or more of them, which results in, affects, causes or pertains to the transfer shall not be considered to be "circumstances completely beyond the control." The student may practice, but shall not participate in an interscholastic athletic contest until a ruling on the student's eligibility has been made by the Executive Director.

3.047 The member school to which a student transfers shall enforce any period of ineligibility imposed or that would have been imposed upon the student by the school from which the

student is transferring, even if the student is otherwise eligible under these by-laws. The period of ineligibility at the school to which the student transfers shall be the remaining duration of the period of ineligibility imposed or that would have been imposed had the student not transferred, but not longer than 365 days after the date of the transfer, whichever is less.

3.050 PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS

3.051 After they enroll in the ninth grade, students shall be eligible for no more than eight (8) semesters. They shall not be eligible for more than the number of semesters for which their school is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education.

3.052 Their last two (2) semesters of possible eligibility shall be consecutive. Other semesters of possible eligibility need not be consecutive.

3.053 After they enroll in the ninth grade, they shall not be eligible for more than four (4) school years of competition in any sport.

3.054 Any student in a member school, eligible in all respects under the terms of these By-laws, may be entered to represent that school as an individual in Association-sponsored meets or tournaments under the terms and conditions for that particular event. However, only schools which have an established school team which has engaged in at least six (6) interscholastic contests in that sport during the current season or, in the case of boys baseball, boys golf, boys tennis, girls softball, girls golf, and girls tennis, during the preceding IHSA recognized season in that sport, may participate in team competition in Association-sponsored meets or tournaments.

3.060 AGE

3.061 A student shall be eligible through age nineteen (19) unless the student shall become twenty (20) during a sport season, in which event eligibility shall terminate on the first day of such season (as the season is defined in Section 5.000 of these By-laws).

3.070 RECRUITING OF ATHLETES

In the enforcement of the rule, member schools shall be responsible for any violation committed by any person associated with the school, including principals, assistant principals, coaches, teachers, any other staff members or students, or any organization having any connection to the school.

3.071 Recruitment of students or attempted recruitment of students for athletic purposes is prohibited, regardless of their residence.

3.072 It shall be a violation of this rule for any student athlete to receive or be offered any remunerations of any kind or to receive or be offered any special inducement of any kind which is not made available to all applicants who enroll in the school or apply to the school. Special inducement shall include, but not be limited to:

Special inducement shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Offer or acceptance of money or other valuable consideration such as free or reduced tuition during the regular year or summer school by anyone connected with the school.

(Exception – private schools may waive tuition for children of faculty members, as a benefit of

employment, provided there is no undue influence exerted upon the student or the family to attend the school.)

- (2) Offer or acceptance of room, board or clothing or financial allotment for clothing.
- (3) Offer or acceptance of pay for work that is not performed or that is in excess of the amount regularly paid for such service.
- (4) Offer or acceptance of free transportation by any school connected person.
- (5) Offer or acceptance of a residence with any school connected person.
- (6) Offer or acceptance of any privilege not afforded to non-athletes.
- (7) Offer or acceptance of free or reduced rent for parents.
- (8) Offer or acceptance of payment of moving expenses of parents or assistance with the moving of parents.
- (9) Offer or acceptance of employment of parent(s) in order to entice the family to move to a certain community if someone connected with the school makes the offer.
- (10) Offer or acceptance of help in securing a college athletic scholarship.

3.073 It shall also be a violation of this rule to induce or attempt to induce or encourage any prospective student to attend any member school for the purpose of participating in athletics even when special remuneration or inducement is not given. Schools are not prohibited from conducting academic recruitment programs, programs which may include information concerning the school's extracurricular offerings. However, such recruitment programs must be designed to provide an overview of the academic and extracurricular programs offered by a school and are not to be used as a subterfuge for recruiting students for athletic purposes. Such general recruitment programs permissible under this rule shall be carried out under the following guidelines:

- With the exception of an open house conducted at a member school, no member of a school's coaching staff may present or distribute the school's information to students not yet in high school unless they are representing all phases of the entire high school program at official junior high functions such as high school nights, fairs, days or visits.
- Any information presented or distributed shall be limited to the academic and extracurricular offerings provided by the school. The information may include a description of the athletic facilities available at the school.
- Any information presented or distributed shall not imply, in any manner, that the member school's athletic program is better or more accomplished than any other member school's athletic program.
- Any information presented or distributed shall not imply, in any manner, that it would be more advantageous for a prospective student athlete to attend a member school over any other school because of its extracurricular programs.
- Information may be presented or distributed only at an open house conducted at a member school or at a school housing grades below the ninth from which the member school can normally expect enrollment.

3.080 AMATEURISM

3.081 For winning or placing in actual athletic competition, a student in a member school may accept a medal, cup, trophy or plaque, from the sponsoring agent regardless of cost.

3.082 Schools may provide an individual or teams that win an IHSA state championship, a ring/memento not to exceed \$200 in fair market value. Businesses, booster clubs or other

organizations desiring to make contributions toward the purchase of a championship ring/memento must make those contributions to the school.

3.083 A student in a member school may accept any other award for participation in an athletic contest, or for athletic honors or recognition, which does not exceed \$75 in fair market value, in the following sports: badminton, baseball, basketball, bowling, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, wrestling, and any other sport in which the student's school provides interscholastic competition. In addition, a student in a member school may receive and retain items of wearing apparel which are worn for non-school athletic competition as part of a team uniform provided for and worn by the student during competition.

3.084 A student in a member school may accept a school letter for an interscholastic sport, regardless of cost.

3.085 Violation of the provisions of By-laws 3.081, 3.082, 3.083 or 3.084 shall cause ineligibility in the sport in which the violation occurred. An official ruling must be secured from the Executive Director before any student who violates these rules may be reinstated to eligibility.

3.090 PARTICIPATING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME

3.091 In the event students participate in interscholastic competition under any other name than their own, a student's principal shall immediately suspend violators from further interscholastic participation. The future interscholastic participation of violators and/or persons contributing to a violation shall then be considered by the Board of Directors.

3.100 INDEPENDENT TEAM PARTICIPATION

3.101 During the school season for a given sport, in a school which maintains a school team in that sport, a student shall not participate on any non-school team, nor as an individual unattached in non-school competition, in that given sport or in any competition that involves the skill of the sport in question. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sponsored and conducted directly by the National Governing Body or its official Illinois affiliate for the sport.

3.102 Students may participate in a tryout for a non-school athletic team while a member of a high school team in the same sport, provided the tryout is exclusively a demonstration of skills with no practice or instruction involved. A student shall be considered to be a member of a school team when he/she engages in any team activity, including but not limited to tryouts, drills, physical practice sessions, team meetings, playing in a contest, etc., on or after the date specified in Bylaw 5.000 and its sub-sections.

3.103 The phrase, “participate on any non-school team,” as utilized in By-law 3.101, is defined to mean engaging in any team activity, including but not limited to, tryouts (except as defined in Section 3.102), drills, physical practice sessions, player evaluations, team meetings, etc.

3.104 In the event a school does not maintain a team which competes during the regular high school season for a sport, but enters one or more students into competition for the first time in that season at the beginning level of the IHSA tournament series for the sport, the date of the beginning level contest in the IHSA series shall be the date on which the school shall be considered to have a school team in that sport.

