

I. Change in Athletic Bylaws

A. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Baseball Pg: 2
First Practice, Monday of Week 36

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change: Not to begin practice until after completion of the State Boys Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

B. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Boys Golf Pg: 3
First Practice, Monday, Week 36

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change: Not begin practice until after completion of the Boys State Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

C. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Soccer Pg: 3
First Practice, Monday, Week 36

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change: Not begin practice until after completion of State Boys Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

D. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Girls Tennis
Start of Practice: Monday, Week 36

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change: Not begin practice until after completion of the Boys State Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

E. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Track Page: 1
Start of Spring Practice, Monday, Week 36

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change: Not begin spring practice until after completion of Boys State Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

F. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Softball Pg: 7

Sport	Date of First Practice	Date of First Contest	Close of Season
Girls Softball	Monday, Week 6	Thursday, Week 8	State Tournament

Cost Analysis of Proposal: none.

Rationale for the proposed change: The time from the first practice to the first game is simply too short to adequately prepare. There are only 9 practice days (Sundays excluded) available. If poor/wet weather occurs, then this time frame becomes even shorter. All other team-oriented sports have longer periods to prepare (football: 16 days; volleyball, basketball, wrestling, soccer, baseball: 15 days). By moving the starting date of practice up one week it would put softball in the same situation as baseball, which is the sport it is most similar to.

Proposal submitted by District I, II

G. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 11.1.3 Page: 13

3.11.1.3 No team representing a member school may participate in more than eighteen basketball games and two tournaments in addition to the state sponsored series of tournaments from the date of the first permitted contest to the close of the State Basketball Tournament.

Note: If a team participates in an additional tournament other than the two allowed tournament, each game played shall count towards the eighteen game limit.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost to the NSAA.

Additional expense to schools if they choose to schedule additional games.

Rationale for the proposed change: Basketball is a twelve week competition season for Boys and for class A and B Girls, and an eleven week competition season for girls in classes C1 through D2. The current limit of 17 contests means some weeks there would be only one contest per week. This would allow some flexibility in scheduling out of conference opponents if schools so choose, and also keeps the number of games scheduled more equal by eliminating the exchange of a tournament in place of one game. This proposal also eliminates the pod tournaments the past several years but allows schools to schedule for those lost contests if currently in a pod tournament Nebraska has the fewest number of allowed contests in a season compared to our bordering states. Iowa 22 Kansas 20 South Dakota 20 Colorado 23 This would bring us closer in line to our bordering states.

Proposal submitted by District I, III, IV.

H. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 11.1.3 Page: 13

3.11.1.3 No team representing a member school may participate in more than nineteen basketball games in addition to the state sponsored series of tournament from the date of the first permitted contest to the close of the State Basketball Tournament.

Note: If a school is involved in a conference tournament, the conference tournament is to be counted as one of the nineteen game limit. Participation in any basketball tournament shall count as one game of the nineteen games permitted in which the team participates. Any four team tournament should be played within the same week's timeframe..

Cost Analysis of Proposal: - No additional cost to NSAA

- Additional expense to schools if they choose to schedule the additional games.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Basketball is a twelve week competition season for Boys and for Class A & B Girls, and an eleven week competition season for Girls in Classes C1 thru D2. The current limit of 17 contests means some weeks only have one contest per week. By allowing nineteen contests per school, it allows up to two games per week if schools choose to schedule these contests.

This would allow some flexibility in scheduling, especially in Class A with the Metro Conference schools locked into 15 contest dates within the conference. Schools are not required to schedule this amount of games, but give them the opportunity if they wish to do so.

This proposal also eliminates the pod tournaments that have been prevalent the past several years, and allows schools to schedule for those lost contests if currently in a pod tournament.

In addition, Nebraska has the fewest number of allowed contests in a season compared to our bordering states: Iowa - 22, Kansas - 20, South Dakota - 20, Colorado - 23. This would bring us closer in line to our bordering states.

Proposal submitted by District II.

I. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 11.1.3 Pg: 12 Manual: Basketball Pg: 5

No team representing a member school shall participate in more than twenty games, in addition to the state-sponsored series of tournaments from the date of the first permitted contest to the close of the State Basketball Tournament. Conference tournaments must be counted in those contest limitations. Participation in any basketball tournament shall count as one game of the twenty games permitted in which a team participates.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Increased costs for transportation and/or game management personnel and officials to allow for more contests during the regular season. These costs most likely would be offset by increased ticket/ gate receipts and concessions receipts.

Rationale for the proposed change: Excluding the two week holiday period, there are 10 weeks of the regular season in which games/ tournaments can be scheduled. The proposal of 20 games/dates gives a school the option of playing two contests per week, or choosing a combination of single games and tournaments to fill the 20 dates. Nebraska guidelines currently allow for fewer regular season basketball games than many states. Schools have devised a circumvention of the current 17 game/date limit by engaging in "pod" tournament devices. This proposal simplifies the formula while allowing a school to schedule to participate in an increased number of games. The proposed change may allow for more inter league play as it gives further opportunities for teams to schedule outside their mandated league games or may encourage more home and home scheduling options which typically increase interest and gate receipts/attendance.

Proposal submitted by District II.

J. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section:11.2.2 Page: 13 Manual: Baseball Pg: 5
3.11.2.2 No team representing a member school may participate in more than twenty dates in addition to the state sponsored series of tournaments from the date of the first permitted contest to the close of the State Baseball Tournament. Participation in any baseball tournament shall count as one date of the twenty dates permitted in which the team participates. A team may not participate in more than four tournaments, which includes the conference tournament.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change:

Presently there is no limit to the number of baseball games that a school may play. This proposal places a restriction on baseball that is comparable to other sports yet takes into account the unpredictable spring weather. This proposal could potentially assist in minimizing loss of school time for the participants. The proposal would provide uniformity among all schools sponsoring baseball.

Proposal submitted by District I, II.

II. Change in Speech Bylaws

A. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 6 Section:6.3/6.6.3.2 Pg: 2 Manual:Speech Pg: 4

6.6.3 Entries

A school may have a total of eighteen entries in a district speech contest, with the breakdown as follows:

6.6.3.2 GROUP EVENTS

2 entries per school - Duet Acting

2 entries per school - Oral Interpretation of Drama

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

We believe there would be little or no financial impact. If any, district speech entry fees may increase nominally, depending on the number of schools actually entering two duets or OIDs. If the number of entries warrants an additional section at the district contest (per rules established in the District Tournament Manual) a judge would need to be assigned to that section at a cost of \$15.00. Entry fees for district speech contests are divided evenly among the participating schools. With 7-10 schools per district the maximum cost increase per school would be around \$2.00.

Rationale for the proposed change:

1) It will bring group events into line with individual events, which allow 2 entries.

2) It will potentially increase competitors and improve competition at the district and state levels.

Currently some districts have so few entries in these events that all entries qualify for state, making the district competition moot. If schools who so desired were allowed to enter two teams in the group events, those events potentially would be quantitatively larger and qualitatively better. Filling these slots at districts, as with all events, is up to the coach's discretion and certainly not a requirement.

3) This proposal is popular among speech coaches and passed overwhelmingly at the district level last year before failing at the Representative Assembly. But the new revision (beginning this year) in districting and state qualifying alleviates the concern voiced last year at Representative Assembly that a single school could dominate all events at district competition. With the new number of qualifiers (3 per event) from districts, no one school, in any class, can possibly fill every qualification slot. The Representative Assembly's concern from 2007 seems to no longer be valid.

Proposal submitted by District I, V.

III. Change in Music Bylaws

A. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 7 Section: 7.7.10 Page: 4 Manual: Music Pg: 10

Scores. It is strongly recommended that the measures be numbered for all scores provided to adjudicators. Performers or their accompanists using illegally copied music will not be allowed to perform.

(a) Solo and Small Ensemble Scores. The performer shall provide the judge with an original score for each solo and small ensemble entry. Proof of a second original score must also be presented for the accompanist and for the performer (if the performance is not memorized).

(b) Large Ensemble Scores. With the exception of show choirs only, the director shall furnish the judges of large ensembles with one original score for each selection for each judge, (three sets of scores for three judges). Show Choir directors assume responsibility for the legality of the musical arrangements performed.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal originated by the State Music Coordinators Advisory Committee. Using illegally copied music is a crime under federal law and is subject to penalties including fines of up to \$150,000 and/or imprisonment. The Nebraska School Activities Association, as administrator of Nebraska District Music Contests, will not tolerate this intentional or unintentional breach of federal law.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, VI.

B. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 7 Section: 7.7.10 Page: 4 Manual: Music Pg: 10

Scores. It is required the measures be numbered for all scores provided to adjudicators. Performers or their accompanists using illegally copied music will not be allowed to perform.

(a) Solo and Small Ensemble Scores. The performer shall provide the judge with an original score for each solo and small ensemble entry. Proof of a second original score must also be presented for the accompanist and for the performer (if the performance is not memorized).

(b) Large Ensemble Scores. With the exception of show choirs only, the director shall furnish the judges of large ensembles with one original score for each selection for each judge, (three sets of scores for three judges). Show Choir directors assume responsibility for the legality of the musical arrangements performed.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal originated by the State Music Coordinators Advisory Committee. Using illegally copied music is a crime under federal law and is subject to penalties including fines of up to \$150,000 and/or imprisonment. The Nebraska School Activities Association, as administrator of Nebraska District Music Contests, will not tolerate this intentional or unintentional breach of federal law.

Proposal submitted by District V.

IV. Addition of Middle Level Activities Bylaws

A. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 1 Page: 1

9.1 PURPOSE

9.1.1 The primary goal of seventh and eighth grade activities programs is participation. The purpose should be to encourage and promote participation of all students in a variety of activities; every student who chooses to participate should be granted that opportunity.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, V, VI.

B. This proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section 2 Page 1

9.2 MEMBERSHIP

9.2.1 Whenever a school system has a high school that becomes a member of the Nebraska School Activities Association, all interscholastic activities involving students enrolled in grades above the sixth shall be enrolled and governed by the rules of the NSAA. A membership fee shall be assessed for each high school and each school including grades seven and/or eight.

9.2.2 Any other school system operating any single grade or combination of grades seven and eight may apply for an associate membership under the condition that, if accepted, it shall comply with all regulations of the association including the payment of the annual membership fee.

