

## 522.07 – Dance Tryouts

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Submitted by: Scott McCready, Activities Director, St. Charles

### **Authors of the Proposal**

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### **Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)**

Dance Team, High Kick; Dance Team, Jazz

## **Current Rule/Policy**

**State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.**

Bylaw 522.7 - Tryout

Coaches may have contact with students for preparation, tryouts and team selection following the state competition and prior to June 15th. This tryout and selection period should not exceed on (1) week

## **Proposed Recommendation**

**Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.**

Remove entire Bylaw 522.7

**Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.**

Nothing currently will be impacted

## **Rationale**

**What is the history of the proposal?**

Dance has historically been a sport that has worked outside of the typical rules and contact period with regard to allowing a tryout in the spring for the following season.

Coaches have historically needed to establish the number of rostered participants on their team, and the language around choreography and the number of students allowed (prior to the start of the season) is based on the number of people on your team. So it has been important for coaches to have this information. It was also a typical process to order custom uniforms for each member, prior to the season. This process has changed as schools have developed the idea to order more uniforms than needed, to ensure that when additions are made at the beginning of the winter season, they have enough for other previously unidentified student athletes who would participate in the winter.

**How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?**

Removing the spring tryout option will align dance with all of the other MSHSL sport opportunities that are currently only able to hold a tryout inside of the MSHSL designated season.

This tryout in the spring can be a reason that dance participation numbers are not always applicable to Title IX participation opportunities in state reporting.

Removing this option will provide a level of equity between programs, as some schools do not allow tryouts, as it is a conflict for those students who are involved in spring sports.

### **What other policies are significant in this proposal?**

The season length and choreography time could be impacted by the proposal.

### **Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups**

Generally, coaches understand that this will put them in alignment with each of the other sports offered by the MSHSL.

AD's would support this, as it assists in assuring that student athletes are not asked to participate in an out-of-season sport tryout during the time of their spring season.

## **Impact**

### **How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools**

This could lessen some of the inequity that tryouts can present to schools who may have student athletes participating in spring sports during the time of the required tryout period for dance.

Many schools have developed a practice of not allowing tryouts for dance because it puts students in difficult situations.

It could also address some issues around qualified student athletes and coverage under the MSHSL umbrella if students are not registered for dance during the tryout period.

It also eliminates the scenario where a student could be selected for the dance team and then changes enrollment prior to the start of a season.

## **Administration**

### **How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?**

No impact

## **Length of Tournament**

**How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?**

No impact

## **Participants**

**How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?**

It could increase participants as the natural timeline to participate in dance would be in the winter season.

**How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?**

No impact

## **Facilities**

**How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?**

No impact

## **Awards**

**How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?**

No impact

## **Other**

**Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal**

None at this time

## **Primary Author and Contact for Proposal**

**Proposal submitted by**

The five authors listed above.

**Position**

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