3.105 Students or teams at member schools shall not be permitted to participate on, practice with or compete against any college, junior college or university athletic team. This restriction shall apply in all situations, regardless of the competitive structure or sponsor of the competing entities for such events.

3.106 To be eligible for a school team in a given sport, students must cease non-school practice and competition in that sport no later than five days after the date on which the school team engages in its first practice or tryout in that sport.

3.107 During the school year, a person who is a coach in any sport at a member school, may be involved in any respect with any non-school team, only if the number of squad members from his/her school which are on the non-school team roster does not exceed one-half the number of players needed to field a team in actual IHSA state series competition in that sport.

3.108 The Illinois School for the Visually Impaired (ISVI), may with the permission of the IHSA Executive Director, under the guidance of the Board of Directors, conduct cooperative practices with another team in the immediately geographic area of Jacksonville, Illinois.

3.110 COACHING SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

3.111 During the school year, students shall not participate in any coaching school, camp or clinic for any interscholastic sport or which provides instruction in any skill of an interscholastic sport. A coaching school, camp or clinic is defined as any program, sponsored by an organization or individual, which provides instruction in sports theory and/or skills; which does not culminate in competition, and which is attended by more than two (2) persons from the school which the student attends. Programs that involve only demonstration of skills and sports theory without providing instruction and requiring active participation by attendees are not considered coaching schools. Violation shall cause ineligibility for a period not to exceed 365 days.

3.112 Students may attend a coaching school, camp or clinic during the summer months provided they do not attend before school is out in the spring or after Sunday of Week Number 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar. Such coaching schools, camps and clinics may be conducted by an individual, group or even a member school and instruction at such programs may be provided by any person. However, in the case of a school-sponsored camp, participation may not be restricted to high school students who have been certified eligible for athletics.

3.113 Students may participate in school physical conditioning programs and recreational programs.

3.114 During the school year, students may serve as demonstrators for a coaching school, camp or clinic conducted exclusively for coaches or officials. Students may participate in one practice session for such event with the instructor for whom they will demonstrate.

3.120 ALL-STAR PARTICIPATION

3.121 No student at a member school shall participate on an all-star team in basketball, football, soccer or volleyball during the student's high school career until completing their interscholastic athletic eligibility in that particular sport. A student may participate in no more than three (3) all-star contests in a sport.

3.130 USE OF PLAYERS

3.131 Only students who are currently eligible to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest shall appear at the contest in the uniform of their school.

3.132 Only bona fide students of a school may participate in a practice session for any interscholastic team sponsored by that member school.

3.150 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SUMMER PARTICIPATION

3.151 Participation by high school students in summer programs must be voluntary and in no way be an actual or implied prerequisite for membership on a high school team.

3.152 Students may participate in summer baseball/softball leagues sponsored by schools, during the period between Monday of Week 44 and Saturday of Week 7 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

3.153 Persons who coach a sport at a member school may have a maximum of 25 days of contact in that sport with students from that school during the period between the last day of classes or Monday of Week 49 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar (whichever date is earlier) in the spring each year and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

Students may have a maximum of 25 days of contact per sport with persons who coach that sport at the school they attend during the same time period. A day of contact is defined as any date on which any coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques of any sport takes place. These limitations apply to all sports except Baseball and Softball. An exception may be made by the Executive Director under the guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors for competitions sponsored and conducted directly by the National Governing Body for the sport.

3.154 Schools may transport students from their schools to summer league contests, coaching schools, clinics or other nonschool contests in the summer during the contact day period outlined in By-law 3.153.

3.155 Schools may conduct coaching schools, camps or clinics during the summer, provided:

- a) The event is conducted between the close of school in the spring and Sunday of Week 5 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar;
- b) The event is open to any high school student and is not restricted to students who have been or expect to be high school athletes; and,
- c) The event provides common instruction and activities for all participants.

3.156 Students may participate in a summer school class taught by a coach or other faculty member from their school and which offers instruction in interscholastic sports, provided the class is not restricted to students who have been certified eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics and the class is approved by the local Board of Education. In addition, credit toward graduation must be granted by the local Board of Education. Summer school courses offering instruction in interscholastic sports, must conclude by Saturday of Week 4 in the IHSA Standardized Calendar.

3.157 Schools may not organize or participate against other schools in a football scrimmage or game with the exception of 7-7 (touch only) passing leagues.

OPEN GYM LIMITATIONS

3.161 Schools may open their gymnasiums or facilities for recreational activities to students or other persons who reside in or outside their district, under the following conditions:

- a) A variety of recreational activities are available during the course of the year.
- b) There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport at any time.
- c) Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
- d) Comparable opportunities are afforded to all participants.

3.170 CLASSIFICATION

The IHSA Board of Directors has the complete authority to establish and implement policies to determine the number of classes of competition in IHSA sports and activities and to classify schools participating in such sports/activities except as follows:

An enrollment multiplier of 1.65 will be added to all non-boundaried schools.

The definition of a non-boundaried school is: Any private school, charter school, lab school, magnet school, residential school, and any public school in a multi-high school district that does not accept students from a fixed portion of the district.

Classifications shall be determined on an annual basis.

Niles North Academic Eligibility

A. **ELIGABILITY REPORTS** will be pulled weekly from the pinnacle grade book program every Wednesday at 12:00pm. Each coach will receive a grade report for his/her level/team the next day. The report will indicate those student-athletes who are ineligible – their names will be highlighted on the eligibility report. If a student-athlete is not passing at least 4 classes he/she is ineligible starting the next week, Sunday thru Saturday.

The grade that is shown is a cumulative grade for the semester. The student-athlete could be passing the current marking period during the week of said eligibility report, but still not passing for the semester. Remember – a student-athlete must be passing for the semester.

Potential changes/updates in the grade report (a student-athlete has raised his or her grade) must be reported by the classroom teacher to the athletic director if the student-athlete wishes to regain eligibility for the next week. At that time, the athletic director will contact the immediate coach and let them know the student-athlete is eligible. Student Athletes who are who are ineligible are assigned to “THE POINT” by their coach. (See letter B below)

B. ATHLETES ON POINT ACEDMIC INTERVENTION Program (APAI)

What Is The Goal Of The APAI Program?

The goal of the APAI Program is to provide academic assistance through “The Point” to athletes struggling in their course work.

How Does It Work?

The intervention program is not only for students-athletes who are academically ineligible, but also for student athletes who are in danger of becoming academically ineligible (i.e. failing one or more class). Any student-athlete posting a failing grade in any class will be placed on “**Athletes on Point Academic Intervention**” (APAI). The APAI report will be printed each week, in addition to the weekly eligibility report.

Academically ineligible student-athletes will continue to be prohibited from participating in athletic contests (per Board Policy), as is current practice. However, these academically ineligible students- athletes will also be placed on APAI status. In addition, any student-athlete failing one or more classes will be placed on APAI status, even if he/she is academically eligible (i.e. passing 20 hours or more/week).

Student-athletes placed on APAI status will be required to seek academic assistance at the NNHS Literacy Center (“The Point”). Student-athletes must report to “The Point” 1 day per week for each class they are failing.

Coaches of student-athletes placed on APAI status will receive the APAI Program Form, which is to be handed to the athlete before or after practice. It is very

important the academic deficiency a student-athlete is experiencing, which has resulted in their being placed on APAI status, be addressed by the coach personally with the athlete. When the coach distributes the APAI Program Form, he/she has an excellent opportunity to address the academic problems of their student-athlete.