9.2.3 Membership of schools involving grades seven and/or eight shall be termed associate memberships. Associate memberships may be acquired upon proper application, agreement to be governed by the rules, and payment of dues, with the understanding that associate members shall not acquire any voting rights or any vested interest in the assets of the association.

9.2.4 Each NSAA district shall appoint or elect one associate member to serve on a seventh and eighth grade advisory committee. The seventh and eighth grade advisory committee shall meet at least once annually.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Membership fee.

Committee expense for advisory committee.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, III, IV, V, VI.

C. This proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section 2 Page 1

9.2 MEMBERSHIP

9.2.1 Whenever a school system has a high school that becomes a member of the Nebraska School Activities Association, all interscholastic activities involving students enrolled in grades above the sixth shall be enrolled and governed by the rules of the NSAA **as contained in Article 9.** A membership fee shall be assessed for each high school and each school including grades seven and/or eight.

9.2.2 Any other school system operating any single grade or combination of grades seven and eight may apply for an associate membership under the condition that, if accepted, it shall comply with all regulations of the association including the payment of the annual membership fee.

9.2.3 Membership of schools involving grades seven and/or eight shall be termed associate memberships. Associate memberships may be acquired upon proper application, agreement to be governed by the rules, and payment of dues, with the understanding that associate members shall not acquire any voting rights or any vested interest in the assets of the association.

9.2.4 Each NSAA district shall appoint or elect one associate member to serve on a seventh and eighth grade advisory committee. The seventh and eighth grade advisory committee shall meet at least once annually.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Membership fee.

Committee expense for advisory committee.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District II.

D. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle School Activities Section: 3 Page: 1

9.3 COACHING REGULATIONS

9.3.1 All coaches of programs involving students in grades seven and eight must be approved by the principal, superintendent, and/or local board of education.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle Level Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, V.

E. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle School Activities Section: 3 Page: 1

9.3 COACHING REGULATIONS

9.3.1 All coaches of programs involving students in grades seven and eight must be approved by the principal and superintendent.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle Level Governance.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

F. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle School Activities Section: 4 Page: 1

9.4 CONSENT OF PARENT AND STUDENT

9.4.1 A student shall become eligible for practice and competition in each activity that is under the jurisdiction of the Nebraska School Activities Association when a certificate of consent, signed by the student and one of his/her parents or guardian, is on file with the principal. The certificate of consent shall contain an acknowledgement that the major rules and regulations governing the student's eligibility to participate in interscholastic activities have been disclosed to the student and his/her parent or guardian.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, V, VI.

G. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle School Activities Section: 5 Page: 1

9.5 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

9.5.1 Each student who expects to participate in athletic contests shall present to the superintendent or principal once each year, before actual participation in any interschool sport, a physician's certificate on a form recommended by the NSAA that he/she is physically fit for athletic participation.

9.5.2 The individual giving a physical examination for the purpose of certifying a student is physically fit to participate in athletic activities should be licensed to diagnose, treat, or recommend treatment in the areas covered by the recommended physical examination form. The individual giving a medical opinion must do so within the scope of his/her training and within the limits defined by state statutes as to services which can be legally performed by the field of practice to which the individual belongs.

9.5.3 The requirement that a student must have a physical examination once each year has been interpreted to mean the examination must be given during the school year in which the student participates or during the summer vacation period which precedes the school year in which the

individual participates. A physical taken in the summer vacation period or anytime during the school year is good only to the end of the school year. Any physical taken May 1 or after will be considered a part of summer vacation.

9.5.4 The completed physical examination forms must be kept on file at the local school.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Cost of a physical.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, V, VI.

H. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 6 Page: 1

9.6 SUNDAY CONTEST

9.6.1 No school that is a member of the NSAA shall be permitted to engage in any interschool contest on Sunday.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, V, VI.

I. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 7 Page: 1

9.7 DECEMBER MORATORIUM

9.7.1 For five consecutive days in December, there shall be no practice and no interschool competition by individuals or teams in any athletic activity sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association. The specific dates for each five-day period will be set by the Board of Control for three years in advance.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, V, VI.

J. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 8 Page: 1

9.8 CONTEST LIMITS

9.8.1 Teams composed of students in grades seven or eight, or teams composed of students in grades seven and eight, which represent a junior high school in interschool competition, shall be limited to the following number of contests:

(a) football – 6 (5 quarters)

(b) volleyball – 14

(c) basketball – 12 (2 games per day, maximum of 6 quarters)

(d) wrestling – 8

(e) track & field – 8

(f) all other activities – 8

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Allows for more contests than previously allowed by NDE, so the possibility is there for additional cost in travel, officials, etc.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came from the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I.

K. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 8 Page: 1

9.8 CONTEST LIMITS

9.8.1 Teams composed of students in grades seven or eight, or teams composed of students in grades seven and eight, which represent a junior high school in interschool competition, shall be limited to the following number of dates:

- (a) football – 6
- (b) volleyball – 12
- (c) basketball – 14
- (d) wrestling – 8
- (e) track & field – 8
- (f) all other activities – 8

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Allows for more contests than previously allowed by NDE, so the possibility is there for additional cost in travel, officials, etc.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came from the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District II.

L. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 8 Page: 1

9.8 CONTEST LIMITS

9.8.1 Teams composed of students in grades seven or eight, or teams composed of students in grades seven and eight, which represent a junior high school in interschool competition, shall be limited to the following number of contests:

- (a) football – 6 (5 quarters)
- (b) volleyball – 14
- (c) basketball – 12 (2 games per day, 8 – 6 minutes quarters or 6 – 8 minute quarters)
- (d) wrestling – 8
- (e) track & field – 8
- (f) all other activities – 8

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Allows for more contests than previously allowed by NDE, so the possibility is there for additional cost in travel, officials, etc.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came from the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District III.

M. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 8 Page: 1

9.8 CONTEST LIMITS

9.8.1 Teams composed of students in grades seven or eight, or teams composed of students in grades seven and eight, which represent a junior high school in interschool competition, shall be limited to the following number of contests:

- (a) football – 5 (5 quarters)
- (b) volleyball – 8 dates
- (c) basketball – 8 dates (maximum 8 quarters)
- (d) wrestling – 6
- (e) track & field & Cross Country – 5

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Allows for more contests than previously allowed by NDE, so the possibility is there for additional cost in travel, officials, etc.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came from the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District V.

N. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 8 Page: 1

9.8 CONTEST LIMITS

9.8.1 Teams composed of students in grades seven or eight, or teams composed of students in grades seven and eight, which represent a junior high school in interschool competition, shall be limited to the following number of contests:

- (a) football – 6
- (b) volleyball – 14

(c) basketball – 12 (2 games per day)

(d) wrestling – 8

(e) track & field – 8

(f) all other activities – 8

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Allows for more contests than previously allowed by NDE, so the possibility is there for additional cost in travel, officials, etc.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came from the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

D. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 9 Page: 1

9.9 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

9.9.1 Each school shall adopt and enforce a scholastic eligibility rule for seventh and eighth grades. That local scholastic policy shall govern students for seventh and eighth grade interscholastic competition.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, V, VI.

P. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 9 Page: 1

9.9.2 A student shall become eligible for four semesters of junior high/middle school activities participation beginning with his/her initial enrollment in grade seven.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None.

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District II, IV, V, VI.

Q. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 9 Page: 1

9.9.3 No student who has attained the age of sixteen years shall be eligible for junior high/middle school interschool competition except as follows: a student who becomes sixteen years of age on or after August 1 shall be eligible on the basis of age until the end of the current school year.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, III,

R. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 9 Page: 1

9.9.3 No student who has attained the age of fifteen years shall be eligible for junior high/middle school interschool competition except as follows: a student who becomes sixteen years of age on or after August 1 shall be eligible on the basis of age until the end of the current school year.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District II, IV, V, VI.

S. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 9 Middle Level Activities Section: 10 Page: 1

9.10 COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP

9.10.1 If a member junior high/middle school does not offer a particular activity program, it is permissible for that school to enter into a cooperative sharing agreement with another member school that does offer the program.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, IV, V, VI.

G. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article Middle Level Activities Section: 11 Page: 1
9.11 SPORTSMANSHIP

9.11.1 Schools shall adopt a local policy to govern sportsmanship for junior high/middle school level.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: This proposal came out of the Committee on Middle School Governance.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, III, V, VI.

V. Change in Approved Rulings.

A. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Basketball Page: 11

Class B schools will be divided into three regions, which will be subdivided into six districts. The district sites will be determined before the start of the season. The Western Region will be comprised of one district of four to six teams. The Central Region will be comprised of two districts of five to seven teams. The Eastern Region will be comprised of three districts of five to seven teams. Schools assigned to the Central and Eastern Regions would determine their district assignments within two weeks prior to the first district contest using a serpentine method based upon the NSAA wild card point system. The schools in the Western Region will be seeded by the NSAA wild card point system within two weeks prior to the first district contest. The NSAA has the authority to make districts as even as possible.

a. The winning boys' teams and the winning girls' teams in each district will qualify for the State Championship.

b. Two additional boys' teams and two additional girls' teams will also qualify for the State Championship on the basis of the wild card selection procedure.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Some increased travel, hopefully minimal. Will need to be monitored.

Rationale for the proposed change:

1. It rewards the teams that have done well in a particular season. It is also a positive step in providing the best teams for the state tournament.

2. If a school has a particularly strong year or couple of years, they are rewarded in their district seeding instead of being designated by geography.

3. It helps alleviate the age-old complaint of playing the same teams year after year in district competition.

4. Provides an option to streamline future district setups in Classes B.

5. The number of teams in each region could/should be manipulated to provide the least amount of travel. The bottom line is to see if change can be made while keeping travel concerns a priority.

Proposal submitted by District II.

B. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Basketball Page: 13

Determination of Home Teams

1. In all championships, the highest seeded team of the paired bracket shall be considered the home team and shall wear white jerseys.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: Creates consistency in championship brackets. Teams can easily anticipate home/away designations.

Proposal submitted by District II.

C. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Basketball Page: 18

2. No more than fourteen boys/girls may be suited up for any games.

3. If a coach fails to certify the fourteen players, the fourteen names entered in the official scorebook prior to the first game that the team plays shall be the certified roster.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Forty-eight (48) additional medals.

