

NSSAF Handbook -Extracted References

CODE OF ETHICS

It is the duty of all concerned with school athletics:

- 3) To insist upon implicit compliance with all rules and regulations of NSSAF

- 5) To recognize that good sportsmanship is as important as victory, by approving and applauding good team play, individual skill, and outstanding examples of sportsmanship and fair play exhibited by either team

CONSTITUTION

Article II - Purpose

- 1) To encourage a friendly and harmonious relationship among secondary schools of Nova Scotia through the promotion of athletic activities deemed advisable and looked upon as promoting and contributing to the generally accepted objectives of secondary education

Article III - Membership

The Principal of the school has ultimate responsibility for the interscholastic athletic program of the school

BY-LAWS

Article I - Eligibility for Membership

A school, approved for membership, shall be accepted upon payment of a fee. Membership shall entail an obligation to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Federation

Article II - Duties of the Principal

The principal has ultimate responsibility and accountability for the interscholastic athletic program of the school

It is the principal's responsibility to ensure the goals and objectives of the (program) are consistent with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Federation

The principal shall designate a staff member who will, under the direction of the principal, coordinate all matters associated with the NSSAF

Article III - Duties of the Board of Governors

- 2) Have the final authority to interpret and enforce provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Federation

- 5) Determine policy, procedures and regulations for provincial play-offs

Article V - Duties of the Executive Director

- 3) Interpret the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Federation, and enforce all rules prescribed therein

Article VII - Duties of the District Co-Ordinator

- 1) Be responsible for the organization and administration of all interscholastic athletics in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Federation
- 2) Meetings with member schools to plan all matters concerned with the (program)

REGULATIONS

Regulation IV - Student Eligibility

- 12) Students are expected to maintain acceptable academic performance as determined by the principal. Principals are urged to establish procedures to review student-athletes' academic performance to ensure the student continues to progress satisfactorily while participating in athletics

Regulation V - Classification of Schools

- 4) Competition
 - Schools may enter one team per sport in ten sports: badminton, cheerleading, cross country, curling, football, rugby, skiing, table tennis, track/field, wrestling)
 - Schools may enter more than one team in six sports: soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, slo-pitch softball and fastpitch softball
 - Restrictions on 2nd and 3rd year student participation; schools registering + 1 team

Regulation VII - Athletic Contests (for all competition leading to a provincial championship):

- 1) Board of governors establishes locations, dates, rules of play, other necessary policies
- 4) In all district/regional competition, teams shall follow rules of NSSAF as established by the By-Laws and Regulations of the Federation
- 5) District Associations operate under the NSSAF constitution; local rules are subject to Board or Executive Director approval. Failure to comply could mean loss of eligibility
- 12) Start up dates for practices and games are clearly established in the Regulations, including, by sport, the Try-Out/Practice No Earlier Than (date); First Game No Earlier than (date), and limit in number of games and/or days of competition.
 - Prior to start-up date, schools may not conduct team activity sessions or organize any team or individual event which is part of the selection process
 - Must count all games/days of competition prior to NSSAF regional play-downs
 - Tournament play involving 3 or more schools to be counted as one game for each day of competition to a maximum of three
- 13) Once the NSSAF champion has been declared, all school sponsored representative teams

in that sport shall be terminated until the following school year. The school shall not organize tryouts, practices, games or provide funds, uniforms, referees or transportation (such support is considered sponsorship (not meant to interfere with intramurals))

- 15) No high school invitational tournaments to be held in the same sport on the same weekend which NSSAF is declaring a championship in that sport
- 20) School teams shall not compete in any game or tournament involving non-school teams
- 21) Second teams are not eligible to host regional, qualifying or provincial championships
- 24) School sport competitions should generally be held outside of regular class hours during the week and on Friday afternoon* and evening and Saturday morning and afternoon on weekends. Should it be necessary to schedule competition on Sunday, no events shall begin before 1 pm. (* clarified with NSSAF that this is intended to mean after-school time, and not scheduled afternoon instructional time)

Regulation IX - Non-Federation Competition

Schools wishing to participate in non-NSSAF athletic activity shall ascertain sanction of the Board of Governors for each event, in advance, by writing to the Executive Director. This includes Invitational School Tournaments or Meets hosted by universities, private organizations, other provinces, etc.

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS (1991)

The Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation believes that:

- 6) Generally, sport seasons should not overlap. Students should not find it necessary to divide or choose athletic interests before one sport season is completed and another starts
- 7) Member schools should establish policies for starting dates for team selection and practice time which ensure that the "in season:" sport is given a legitimate opportunity to develop
- 9) Administrators and coaches should co-operatively establish school policies and procedures for the interscholastic athletic program which address areas such as:
 - a) requirements for participation including academic performance, attendance
 - c) adherence to NSSAF regulations
- 10) The demands being placed upon students and coaches ... should be closely monitored and evaluated in terms of the overall objectives of education. Student-athletes and teacher-coaches need time for other pursuits during the season. The schedule of games and practices should provide days off for those involved to rest; to be with their families; to do school work; to prepare lessons, etc. or to pursue another interest