It is critical that student-athletes understand from the conversation with their coach that the athlete must bring their APAI Program Form to "The Point" each time they seek assistance. In addition, a letter will be mailed to the parents of athletes placed on APAI status informing them about their son or daughter's academic struggles and how the APAI Program will provide an opportunity for their son/daughter to improve on a failing grade(s).

Once a student- athlete raises a failing grade to passing, he/she will still be required to schedule and meet with a Point staff member one time per week for the next two weeks to solidify and reinforce academic progress.

What Is The Responsibility Of The APAI Student-Athlete?

It is the responsibility of the APAI student-athlete to schedule, IN PERSON, their academic assistance session at "The Point." APAI student-athletes are expected to use their time in "The Point" productively, in order to raise any failing grade to a passing grade. APAI student-athletes are to schedule academic assistance sessions at "The Point" during the school day. Students-athletes are not allowed to miss regularly scheduled classes to attend "The Point."

Failure to report to "The Point" for your scheduled academic assistance session will be considered insubordination and result in loss of playing time. A second offence will result in suspension from the next athletic contest.

NCAA AMATURISM CERTIFICATION AND ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Division I

2008 and Later

If you enroll in a Division I college in 2008 or later and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 16 core courses:
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
 - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
 - 1 extra year of English, math or natural or physical science
 - 2 years of social science
 - 4 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core-course grade-point average and test score sliding scale on page 9 (for example, a 2.400 core-course grade-point average needs a 860 SAT).

You will be a qualifier if you meet the academic requirements listed above. As a qualifier, you:

- Can practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Can receive an athletic scholarship during your first year of college; and can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

You will be a non-qualifier if you do not meet the academic requirements listed above. As a non-qualifier, you:

- Cannot practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Cannot receive an athletic scholarship during your first year of college, although you may receive need-based financial aid; and
- Can play only three seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year (to earn a fourth season you must complete at least 80 percent of your degree requirements before beginning your fifth year of college).

Note: Computer science courses can be used as core courses only if your high school grants graduation credit in math or natural or physical science for them, and if the courses appear on your high school's core-course list as a math or science courses.

Division II

2005 and Later

If you enroll in a Division II college in 2005 or later and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 14 core courses:
 - 3 years of English
 - 2 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
 - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
 - 2 extra years of English, math or natural or physical science
 - 2 years of social science
 - 3 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a 2.000 grade-point average or better in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68. There is no sliding scale in Division II.

Note: Computer science courses can be used as core courses only if your high school grants graduation credit in math or natural or physical science for them, and if the courses appear on your high school's core-course list as a math or science courses.

You will be a qualifier if you meet the academic requirements listed above.

As a qualifier, you:

- Can practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Can receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

You will be a partial qualifier if you do not meet all of the academic requirements listed above, but you have graduated from high school and meet one of the following:

- The combined SAT score of 820 or ACT sum score of 68; OR
- Completion of the 14 core courses with a 2.000 core-course grade-point average.

As a partial qualifier, you:

- Can practice with your team at its home facility during your first year of college;

- Can receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college;
- Cannot compete during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

You will be a nonqualifier if you did not graduate from high school, or, if you graduated and are missing both the core-course grade-point average or minimum number of core courses and the required ACT or SAT scores.

As a nonqualifier, you:

- Cannot practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Cannot receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college, although you may receive need-based financial aid; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

Division III

Division III does not use the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center. Contact your Division III college regarding its policies on financial aid, practice and competition

NCAA AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION

In response to the NCAA membership's concerns about amateurism issues related to both international and domestic prospective student-athletes, President Myles Brand has authorized the creation of a centralized amateurism certification process.

The NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center will include an amateurism certification section that will be used to determine the amateur status of domestic and international freshman and transfer prospective student-athletes initially enrolling at NCAA Divisions I and II member institutions on or after August 1, 2007. *[Note: In NCAA Division III, certification of an individual's amateurism status is completed by each institution.]*

Registering with the NCAA Eligibility Center

Prospective student-athletes may register with the NCAA Eligibility Center via the Internet at the beginning of their junior year in high school. As part of the amateurism certification process, each prospect will be asked to answer

several questions regarding his or her sports participation history. Early registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center and the completion of the athletics participation questions will allow institutions to have preliminary information regarding a prospect's amateurism status, which will promote consistency in the recruiting process. Final certifications of amateur status will occur at the end of the prospective student-athlete's senior year of high school or approximately two to three months prior to initial full-time enrollment at an NCAA Division I or II institution.

Certification of NCAA Divisions I and II Amateurism Rules

Amateurism certification will not cover all areas of NCAA Bylaw 12. Institutions will be responsible for determining the amateur status of prospective student-athletes for the areas of the amateurism bylaws not covered by the amateurism certification process. In addition, institutions will be responsible for certifying compliance for all amateurism bylaws during the time period between the student-athlete's request for final amateurism certification and his or her initial enrollment at an NCAA institution.

Selected pre-enrollment amateurism rules to be certified by amateurism certification include:

- *Contracts with a professional team (Division I)*
- *Salary for participating in athletics (Division I)*
- *Prize money above actual and necessary expenses (Division I)*
- *Play with professionals (Division I)*
- *Preferential treatment*
- *Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team (Division I)*
- *Benefits from an agent or prospective agent)*
- *21st birthday rule (Division I)*
- *Agreement to be represented by an agent*
- *Tennis and swimming and diving rule (Division I)*
- *Organized-competition rule*

AMATEURISM OVERVIEW: PRE-ENROLLMENT

	Division I – (Student-athletes first enrolling on or after August 1, 2002)	Division II – (Student-athletes first enrolling on or after August 1, 2001)	Division III – (Student- athletes first enrolling on or after August 1, 2002)
Enters into a Professional Contract	No	Yes*	Yes*
Accepts Prize Money	Yes – If open event, and does not exceed actual and necessary expenses or money from sponsor.	Yes*	Yes*
Enters Draft	Yes	Yes*	Yes*
Accepts Salary	No	Yes*	No
Receives Educational Expenses	Yes – If other than an agent, booster or professional team or organization	Yes – If other than an agent, booster or professional team or organization.	No
Receives Expenses from a Professional Team	No	Yes*	Yes*
Competes with Professionals	No	Yes*	Yes*
Receives Benefits from an Agent	No	No	No
Enters into Agreement with an Agent (Oral or Written)	No	No	No

- May be subject to Bylaw 14.2.4.2 in Division II and Bylaw 14.2.4.3 in Division III. (If the student-athlete does not enroll in college at first opportunity and participates in organized competition, the student-athlete is charged with a season of competition for every year of competition. Further, the student-athlete must fulfill an academic year in residence upon enrolling in college).
- Definition of organized competition is different in Division II and Division III. (See Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.2 and Division III Bylaw 14.2.4.3.)
- This chart is to be used only as a reference; please check the manual for specific information. © The National Collegiate Athletic Association

Questions About the Certification of Amateur Status

Who will be certified?

Every prospective student-athlete, both domestic and international, who is attending an NCAA Division I or II institution for the first time, must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. This includes prospective student-athletes who are transferring from any two- or four-year institutions (including international institutions) that are not members of NCAA Division I or II. Thus, if an individual wants to participate in athletics at an NCAA Division I or II institution, the prospective student-athlete must register with the eligibility center and submit the appropriate documentation to receive a certification decision.