Reimbursement expenses for out-of-town teams.

Rationale for the proposed change:

This encourages additional participation. Allowing 14 players on the roster, but only 12 to suit, causes dissension with the "non-playing" athletes at district and state. To avoid having this directed at the coaches, they may opt to carry only 12 players all season, which virtually eliminates the opportunity for 2 additional players to have a varsity experience.

Proposal submitted by District I.

D. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Football – Class A Page: 14

The teams within the district will play a round-robin schedule with the first and second place teams in each district qualifying for the football playoffs. Using the point system and point system tiebreaker, the next 6 teams with the highest regular season point average that did not finish as a 1st or 2nd place team in their district, will qualify for the playoffs, making a total of sixteen teams.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: By having the best 16 teams based on regular season play qualify, the first round match-ups, especially of the top 4 seeded teams with the bottom 4 seeded teams should be more competitive games, with the potential to increase attendance and gate receipts.

No additional costs should result.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Head-to-head competition within districts has value; however, the fact that districts are pre-determined using enrollment still allows for one or two districts to be made up of several strong teams and some district (s) holding up to 3 teams that do not compile a winning regular season record. It has been true the last several seasons that a team or teams with below .500 W-L records have qualified for a play-off spot. By qualifying 2 teams from each district, value is still placed on the head-to-head competition within each district. By qualifying the next six teams to complete the field, strength of schedule and the district a team is placed in has more value. The best 16 teams based on season long performance are more likely to qualify with this proposed change. Using this formula in 2008, there would still have been 1 team with a below .500 record that qualified, but a team with a winning record that this year did not make the playoffs would have been in.

Proposal submitted by District II.

E. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Golf Page: 9

Girls' golf schools are divided into four classes for district and state competition. Based on the total enrollment figures used for the classification of schools in all NSAA activities, Class A consists of the 32 largest schools playing girls' golf during the classification period. The next 32 schools will be placed in Class B. The remaining schools registered for girls' golf are placed in Class C and Class D.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Fees and staffing of one more state site (just like boy's golf).

Only three additional district sites would be needed since there are already 5 districts for Class C and we would need 4 districts per class. Medals for 10 individuals and plaques for 3 teams per district (30 medals, plus ties and 9 plaques).

Three more district sites would ease assignment issues with regard to travel distances for Class C teams.

Adding another state site would give an economic boost to the hosting community and further promote girls' golf.

Rationale for the proposed change:

1. In Girls' Golf, the number of Class A and Class B (team/individual) qualifiers is grossly disproportionate to Class C.
2. In the Fall of 2008, there were more schools assigned to Class C than both Class A and Class B combined.
3. All teams and individual competitors should be given an equitable opportunity to qualify for state competition regardless of class.
4. Class A State Championships are now held outside of Grand Island so there is no need to limit Girl's Golf to three classes anymore.
5. Changing the Girls' Golf Classifications would be more equitable. It would also make it more consistent with the boy's classifications.

Important Statistics:

In 2008...

15 Class A teams out of 32 qualify for the State Championships: 47% of Class A Schools

15 Class B teams out of 32 qualify for the State Championships: 47% of Class B Schools

15 Class C teams out of 66 qualify for the State Championships: 23% of Class C Schools

Assuming there are no individual ties....

Class A: 10 places x 4 Districts = 40 Individual Qualifiers out of 160 competitors

Class B: 10 places x 4 Districts = 40 Individual Qualifiers out of 160 competitors

Class C: 10 places x 5 Districts = 50 Individual Qualifiers out of 325 competitors*

*Over double the number of schools competing, but only 10 more qualifiers

Proposal submitted by District II, III, VI.

This proposal deals with: Activities Manuals: Golf & Cross Country Page: 18

In addition to District Championship and runner-Up plaques being awarded the third place team should be awarded a state qualifying plaque.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Approximately 62 districts for both girls and boys times \$30.00 per plaque for a total of \$1,860.

Rationale: If this was football, a team with a record of 3-5 that made it to the playoffs or qualified for state they would get a plaque that said they were a "State Qualifier." In addition, in basketball or volleyball, a team can lose in sub-districts and qualify for the state tournament. They would receive a plaque for qualifying for the state tournament as a "Wild Card". When any team qualifies for state competition, they should receive a plaque signifying such, it is an equity issue. They should be recognized for their accomplishments much like other sports.

Proposal submitted by District III.

The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Music Page: 14

Approved Rulings and Interpretations for 7.9.1

AWARDS

1. Certificates:

a. Large and small groups receiving a superior will receive a 7" x 10" certificate presented to their school.

b. Solos receiving superiors will receive a 5" x 7" certificate.

c. Individual members of a large or small group receiving a superior will receive a 2" x 4" card.

2. Plaques: Large groups receiving a superior from all three judges shall receive a 5" x 7" walnut plaque, presented to the school.

3. Medals: A school may purchase a medal for each participant of a large ensemble that has received a superior rating from all three judges. This will be a medal the size of all district medals 1 5/16 inches in diameter, with a ribbon/pin attachment. The NSAA will provide order forms and the medals must be ordered through the NSAA office, by the school. Orders from individual students will not be accepted. Full Payment must be included with your order.

