



## GUARD YOUR ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY – 2008-2009



*IN ORDER TO REPRESENT A NEBRASKA HIGH SCHOOL IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES COMPETITION, A STUDENT MUST ABIDE BY ELIGIBILITY RULES OF THE NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION. A SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR RULES IS GIVEN BELOW. CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL OR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE COMPLETE RULE.*

- 2.2.1 Student must be an undergraduate.
- 2.2.2 After a student's initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she shall be ineligible after eight semesters of school membership beginning with his/her enrollment in grade nine.
- 2.3 Student is ineligible if nineteen years of age before August 1 of current school year. (Student in grades 7 or 8 may participate on a high school team if he/she was 15 years of age prior to August 1 of current school year.)
- 2.4.1 Student must be enrolled in some high school on or before the eleventh school day of the current semester.
- 2.5.1 Student must be enrolled in at least twenty hours per week and regular in attendance, in accordance with the school's attendance policy at the school he/she wishes to represent in interscholastic competition.
- 2.5.2 Student must have been enrolled and received twenty hours in school the immediate preceding semester.
- 2.6.2.1 **Guardianship does not fulfill the definition of a parent.** If a guardian has been appointed for a student, the student is eligible in the school district where his/her natural parent(s) have their domicile. Individual situations involving guardianship may be submitted to the Executive Director for his review and a ruling.
- 2.6.3 A student entering grade nine for the first time after being promoted from grade eight of a two-year junior high, or a three-year middle school, or entering a high school for the first time after being promoted to grade ten from a three-year junior high school is eligible. After a student makes an initial choice of high schools, any subsequent transfer, unless there has been a change of domicile by his/her parents, shall render the student ineligible for ninety school days.
- If a student has participated on a high school team at any level as a seventh, eighth, or ninth grade student, he/she has established his/her eligibility at the high school where he/she participated. If the student elects to attend another high school upon entering ninth or tenth grade, he/she shall be ineligible for ninety school days.
- Student eligibility related to domicile can be attained in the following manners:**
- 2.6.9.1 If the change in domicile by the parents occurs during a school year, the student may remain at the school he/she is attending and be eligible until the end of the school year or transfer to a high school located in the school district where the parents established their domicile and be eligible.
- 2.6.9.2 If the parents moved during the summer months and the student is in grade twelve and the student has attended the high school for two or more years, the student may remain at the high school he/she has been attending and retain eligibility.
- 2.6.9.3 If a student has been attending the same high school since initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she may remain at that high school and retain eligibility, or he/she is eligible at a high school located in the school district where his/her parents established their domicile.
- 2.6.10 If the parents of a student change their domicile from one school district that has a high school to another school district that has a high school, the student shall be eligible immediately in the school district where the parents established their domicile.
- 2.7.7 Transfer students who have their Enrollment Option applications signed and filed prior to March 15 shall be eligible immediately in the fall. Those students who do not have their Enrollment Option applications signed and filed prior to March 15 shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.
- 2.7.8 Other non-enrollment option transfer students must have signed and delivered all forms necessary to make such transfer to the school in which he/she intends to enroll for the 2008-2009 school year prior to March 15, 2008; for the student to be eligible, the school to which the transfer is being made must have notified the NSAA office in writing, postmarked not later than March 15, 2008. The student would, however, become ineligible for ninety school days the next fall if the student were to change his/her mind and decide not to transfer. If such student were to transfer to the new school, but later decides to return to his/her former district before 90 school days have elapsed, such student will be ineligible in the former district for 90 school days, with the ineligibility period commencing at the start of the fall semester. Those students, who did not have their enrollment forms signed, delivered and accepted prior to March 15, 2008, shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.
- 3.5 / 3.1 Once the season of a sport begins, a student shall participate in practices and compete only in athletic contests/meets in that sport, which are scheduled by his/her school. Any other competition will render the student ineligible for a portion of, or all of, the season in that sport. The season of a sport begins with the first date of practice as permitted by NSAA rules. The fall sports season begins August 18, 2008, (August 11<sup>th</sup> for some football teams) and ends with the state meets in the fall sports. The winter sports season begins November 17, 2008, and ends with the state meets in the winter sports. The spring sports season begins March 2, 2009, and ends with the state meets in the spring sports.
- 3.5.1 During the season of a particular sport, athletes participating in that sport for a high school may attend, but may not physically take part, either as an individual or as a member of a team, in the sport activity in which instruction is being offered in the clinic, camp or school.
- 3.6 A student shall not participate on an all-star team while a high school undergraduate.
- 3.7 A student must maintain his/her amateur status.

## NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES WILL PREVENT YOUR TEAM, SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY FROM BEING PENALIZED