Do transfer prospective student-athletes also have to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center?

Every prospective student-athlete who is attending an NCAA Division I or II institution full time for the first time must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center.

When should I register with the Eligibility Center?

Register for the NCAA Eligibility Center at the beginning of your junior year in high school. The athletics participation section should be updated regularly so that institutions recruiting you will have up-to-date information about you. Be sure to send your high school transcript to the eligibility center after you have completed at least six semesters of high school coursework.

Is there a registration deadline?

No. However, prospective student-athletes must be certified as an amateur before they may receive an athletics scholarship or practice or compete at a Division I or II institution.

Is there an additional fee to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center because of the additional questions on athletics participation?

No, there is only one fee to register for the NCAA Eligibility Center, which covers both the academic and amateurism certification. In addition, there is no reduction of the fee if the prospect does not need an academic certification (e.g., has already served an academic year in residence at a collegiate institution).

May I receive a fee waiver?

Yes, you are eligible for a waiver of the initial-eligibility certification fee if you have already received a fee waiver (not a state voucher) for the ACT or SAT. If ACT or SAT has not granted you a fee waiver, then you will NOT be eligible for a waiver of the certification fee. If you are seeking a waiver of the certification fee, you should confirm your eligibility with your high school counselor. Your high school counselor MUST submit an electronic fee waiver confirmation before your registration may be processed.

How often can I update my information?

You can update your information as often as you need until you request a final certification of your amateurism status. At that point, you will no longer be able to update your amateurism information.

Can I receive different amateurism certifications for Division I and Division II?

Yes. Division I and II have different rules, so it is possible that your certification status may be different for each division.

Who can help me complete the amateurism registration process?

Anyone can assist you in completing the process. However, when you have completed the registration process, YOU will be the only person allowed to submit the information to the eligibility center.

Will a paper copy of the amateurism form be available?

No, the registration form will only be available on the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center Web site and must be completed online.

Questions Relating to the Athletics Participation Section of the Amateurism Eligibility Center

What if I enroll in an NCAA Division I or Division II institution and decide to participate in a sport other than one of the three I had listed on the amateurism eligibility center registration form?

If you decide to participate in a sport other than the three you listed on the registration form, the institution in which you enroll will be responsible for certifying your amateurism status in that sport.

If I have been participating in events related to my sport for a significant period of time, what events do I need to list on the amateurism registration form?

You should include all events in which you participated, beginning with the ninth grade and thereafter.

Am I automatically ineligible if I violated the amateurism rules?

No. The eligibility center will review your athletics participation history. If there are violations of NCAA amateurism rules, the NCAA Eligibility Center may certify you with conditions, which must be fulfilled before you are eligible for competition. The conditions will be set based on which rule was violated and the severity of the violation. Such conditions may include repayment of money or sitting out of competition for a specified number of games, or both. In some cases, the NCAA may determine that the violations are such that permanent ineligibility for competition is the appropriate penalty.

Can I appeal a certification decision regarding my amateur status?

Yes. The NCAA has an appeals process in place if you choose to appeal the certification decision. You will need to work with an NCAA institution since all appeals must be filed by a member institution.



NCAA FRESHMAN – ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

The NCAA initial-eligibility rules have changed.

For students entering any Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2008, your NCAA initial eligibility will be evaluated under the 16 core-course rule as described on this sheet.

Students must complete **three** years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher), and **four** years of additional core courses. The additional core course may be taken in any area: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy. The breakdown of the requirements is listed below.

DIVISION I **2008 and after**

16 Core Courses:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab offered by high school).
- 1 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II **2005 and after**

14 Core Courses:

- 3 years of English
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)

- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab offered by high school).
- 2 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)

PLEASE NOTE: For students entering college on or after August 1, 2005, **computer-science** courses may only be used for initial-eligibility purposes if the course receives graduation credit in mathematics or natural/physical science and is listed as such on the high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses.

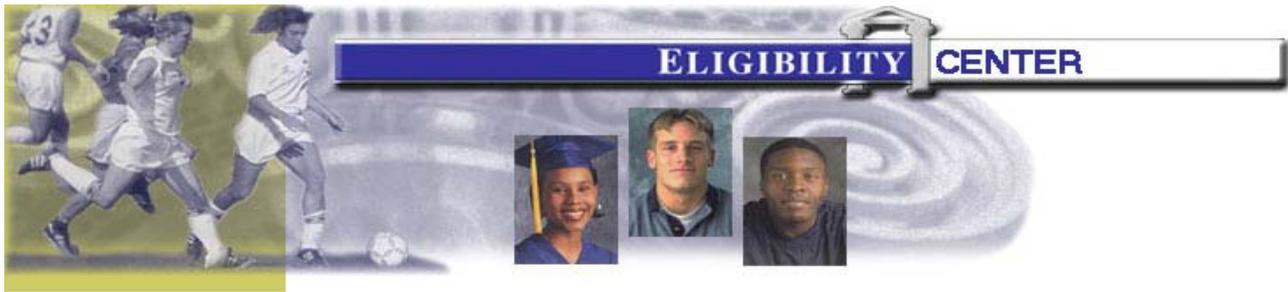
OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- In Division II, there is no sliding scale. The minimum SAT score is 820 (Verbal and Math sections only) and the minimum ACT sum score is 68.
- Students first entering a Division I or Division II collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2005, must meet the new 14 core-course rule.
- Students first entering a Division I collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2008, must meet the 16 core-course rule.
- The SAT combined score is based on the Verbal and Math sections only. The new writing section will not be used.

For more information regarding the new rule, please go to www.ncaa.org. Click on "Student-athletes and Parents" in the "Custom Home Pages" section. You may also visit the NCAA Eligibility Center Web site at <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/>.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT NCAA ELIGIBILITY, PLEASE CALL THE NCAA INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY CENTER TOLL-FREE AT 877/262 1492. YOU MAY ALSO CALL THE NCAA AT 319/917-6222.

Division I Core GPA and Test Score Sliding Scale		
Core GPA	SAT**	ACT
3.550 & above	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	59
2.700	730	60
2.675	740-750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840-850	70
2.425	860	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	80
2.125	960	81
2.100	970	82
2.075	980	83
2.050	990	84
2.025	1000	85
2.000	1010	86



Welcome to the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center website.

This website provides access to the information described below.

The new NCAA Eligibility Center website is located at <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/> and is available for students to register, view their certification status, and to answer general information questions you may have about the NCAA Division I and Division II initial-eligibility requirements. Should you have any questions, please contact the NCAA Eligibility Center at 319-337-1492. A couple of things to remember when registering for the NCAA Eligibility Center:

1. Don't forget to print off the Student Release Form and give it to your high school guidance counselor when you request your transcripts. There are two copies; a preliminary copy (when you first send your transcripts) and a final copy (when you send your final high school transcripts).
2. Don't forget to have your **official scores** from ACT sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

PUBLIC ACCESS: Public access to lists of approved core courses at high schools is available. These lists of courses are available to NCAA member institutions, as well as high school counselors, students, and their families to help students understand which courses may be counted toward freshman eligibility. Go to the NCAA Eligibility Center website to access the list of approved and denied courses. This can be found under the Prospective Student-Athletes section. Lincoln-Way Central High School's code is 143170.