4. Outstanding Performance Award: This award recognizes the top performers at district music

contest in the solo and small ensemble (up to 24 members) categories which are adjudicated by a single judge. Each adjudicator may designate one performance as an Outstanding Performance. They may also nominate up to two additional performances as "Honorable Mention. Judges are not required to select an Outstanding Performance unless they have given a perfect score on the contest ballot. A form will be provided to each judge to assist in selecting and reporting this award. This award can be given to any instrument or voice category, class size or grade level of performer. Award recipients are presented a special NSAA certificate as Outstanding Performers or Honorable Mention Performers.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Small administrative cost for material and production of forms and award certificates.

Rationale for the proposed change:

This proposal originated by the State Music Coordinators Advisory Committee. This award program is designed to recognize the top student performers at District Music Contest in the solo and small ensemble categories. These categories make up over half of the contest entries submitted by most schools. These are the student entries that excel above and beyond the standard of a Superior rating in skill and musicianship based on the evaluation of performances scored by each district music contest solo and small ensemble adjudicator.

Proposal submitted by District I, II, IV, V, VI.

H. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Soccer Page: 23

Team Bench or Area.

The team bench or area for both teams will be located on the same side of the field. An official's area will be located between the team areas. The home team shall be the highest seeded team of each paired bracket and shall occupy the team bench or area located to the left facing the official's area.

Home Team and Uniforms

The home team shall be the highest seeded team of each paired bracket and shall wear white or light jerseys and stockings, the visiting team shall wear dark jerseys and stockings.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: Creates consistency in championship brackets. Teams can easily anticipate home/away designations.

Proposal submitted by District II.

I. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Softball Page: 9

Class B will be divided into two regions – West and East. The twelve most western schools in the state will make up the West Region. They will be assigned into two districts using a serpentine method based upon the NSAA wild card point system. The rest of the Class B schools will be in the east region. They will be assigned into four districts using a serpentine method based upon the NSAA wild card point system. Class C district assignments are based on geographic location starting west and moving east with consideration also given to north and south to reduce travel.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Some transportation increase possible, but could be minimal. Would need to be monitored.

Rationale for the proposed change:

1. It rewards the teams that have done well in a particular season. It is also a positive step in providing the best teams for the state tournament.
2. If a school has a particularly strong year or couple of years, they are rewarded in their district seeding instead of being designated by geography.
3. It helps alleviate the age-old complaint of playing the same teams year after year in district competition.
4. Provides an option to streamline future district setups in Classes B & C.
5. The number of teams in each region could/should be manipulated to provide the least amount of

travel. There may be a need for three regions to cut expenses. The bottom line is to see if change can be made while keeping travel concerns a priority.

Proposal submitted by District II.

**J. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Softball Page: 13
State Softball Tournament Schedule**

WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m.
GAMES 1-4 CLASS A
12:30 p.m.
GAMES 1-4 CLASS B
3:00 p.m.
GAMES 1-4 CLASS C
5:30 p.m.
GAMES 7-8 CLASS A
5:30 p.m.
GAMES 7-8 CLASS B
7:30 p.m.
GAMES 7-8 CLASS C

THURSDAY

10:00 a.m.
GAMES 5-6 CLASS A
10:00 a.m.
GAMES 5-6 CLASS A
12:30 p.m.
GAMES 5-6 CLASS B
12:30 p.m.
GAMES 9-10 CLASS B
3:00 p.m.
GAMES 5-6 CLASS C
3:00 p.m.
GAMES 9-10 CLASS C
5:30 p.m.
GAMES 11-12 CLASS A
5:30 p.m.
GAMES 11-12 CLASS B
7:30 p.m.
GAMES 11-12 CLASS C

FRIDAY

1:00 p.m.
GAME 13 CLASSES A-B-C
3:00 p.m.
GAME 14 CLASSES A-B-C
5:00 p.m.
GAMES 15 CLASSES A-B-C
(IF NECESSARY)

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

There would be more reimbursement expense to the NSAA and extra travel and/or lodging to the teams involved. However, a format such as this could potentially generate more revenue.

Rationale for the proposed change:

This table reflects a new format for the State Softball Tournament. It would be a three day tournament for all classes and would minimize the number of games played per day by each team. Friday would then become "Championship Day" for all classes.

The State Softball Tournament should be a positive and lasting experience for the teams involved. Right now, four teams are eliminated after the first day. After the first day of this proposal only two teams are eliminated. Under this format teams would only have to play two and at the most three games per day. Under the present system some teams play three games the first day and potentially four on the final day. We need to seek ways to improve the State Softball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District II.

K. The proposal deals with: Manuals: Softball/Volleyball/Basketball/Soccer Page: Varies

District Seeding - Class A ONLY - Softball/Volleyball/Basketball/Soccer

District Seeding: District competition shall be seeded based on wild card points. All Class A schools in (softball, volleyball, basketball, soccer) are to be placed in seven districts. All districts would be determined by the serpentine method (not modified), based upon the NSAA wild card point system, within one week prior to the first district competition. There would be NO western district, as all schools would be assigned according to NSAA Wild Card Points. The top seeded team in each district shall be assigned as the host for their respective district.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

- An increase in travel expenses and lodging costs are possible in a multi-day tournament, depending on site location, otherwise no additional costs involved.