- [High School's List of Approved Core Courses](#) (formerly 48H)

Eligibility Center Registration

To register with the eligibility center, you must complete the Student Release Form (SRF), at the beginning of your junior year, online and send the eligibility center the registration fee (\$50 for domestic and \$75 for international students). This SRF does two things:

- It authorizes each high school you have attended to send the eligibility center your transcript, test scores, proof of graduation and other necessary academic information.
- It authorizes the eligibility center to send your academic information to all colleges that request your eligibility status.

Online registration: The only method is to register online.

- Go online to <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/>
- Select Prospective Student-Athletes and
- Click on Domestic Student Release Form.
- Complete the SRF form online, and include your credit or debit card information to pay the fee.

Then follow instructions to complete the transaction.

Division I Worksheet

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The clearinghouse will determine your official status after you graduate. Remember to check your high school's list of approved courses for the classes you have taken. Use the following scale: A = 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point

English (4 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: English 9	.5		A		(.5 x 4) = 2
Total English Units					Total Quality Points

Mathematics (2 years required 2007–08; 3 years required August 1, 2008, and after)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: Algebra 1	1.0		B		(1.0 x 3) = 3
Total Mathematics Units					Total Quality Points

Natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Natural/Physical Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional year in English, mathematics or natural/physical science (1 year required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Units					Total Quality Points

Social science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Social Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional academic courses (3 years required 2007–08; 4 years required August 1, 2008, and after)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Academic Units					Total Quality Points

Core-Course GPA (14 credits required 2007–08; 16 required August 1, 2008, and after)

Total Quality Points	Total Number of Credits	Core-Course GPA (Total Quality Points/Total Credits)			
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Division II Worksheet

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA Initial-eligibility standards. The clearinghouse will determine your official status after you graduate. Remember to check your high school's list of approved courses for the classes you have taken. Use the following scale: A = 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point

English (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: English 9	.5		A		(.5 x 4) = 2
Total English Units					Total Quality Points

Mathematics (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: Algebra 1	1.0		B		(1.0 x 3) = 3
Total Mathematics Units					Total Quality Points

Natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Natural/Physical Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional year in English, mathematics or natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Units					Total Quality Points

Social science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Social Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional academic courses (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Academic Units					Total Quality Points

Core-Course GPA (14 credits required)

Total Quality Points	Total Number of Credits	Core-Course GPA (Total Quality Points/Total Credits)

NCAA RECRUITING HIGHLIGHTS

- No alumni, boosters or representatives of a college's athletic department can be involved in your recruitment.
- A contact is any face-to-face meeting between a college coach and you or your parent during which you say more than "hello".
- Phone calls from coaches or faculty members or any institutional representative except for admission counselors are not permitted until NCAA agreed upon date. Check bylaws.
- In sports other than football, a coach is limited to one call per week.
- Enrolled student-athletes may not make phone calls to you.
- You or your parents may call a coach at your expense as often as you wish.
- Letters from coaches are not permitted until September 1st of your junior year.
- In all sports other than football, coaches may contact you off the college campus 3 times. In football, 7 times.
- An evaluation is any off-campus activity used to assess your academic qualification or athletic ability, including a visit to your high school or watching you practice or compete.
- In Division I sports other than football and basketball, coaches may not evaluate you more than 4 times per year. In football and basketball, 2 times. Division II has unlimited evaluations.
- There is a dead period when coaches may not contact or evaluate you on or off campus---48 hours before and 48 hours after 8:00 AM on the first signing date.
- Know the signing dates for your sport by checking the NCAA website.
- You may not tryout for a Division I or Division III school. You may do so for a Division II school if you have the Athletic Director or the College President's permission.

- You may visit a college campus any time at your own expense.
- During your senior year you may take 5 paid 48-hour visits to Division I college campuses. Before the visit, your transcript and test scores (PSAT/ACT/SAT) must be mailed.
- Your visit includes round-trip transportation, room and board, and complimentary admission to any campus athletic event.
- There is no limit on the number of Division III schools you may visit.
- NAIA schools may have on-campus tryouts.
- Schools are permitted to ask prospects to undergo a medical exam during the visit.
- Make sure your correct year in school is listed in all programs, letters and mailings.
- Division I Football and Basketball are "headcount" sports (cannot divide scholarships) others are "equivalency" sports (you may divide up scholarships). Division II can divide scholarships.

Frequently Asked Questions on Initial Eligibility

What requirements do I need to be able to practice, play and get a scholarship at a Division I or Division II school?

You need to complete the following:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete a minimum of 14* core courses;
- Present a minimum grade-point average (GPA) in those 14* core courses; and
- Present a qualifying test score on either the ACT or SAT test.

** In Division I, the minimum number of core courses is 16 for students who enter a Division I school August 1, 2008, and after.*

How do I know if the courses I'm taking will count as core courses?

You need to look at your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses. Follow these steps:

- Go to the [NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center Web site](#)
- Click on "General Information"
- Click on "List of Approved Core Courses"
- Input your high school's code (if you know it) or search by your high school's name and state.
- Review the list

Very important: If a core course you took is not on the list, it won't be used in your eligibility determination. Courses that appear on your transcript must exactly match what is on the list.

What do I do if a core course I took isn't on the list?

See your high school counselor immediately. Someone at your high school is responsible for keeping your high school's list updated. It is important that they do this every year to make sure the core courses you are taking appear on the list.

May a correspondence or independent study course be used to meet the 14 core-course requirements?

Yes. Independent study, Internet or correspondence courses may be used as core courses if the following conditions are met:

- They meet all requirements for a core course;
- The instructor and student have access to one another during the course for the purpose of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student;
- Evaluation of the student's work is conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the high school's established academic policies; and
- The course is acceptable for any student and is placed on the high-school transcript.

May courses taken in the eighth grade that are high-school core courses (e.g., Algebra I, Spanish 1, Freshman Composition) be used to meet the 16 core-course requirements?

Courses taken in the eighth grade may not be used to satisfy the core-curriculum requirements regardless of the course content or level. However, in the rare event that students need to have courses taken in the eighth grade considered for eligibility purposes, there is a waiver process available.

How is the NCAA core grade-point average different from a student's overall grade-point average?

The NCAA core-course grade-point average is calculated using only NCAA-approved core courses in the required 14 core units. High-school grade-point averages generally include the grades from most or all courses attempted in grades nine through 12.

Can weighted grades for honors or advanced placement courses be factored into the calculation of the student's core grade-point average?

A school's normal practice of weighting honors or advanced courses may be used as long as the weighting is used for computing grade-point averages. Weighting cannot be used if the high school weights grades for the purpose of determining class rank. Additionally, in no instance may the student receive greater than 1.000 additional quality points for purposes of calculating the grade-point average for initial eligibility.

What options are available to students who do not meet the NCAA initial-eligibility standards?

Students who do not meet the initial-eligibility standards may be granted a waiver of their deficiency through an NCAA initial-eligibility waiver. NCAA academic committees have the authority to authorize waivers of the initial-eligibility requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances in which a student's overall academic record warrants the waiver of the normal application of the legislation. The waiver must be filed by an NCAA institution (college or university) on behalf of the student.

May students use courses taken after high-school graduation?

Generally, students who enroll in a Division I institution may not use courses taken after high-school graduation to meet the NCAA core-curriculum requirements. Students who return after graduation to the high school from which they graduated may take courses to meet the core-course requirements. These students cannot enroll in college and participate in intercollegiate athletics until the following fall. Students enrolling in Division II institutions and students with disabilities (enrolling in either Division I or II) may use core courses taken after high-school graduation to meet the NCAA core-curriculum requirements, provided the courses are completed before full-time enrollment in a college or university. Please note that, for Division I, students with disabilities must have the required documentation: (a) a signed copy of a professional evaluation report that states the diagnosis of the student's disability; and (b) a copy of the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Individual Transition Plan (ITP) or Section 504 Plan or statement that relates to accommodations received by the student with the disability. The NCAA national office, not the NCAA Eligibility Center, processes the information.

May a student who has graduated repeat a course taken in grades nine through 12 and use the repeated course for purposes of meeting NCAA initial-eligibility requirements?

Courses taken in grades nine through 12 may be repeated after graduation to meet NCAA Division I initial-eligibility core-course requirements, provided the courses are repeated at the high school from which the student graduated. If core courses are completed beyond the eighth semester, a student's initial full-time college enrollment cannot occur until the next academic year.

For Division II student-athletes, courses completed in grades nine through 12 may be repeated to meet initial-eligibility core-course requirements, provided the courses are repeated before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

When should a student register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Center?

Students should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center after the completion of their junior year in high school. At this time, a transcript, which includes six semesters of grades, should be sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center *from the high school*. Additionally, students should have their SAT or ACT test scores forwarded directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center whenever they take the exam.

May courses taken at a local college be used to meet the 14 core-course requirements?

College courses may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements if the courses are accepted and awarded credit by the high school for any student and, meet all other requirements for core courses. For NCAA Division I only, such courses must be placed on the student's high-school transcript. Courses taken at a college will NOT appear on the high school's list of Approved Core Courses. The high school's list of NCAA Approved Core Courses will include only those courses taught/offered by the high school.

Can students with a diagnosed disability use courses that are designated for students with a disability to meet NCAA core-course requirements?

Students with appropriately diagnosed disabilities may use courses for students with disabilities for the purpose of meeting NCAA core-course requirements. Courses for students with disabilities must appear on the high school's list of NCAA Approved Core Courses in order for a student to receive NCAA credit for the course.

May a nonstandard ACT/SAT be used for initial eligibility?

Yes. Students with diagnosed disabilities may take a nonstandard ACT or SAT. The test score must still be provided to the NCAA Eligibility Center, just as any other test.

Does the prohibition against special education, remedial or compensatory courses apply to students with disabilities?

No. In order for courses designated for students with disabilities to be approved, the course must be

substantially comparable, qualitatively and quantitatively, as a regular core course offered in that academic area.

Are vocational courses acceptable?

Traditional vocational courses are not acceptable. These include courses such as agriculture, auto mechanics, accounting and health.

What if a student's final high-school transcript contains an error or the student has grade changes that are not included on the first final transcript mailed to the NCAA Eligibility Center?

Once the NCAA Eligibility Center has received all required documentation including a final high-school transcript for a student, they are able to produce a final certification report. If a high school sends a revised final transcript, the NCAA Eligibility Center will not be able to use the changes. Instead, any changes to a student's final high-school transcript must be approved through the initial-eligibility waiver process.

May courses taken at high school "A" be accepted if they appear on high school "B's" transcript?

No. High school "A" may provide the NCAA Eligibility Center with an official copy of high school "B's" transcript, but grades from one high school cannot be accepted on another high-school's transcript.

How are students prioritized for processing at the NCAA Eligibility Center?

Students who have their status requested by an NCAA institution are prioritized by the NCAA Eligibility Center for processing. If a student's eligibility status is never requested by a member institution, the NCAA Eligibility Center may not process such a student's status.

[**NOTE:** This is not a complete list of NCAA regulations regarding initial eligibility. Please call or write the NCAA or access the NCAA Web site if you have specific questions.]

NCAA
Membership Services
P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222
317/917-6222 (phone)
317/917-6622 (fax)
800/638-3731 (NCAA Hotline)
www.ncaa.org

Information for Parents and Guardians

If you are the parent or legal guardian of a potential student-athlete, please pay special attention to the amateurism and academic eligibility and eligibility center sections.

Amateurism and Academic Eligibility

If your child plans to compete, practice or receive an athletic scholarship at a Division I or II college, he or she must meet the eligibility requirements of this guide.

NCAA Eligibility Center Registration: Transcript and Test-Score Submissions

It is best for your son or daughter to register with the eligibility center at the beginning of his or her junior year. Once registered, your son or daughter must ask the high school counselor or registrar to send his or her academic transcripts to the eligibility center. ACT or SAT score(s) also must be submitted to the NCAA. Your son or daughter must list the NCAA Eligibility Center as a separate recipient of his or her ACT or SAT scores when he or she takes the test. The test scores must come directly from SAT or ACT. The Eligibility Center will typically review your son's or daughter's high school record and send a preliminary report to him or her, with notification of any missing requirements. A final report may be issued once your son's or daughter's high school submits a final transcript showing high school graduation. Please call the NCAA Eligibility Center at 877/262-1492 if you have any questions.

How to Monitor Your Son's or Daughter's Eligibility

You may check the NCAA Web site at <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/> to make sure your son or daughter is taking approved courses. A list of core courses should have been submitted to the NCAA by your son or daughter's

high school. Check your son or daughter's schedule before each year in high school to make certain that he or she is taking the required courses. NCAA colleges may obtain information from the eligibility center about your son or daughter's status and progress only if his or her information is specifically requested by that college.

Financial Aid

If your son or daughter is academically eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics and is accepted as a full-time student at a Division I or II school, he or she may receive athletics-based financial aid from the school. Division I or II financial aid may **include tuition and fees, room and board, and books.**

Division III institutions do not award financial aid based on athletics ability. A Division III college may award need-based or academically related financial aid.

A non-qualifier may receive only need-based financial aid (aid unrelated to athletics). A non-qualifier also may receive non-athletics aid from private sources or government programs (such as Pell grants). The college financial aid office can provide further information.

It is important to understand several points about athletics scholarships from Divisions I and II schools:

- All athletic scholarships awarded by NCAA institutions are limited to one year and are renewable annually. **There is no such award as a four-year athletic scholarship.**
- Athletic scholarships may be renewed annually for a maximum of five years within a six-year period of continuous college attendance. **Athletic aid may be canceled or reduced at the end of each year for any reason.**
- Athletic scholarships are awarded in a variety of amounts, ranging from full scholarships (including tuition, fees, room and board, and books) to very small scholarships (e.g., books only).
- The total amount of financial aid a student-athlete may receive and the total amount of athletics aid a team may receive can be limited. These limits can affect whether a student-athlete may accept additional financial aid from other sources. Ask financial aid officials at the college or university about any other financial aid your son or daughter might be eligible to receive, and how this aid impacts his or her athletics aid limit. **You must inform**

the college financial aid office about scholarships received from all sources, such as local civic or booster clubs.

An athletic scholarship is a tremendous benefit to most families, but you should also have a plan to pay for college costs that are not covered by a scholarship (such as travel between home and school). You should also consider how you will finance your son's or daughter's education if the athletics scholarship is reduced or canceled.