- Crowds could increase or decrease based on teams assigned to districts and sites of these districts based on wild card point totals.

Rationale for the proposed change:

This proposal was submitted last year as a two part plan, with the first part (seeding districts one week prior to district tournaments instead of two weeks prior) being implemented beginning this year. Rationale for the change to all Class A schools being seeded by wild card points with no western district:

- a) During the season, schools travel across the state in Class A for contests, so why do we stop this practice in the post season during district tournaments?
- b) If we use the wild card point system as a basis for seeding from season results, all teams should be included in a top to bottom seeding format, not just 85 percent of the schools in Class A, with the remainder (four to five schools) being lumped together due strictly to geography.
- c) The top seven teams in the wild card point standings should be rewarded for their efforts during the season by being a top seed at the district tournaments.
- d) Regardless of location, all schools should be treated consistently by the same criteria for seeding in all district and state events within the classification.
- e) THIS PROPOSAL WILL ASSIGN THE TOP SEEDED TEAM IN EACH DISTRICT AS THE HOST FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT.

Please note: Baseball is not included in this, as there is currently no western district in this sport. All other sports that have district competition (Girls and Boys Cross Country, Girls and Boys Golf, and Wrestling) already are assigned state wide for district competition in Class A.

Proposal submitted by District II.

ℒ. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Tennis - District competition, Boys Page: 7
Class B Tennis will hold district tournaments to qualify players for the State Meet. Class B schools will be divided into 4 geographical districts using an 8-person bracket. The tournament will be seeded by a meeting of participating coaches. The top 3 finishers in each district will qualify for the State Meet. District Meets will be held on Friday of Week 14 with the State Meet held on Friday of Week 15. A maximum of twelve entries would qualify in each division.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Additional cost for schools that will travel to both districts and state. For teams who do not qualify any players, travel would be negligible, or perhaps reduced. The NSAA would not be obligated to reimburse teams for mileage to districts. Reducing the state meet from two days to one day would alleviate some of the costs.

Rationale for the proposed change: Most matches in the early rounds of the state meet are lop-sided. There is a lot of class time missed for matches that do little to determine a state championship. It makes no sense that players with losing records (or perhaps winless records) are given the opportunity to play on the season's biggest stage. At one time, the state may not have had adequate facilities to host districts at various sites. Now it does. Holding the state tournament as one day gives the NSAA some flexibility in scheduling in case of inclement weather.

Possible District Assignments:

NORTH PLATTE DISTRICT: Alliance, Scottsbluff, Hershey, Lexington, McCook, Kearney Catholic

HASTINGS DISTRICT: Holdrege, Adams Central, Hastings, Grand Island Central Catholic, York, Beatrice

OMAHA DISTRICT: South Sioux City, Omaha Brownell-Talbot, Omaha Gross, Omaha Roncalli, Elkhorn, Mt. Michael Benedictine

LINCOLN DISTRICT: Omaha Skutt, Lincoln Christian, Lincoln Pius X, Nebraska City, Ralston, Waverly

Proposal submitted by District I, II, IV, V, VI.

ℓ. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Tennis - District Competition, Girls Page: 7
Class B Tennis will hold district tournaments to qualify players for the State Meet. Class B schools will be divided into 4 geographical districts using an 8-person bracket. The tournament will be seeded by

a meeting of participating coaches. The top 4 finishers in each district will qualify for the state meet. District meets will be held on Friday of Week 45 with the State Meet held on Friday of Week 46. A maximum of sixteen entries would qualify in each division.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Additional cost for schools that will travel to both districts and state. For teams who do not qualify any players, travel would be negligible, or perhaps reduced. The NSAA would not be obligated to reimburse teams for mileage to districts. Reducing the state meet from two days to one day would alleviate some of the costs.

Rationale for the proposed change: Most matches in the early rounds of the state meet are lopsided. There is a lot of class time missed for matches that do little to determine a state championship. It makes no sense that players with losing records (or perhaps winless records) are given the opportunity to play on the season's biggest stage. At one time, the state may not have had adequate facilities to host districts at various sites. Now it does. Holding the state tournament on one day gives the NSAA some flexibility in scheduling in case of inclement weather.

Possible District Assignments:

NORTH PLATTE DISTRICT: Alliance, Scottsbluff, Hershey, Lexington, McCook, Kearney Catholic, Ogallala, Holdrege

HASTINGS DISTRICT: Hastings St. Cecilia, Adams Central, Hastings, Grand Island Central Catholic, York, Wilber-Clatonia, Crete

OMAHA DISTRICT: South Sioux City, Omaha Brownell-Talbot, Omaha Gross, Omaha Roncalli, Elkhorn, Blair, Omaha Duchesne, Omaha Skutt

LINCOLN DISTRICT: Gretna, Lincoln Christian, Lincoln Pius X, Nebraska City, Ralston, Waverly, Norris, Beatrice

Proposal submitted by District I, II, IV, V, VI.

N. **The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Track & Field Page: 12 - Additional Qualifiers**

6. Additional Qualifiers

D. In addition to the regular qualifiers in boys' field events, all qualify who equal or exceed the following in Boys' 2009 Sanctioned Track and Field meets.