National Letter of Intent

The National Letter of Intent (NLI) is a voluntary program administered by the Collegiate Commissioners Association, not by the NCAA. By signing an NLI, your son or daughter agrees to attend the institution for one academic year. In exchange, that institution must provide athletics financial aid for one academic year.

Restrictions are contained in the NLI itself. Read them carefully. These restrictions may affect your son or daughter's eligibility.

If you have questions about the National Letter of Intent, visit the NLI Web site at www.national-letter.org or call 205/458-3013.

Agents

During high school, your son or daughter might be contacted by an agent who is interested in representing your son or daughter in contract negotiations or for commercial endorsements. Some agents may not identify themselves as agents, but may simply say they are interested in your son or daughter's general welfare and athletics career. They may offer gifts or other benefits to you and your family.

NCAA rules do not prevent meetings or discussions with an agent. However, your son or daughter will jeopardize his or her eligibility in a sport if he or she agrees, verbally or in writing, to be represented by an agent while attending high school or college, regardless of whether the agreement becomes effective immediately or after his or her last season of college eligibility. Your son or daughter will also endanger his or her college athletics eligibility if he or she, or your family, accepts benefits or gifts from an agent. If an individual contacts your son or daughter about marketing his or her athletics ability, be careful. If you have concerns, contact your high school coach, director of athletics or the NCAA.

Scouting/Recruiting Services

During high school, your family might be contacted by a scouting/recruiting service. The NCAA does not sanction or endorse any of these services. Remember, a scouting/recruiting service cannot

base its fee on the amount of a student's college scholarship. For example, it is impermissible for a recruiting/scouting service to offer a money-back guarantee. If you have any questions, please call the NCAA.

All-Star Contests—Basketball and Football

After your son or daughter completes high school eligibility, but before graduating, he or she may participate in two high school all-star football or basketball contests in each sport. If you have any questions, please call the NCAA.

Transfer Students

If your son or daughter transfers from a two-year or four-year college to an NCAA school, he or she must meet certain requirements before being eligible for practice, competition or financial aid at that college. Order the NCAA Transfer Guide by calling 888/388-9748 or download it from the NCAA Web site at www.ncaa.org. Call the NCAA at 317/917-6008 if you have questions about transfer requirements.

RULES GOVERNING NN ATHLETES

1. No athlete may be a member of teams in two different sports or on two different levels of competition in the same sport at the same time without approval from the Athletic Director.
2. No athlete is eligible for freshman competition if he/she is sixteen before August 15 of any school year or has attended two semesters; and no athlete is eligible for sophomore competition if he/she is seventeen before August 15 of any school year or has attended four semesters.
3. No award winner from the previous season shall be allowed to compete in intramural contests in his/her sport prior to the start of the next season.
4. Once a student athlete becomes a member of any squad (the first day of activity) he/she may NOT change to another sport during that season without the approval of the Director and both coaches. As a rule, the policy is that we want to teach our athletes that we finish what we start. If a boy/girl quits a squad, he/she is dropped because of scholastic difficulties, discipline, poor attendance, etc. he/she must wait out the rest of that season before trying out for another sport. Special consideration may be given in the following situations:
 1. The athlete has been cut to reduce the size of the squad.
 2. The coach believes the athlete would be better suited to another sport and initiates a change.

A student who quits an athletic team must receive approval from the athletic director to participate on another athletic team during the same sport season.

5. Before an athlete can be issued equipment to practice or play in a contest, all previous equipment that was issued to him/her must be returned. **No athlete will receive an athletic award or attend an awards program who has not returned his/her equipment.**
6. The end of the season awards banquet for each sport is as important part of each sport program. Only absences excused by the head coach / athletic director are acceptable. Failure to attend an awards night may result in forfeiture of your award.

7. No athlete may practice or participate in an athletic contest without submitting a completed **ANNUAL PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM**. No athlete may participate in an athletic contest without submitting a completed **EXTRACURRICULAR PERMIT CARD, IHSA STEROID TESTING PARENT CONSENT FORM** and submitting to an **IMPACT CONCUSSION TEST** administered by the Niles North athletic trainers.
8. Varsity athletes are expected to be in attendance during winter and spring vacations. Lower level athletes must be certain to notify their coaches at least two weeks in advance if they are planning to be on a family vacation. Families of student athletes are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to avoid scheduling family vacations during the season.
9. **All athletes must be in attendance in their classes in order to participate in practice and/or competition on that date. Only the Principal or his designate may make judgment on this Board of Education policy. Generally, doctor's appointments which require one-half day's absence or less will be excused. In any event, check with your coach first.**
10. Participation in weekly Strength and Condition year round is **STONGLY ENCOURAGED** for all Niles North athletes. Sport specific programs have been put in place by our Head Strength and Conditioning Coach, Mark Feldner. These programs have several benefits which we feel are very important for the success of all athletes. Regular strength and conditioning will help prevent injury, help you become the best athlete you can be and maximize your chances to make a varsity squad.

NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS AND ERGOGERNIC AIDS

In response to the recent focus on the use of food supplements and steroids, the National High School Federation Sports Medicine Advisory Committee has issued a position statement on the use of drugs, medicine and food supplements. Text of the statement follows:

"School personnel and coaches should not dispense any drug, medication or food supplement except with extreme caution and in accordance with policies developed in consultation with parents, health-care professionals and senior administrative personnel of the school. Use of any drug, medication, or food supplement in a way not prescribed by the manufacturer should not be authorized or encouraged by school personnel and coaches. Even natural substances in unnatural amounts may have short-term or long-term negative health effects. In order to minimize health and safety risk to student-athletes, maintain ethical standards and reduce liability risk, school personnel and coaches should never supply, recommend or permit the use of any food supplement solely for performance-enhancing purposes. Androstenedione, DHEA, "fat burners", caffeine, ephedrine, amino acids, and HMB are among the supplements that are advertised as "natural" and available in health food stores. Indiscriminate use of these substances can have potentially harmful effects."

Creatine is a natural chemical created in the body and it is also sold in chemical form over the counter at supplement stores like GNC.

HOWEVER, THE NILES NORTH ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PROHIBITS ANY STUDENT-ATHLETE FROM USING CREATINE.

High school athletes at times like to use Creatine because it helps their bodies recover quicker after strenuous workout or practice. Use of Creatine, however, saps the muscle of water and therefore, athletes using Creatine are more susceptible to cramping, muscle tear and other injuries. Sustained use of Creatine results in renal failure.

EQUIPMENT

Each athlete is responsible for the uniform or any other equipment issued to them. Failure to turn this gear in at the end of the season will result in school fines being applied and possible forfeiture of any athletic awards and or suspension from attending the end-of-season awards banquet. Athletic equipment is expensive, SO - handle with care. Pay particular attention to your warm-ups. Put them in a safe place when you take them off during competition. Uniforms are only to be worn during Niles North competition. They are *not* to be worn on the street or in PE class.

CARE OF FACILITIES

Viking athletes are expected to treat our facilities with respect. This means:

Cleats are taken off at the door - do not wear cleats / spikes in the hallways.

Locker rooms and washrooms are kept neat. Towels are picked up and there is no tape or paper left on the floor.

The weight room is left neat after strength training.

Bulletin boards, record boards, and recognition displays are never defaced.

The hallways around the lockers and gyms are never littered.