E. In addition to the regular qualifiers in girls' field events, all qualify who equal or exceed the following in Girls' 2009 Sanctioned Track and Field meets.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Financial Impact - adding an additional table to the Manual for the Season Qualifying mark - and the procedure. Printing forms to be submitted by the Meet Director (or on line) with automatic marks at their sanctioned meet. Printing cost for manual. No additional cost for adding qualifiers in field events. Of the 5 Class B Boys - 3 qualified in other events, one did not qualify and one did not participate at all because of injury.

Rationale for the proposed change:

This process would assure that all deserving athletes have the opportunity to participate in the State Track and Field Meet. Deserving athletes should not be left out of the State Meet because of a sub-par performance at Districts due to weather, injury, illness or just a bad day. Wild card teams are added to state competitions for those very same reasons. No system is perfect but this is more consistent with qualifying standards for state competitions in other sports where we strive to assure the best teams participate at state competitions. In a likewise manner we should assure that the best athletes compete in the State Track and Field Meet.

In the long run this will have very little impact on the total number of athletes competing in the field events at the State Track Meet. In 2008 only 5 additional boys would have been added to the field events in Class B using this system. That number was similar in all other classes. Adding these athletes will, over time, raise the 6th place finish which is used to determine the automatic district qualifying mark which will keep the total number of participants even.

Proposal submitted by District IV.

D. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Track and Field Page: 14

Each member of the Championship Team that competed at the State Meet will receive a First Place Gold Medal for participating in the Track and Field Championships.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Approximately 8 Gold Medals per class and gender. \$4.00 per medal times thirty-two medals for boys and thirty-two medals for girls. A total of sixty-four medals totaling \$256.00.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Even though Track and Field contestants compete in what is considered individual events team scores are tabulated and Championship trophies are presented to the winners. Many schools now purchase championship medals on their own. It is the feeling of many track coaches that these athletes should be honored for their contribution to the team's championship.

Proposal submitted by District VI.

P. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Volleyball Page: 9

Determination of Home Teams

In all tournaments, the highest seeded team of the paired bracket shall be considered the home team.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: Creates consistency in championship brackets. Teams can easily anticipate home/away designations.

Proposal submitted by District II.

Q. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Volleyball Page: 9

Class B will be divided into three regions, which will be subdivided into six districts. The district sites will be determined before the start of the season. The Western Region will be comprised of one district of four to six teams. The Central Region will be comprised of two districts of five to seven teams. The Eastern Region will be comprised of three districts of five to seven teams. Schools assigned to the Central and Eastern Regions would determine their district assignments within two weeks prior to the first district contest using a serpentine method based upon the NSAA wild card point system. The schools in the Western Region will be seeded by the NSAA wild card point system within two weeks prior to the first district contest.

a. The winning team in each district will qualify for the state tournament.

b. Two additional teams will also qualify on the basis of the wild card selection procedure.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Some increased travel, hopefully minimal.

Rationale for the proposed change:

1. It rewards the teams that have done well in a particular season. It is also a positive step in providing the best teams for the state tournament.

2. If a school has a particularly strong year or couple of years, they are rewarded in their district seeding instead of being designated by geography.

3. It helps alleviate the age-old complaint of playing the same teams year after year in district competition.

4. Provides an option to streamline future district setups in Classes B.

5. The number of teams in each region could/should be manipulated to provide the least amount of travel. The bottom line is to see if change can be made while keeping travel concerns a priority.

Proposal submitted by District II.

R. The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: All Page: varies

Up to 12 cheerleaders, 12 drill team members and 50 band members per school would be admitted free of charge to district and state competitions.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: Cost: Loss of revenue to District host and NSAA

Rationale for the proposed change: Rationale: Cheerleaders, drill team and band members are an integral part of our athletic events. They contribute to the overall atmosphere at a contest and help

promote positive sportsmanship. Our activities are for our students and excluding or limiting these groups based upon cost of admission does not support our mission. Requiring them to pay admission is a hardship on school district funds, athletic department funds, students or parents.

Proposal submitted by District I.

VI. Request for Committee.

A. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Baseball Pg: 2
Start of Practice: Monday, Week 37 – **Amended to form an NSAA study group to consider starting dates.**

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Not to begin practice until after completion of the State Boys Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District I.

B. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Golf–Boys Pg: 3
Start of Spring Practice, Monday, Week 37. **Amended to form an NSAA study group to consider starting dates.**

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Not begin practice until after completion of the Boys State Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District I.

C. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Soccer Pg: 3
First Practice, Monday, Week 37. **Amended to form an NSAA study group to consider starting dates.**

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Not begin practice until after completion of State Boys Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District I.

D. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Tennis–Girls Pg: 1
Start of Practice: Monday, Week 37. **Amended to form an NSAA study group to consider starting dates.**

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Not begin practice until after completion of State Boys Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District I.

E. The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 Section: 1.1.2 Page: 1 Manual: Track Pg: 1
Start of Spring Practice, Monday, Week 37. **Amended to form an NSAA Study group to consider starting dates.**

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No additional cost.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Not begin spring practice until after completion of Boys State Basketball Tournament.

Proposal submitted by District I.