Senseless destruction, such as punching ceiling tiles, kicking lockers or damaging urinals is never tolerated.

No street shoes or eating on the pool deck is allowed.

TRANSPORTION

All athletes are required to go to and return from competition on the school provided vehicle. All exceptions to this policy must be cleared, in advance, with the athletic director. While on the bus all riders are to be seated with a seatbelt fastened. The bus must be left clean-no trash on the floor!

PRE-SEASON PARENT MEETINGS

Parents, accompanied by their athlete, are expected to attend the Pre-Season Parent Meeting. Team policies and procedures are discussed at this meeting. This meeting will be scheduled prior to the first contest. The Pre-Season Parent Meeting dates for the 2009/2010 school year are as follows: all Fall sports = August 22 (1:00pm), all Winter sports = November 14 (1:00pm), all Spring sports March 13 (1:00pm). Athletes will also sign "The North Way" commitment board. Niles North athletes are committed to being positive peer models and influences, while attending Niles North. Additionally, coaches will take the initiative in making discussions of substance abuse a part of their training program. This includes discussions on steroid use, especially in sports where there are demands for size and power.

It is extremely important that parents attend EACH Pre-Season Parent Meeting for their sons/daughters sport. Important topics to be

addressed at this meeting include athletic booster club information, distribution of practice/game schedules, review of the Athletic Hand Book and team policies, student athletes sign "The North Way" Commitment Board and answering any parent questions.

ATHLETIC LOCKER ROOMS

Use only the locker assigned to you. Keep it **LOCKED!** If you find equipment on the floor, turn it in to the equipment manager or your coach. **Do not put it into your locker!** Do not go into the halls unless properly dressed. Get in and out the locker rooms quickly, both before and after practice. **PICK UP YOUR TOWELS AFTER YOU SHOWER AND PLACE THEM IN THE CONTAINERS.**

Athletic Locker Room Hours:

7 a.m. – 3:23 p.m.: **Locked** – (no entry unless authorized AND accompanied by a coach)

3:23 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.: **Open** – (Coaches supervise and lock)

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.: **Closed** – (Locked by security – no entry unless authorized and accompanied by a coach)

4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.: **Open** – (Security opens and supervises)

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.: – **Locked** by security – (No entry unless authorized AND accompanied by a coach)

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.: - **Open** by security – (Security supervises locker room)

AWARDS

8 Inch N Given to an athlete who competes on the varsity level The specific criteria for each sport is published and recorded in the athletic office.

6 Inch N Given to an athlete who competes on the Junior Varsity level These specific criteria are published by sport.

4 Inch N Given to an athlete who competes on the Sophomore level

Numerals: Given to all freshman athletes who complete the season

In addition there are incentive awards which are gold inserts and certificates. These are given for additional letters in a season, captaincy, all-conference, and other achievements of merit. The specifics are all recorded and available from each coach.

ATHLETIC AWARD REQUIREMENTS

1. All awards will be made according to the regulation recommended by the CSL and IHSA.
2. It is presumed that all coaches will base their judgment relative to awards on a high plane and that every attempt will be made to confirm the principle that Niles North Athletic Awards are a great honor and privilege for the recipients.
3. A boy or girl shall be **required to participate regularly** in practice sessions. No athlete may be given an award if he/she is dropped from a squad for the remainder of the season because of disciplinary or scholastic problems, or violations of the eligibility rules or violation of the athletic code of conduct, even though he/she may have satisfied the other requirements for the award.
4. No athlete may be given an award if scholastic ineligibility or suspensions prevented them from meeting award requirements.
5. An award certificate is given to each athlete winning a letter, numerals or a service bar.

MAJOR ATHLETIC AWARDS

The following special awards will be presented by the Athletic Department:

1. **MVP AWARD** - The Most Valuable Player Awards will be given to a varsity athlete only, in each of the 23 sports. There will be one MVP award selected per sport. The MVP selection process will be the responsibility of the head coach. All athletes should be made aware of how the selections are made. This award will be presented at the end of the season Team Banquet.
2. **U.S. ARMY RESERVE SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD** - This award is given to one male and one female Senior athlete, for athletic participation and ability as well as high academic achievement. This award will be presented by a representative

from the United States Army at the Annual Awards of Distinction evening ceremony.

3. **U.S. MARINE CORPS DISTINGUISHED ATHLETE AWARD** - This award is given to one male and one female Senior athlete who are recognized as an exemplary young citizen and role model for younger students. These students exhibit personal traits of courage, poise, self-confidence and leadership while performing as a **VARSIITY ATHLETE**. These students **DO NOT** have to be the star player on the team or have the highest G.P.A.; it is one who has best exhibited that unique combination of qualities mentioned above while performing in high school sports. This award will be presented by a representative from the United States Marine Corps at the Annual Awards of Distinction evening ceremony.
4. **NIAAA SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARDS** - (National Interscholastic Association of Athletic Administrators) This award will be presented at the end of the year Awards Program to those Senior athletes that have maintained an accumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and have participated in the athletic program at Niles North for at least two (2) years. The award certificate is presented to **Senior** athletes only.
5. **CSL SENIOR SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD** - This certificate is given to a Senior letter winners who has done a good job in their academic courses with a GPA of 3.0 or better and has a minimum of two consecutive seasons in the same sport.
6. **OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETES AWARD** - This award is voted on by the Head Varsity coaches only. This athlete should also be a student that has an average or above average academic standing. The athlete should possess all of the qualities that a coach seeks in a "blue chip" athlete. **Participation during the student/athlete's career in more than one sport is an important criterion to be considered.** This athlete should have good values and character, good leadership qualities, courage, loyalty, poise, makes and keeps commitments, is dedicated and a real positive influence on other athletes and programs. The awards will be given to 1 male and 1 female athlete. This award is given to Seniors only and will be presented at the Annual Awards of Distinction ceremony.
7. **SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD** - There will be three sportsmanship awards given at the end of the year Awards Night Program. There will be two Freshman awards, two Sophomore awards and

two Junior/Senior Awards. The criteria for this award is based upon those students who demonstrate:

- a. Respect towards officials, opposing teams, coaches, squad, and fans.
 - b. Pride towards their own team, squad and fans
 - c. An attitude which encourages and provides an environment conducive to the spirit of fair play
 - d. Leadership which sets a good example. This student is a good representative of the school, maintains discipline among others, is a role model, expresses goodwill, displays superior sportsmanship and encourages others to do the same.
 - e. Exhibits good character and sportsmanship on and off of the playing fields.
8. **IRON VIKING AWARD** - This award is presented to the Senior athletes that have participated and lettered in three sports for four years at Niles North High School. Indoor Track and Outdoor Track, cheerleading and Pon Poms are to count as two sports. These awards will be presented at the Annual Awards of Distinction evening ceremony.
9. **ALL CONFERENCE ATHLETE AWARD** - This award is given to a Varsity athlete only. Depending on their sport participation, the athlete is either nominated by coaches in the conference or reaches a particular level of success at their sports conference meet. This certificate is presented at the end of the season Teams Awards Banquet.

District 219 ensures equal opportunities regardless of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age or handicap.

For sports updates, game schedules, a listing of our coaches, please visit our sports hotline - 847-626-2280 or visit our website at <http://www.niles-hs.k12.il.us/northsports/athletics/index.html>

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