

Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 208.1-4 Non-School Competition and Training (Team and Individual Sports)

(~~deleted language~~ proposed language)

Submitted by: Mark Kuisle - Rochester Century; Ryan Swanson - Owatonna; Randy Hockinson - Kenyon-Wanamingo; Broc Threinen - Kasson-Mantorville; Trent Hanson - Hastings; John Vraa - New London-Spicer; Ray Kirch - Mahtomedi

1. During the High School Season: Cross Reference: Bylaw 411.10.C Definition (End of Season)

- A. A student who is a member of a high school team may not participate as an individual competitor or as a member of a non-school team in the same sport during the high school season. Participation Definition: Participation is defined as practice, training, scrimmaging, tryouts and competing. Exceptions:
 - 1) Baseball, softball and skiing.
 - 2) A student who is cut or who elects to drop from the squad shall be permitted to play on a non-school team in that sport.
 - 3) Non-school training during the high school season for athletes who qualify as individual competitors to the state tournament (Cross Country Running, Girls' Gymnastics, Golf, Skiing, Swimming, Synchronized Swimming, Tennis, Track and Field, and Wrestling):
 - a) Lessons/Training: During the League high school season athletes may take lessons from professionals and other non-school coaches without limit as to where, when or who may provide the training. Athletes may not miss a high school practice, game, or meet to take a lesson or train for a non-school event. Athletes may take lessons/train with a non-school team/club during the high school season in the same sport.
 - b) Competition: Athletes may compete in non-school events/competitions that do not match the events in which athletes currently compete in high school competition.
- B. Students who have been eliminated from further participation in a League tournament series may participate on a non-school team or as an individual competitor in that sport.
- C. A student may receive training through private lessons from a person who is not a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport.
- D. Fees for non-school coaching or training must be provided by the student or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) unless approved by the Board of Directors.

2. During the School Year, Prior To and Following the High School Sports Season:

- A. A student may participate as an individual competitor or as a member of a non-school team provided that the student's participation is voluntary and not influenced or directed by a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport.
- B. Students may not use any type of high school uniform.
- C. A student may not receive coaching or training from a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport. Power skating and indoor soccer are included in this limitation.
- D. A student may receive coaching or training including private lessons from a person who is not a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport Student Eligibility
- E. Fees and expenses for non-school coaching, training or private lessons must be provided by the student or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) unless approved by the Board of Directors.
- F. Participation in Captains Practice: Captains Practice is primarily for the purpose of physical conditioning organized and conducted by the students. Students may participate in Captains Practice provided that salaried or non-salaried school personnel are not involved in any capacity. It is the responsibility of school officials to become aware of the preseason activities in their school district and to ensure that the spirit and intent of the League rules are observed.

- G. Participation in Open Gym: Open gym refers to the use of school facilities for recreational activities. Students may participate in open gym if all of the following conditions are met:
- 1) the school facilities are available for students to participate in a number of activities.
 - 2) the recreational activities are open to all students.
 - 3) there is no coaching of the skills and techniques of activities provided in the school interscholastic athletic program.
 - 4) there is no requirement for students to attend open gym activities as a prerequisite for membership on a high school team.

3. Summer Vacation Period: Cross Reference: Bylaw 411.10.I (Definitions - Summer)

- A. Students may participate in camps, clinics/non-school teams, provided that these summer activities are voluntary and they are not influenced or directed to participate by a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport.
- B. A student may not use any type of high school uniform. Balls and goalie equipment may be issued for summer use. A student may rent personal protective equipment from the school, i.e. helmets and shoulder pads, for summer use only.
- C. A student may receive coaching or training from a salaried or non-salaried member of the student's sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity high school coaching staff in that sport provided the school has approved summer coaching for that sport.
- D. Fees and expenses for non-school coaching or training must be provided by the student or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) unless approved by the Board of Directors.

4. Summer Coaching Waiver:

- A. Member schools shall have the authority to approve a coaching waiver for their salaried and non-salaried coaches. The summer coaching waiver grants permission to high school coaches to coach and instruct members of the high school team during the summer waiver period. The summer waiver period begins on June 1 and concludes on July 31.
- B. During the summer coaching waiver period, each sport and the entire salaried and non-salaried coaching staff at the sophomore, B-squad, junior varsity or varsity may be approved by their school administration for a maximum of 20 days of contact. The dates include camps, open gyms, practices, scrimmages, chalk talks, video review, leagues of 3 on 3, 5 on 5 or 7 on 7 and games. Baseball and Girls' Softball are exempt from the 20 days of contact.
- C. Football coaches must follow the current policy as it pertains to helmet, shoulder pads and acclimatization prior to person-to-person contact. The use of helmets and shoulder pads with person-to-person contact must be consecutive days.
- D. Summer strength and conditioning programs which are not sport specific and open to all students would not count toward the 20 days of contact.

With the exception of Baseball and Girls' Softball, the summer waiver period also includes a one-week no-contact period in July the week of July Fourth. During the no-contact period salaried and non-salaried coaches may not:

- 1) Have any contact with members of their high school program
- 2) Travel with members of their high school program
- 3) Supervise members of their high school program in an open gym, strength and conditioning program of any sport specific training session, or
- 4) Schedule any activity including leadership or team building programs.

There is no appeal or waiver for the no-contact period. Coaches who have been granted a summer coaching waiver by their high school to coach a summer league team may continue to coach that team through Labor Day if that team participates in an end-of-the-season tournament as a natural extension of the summer team season. Said exception must be approved, in writing, by the high school athletic director of that school.

See a 10-Year Schedule of Coaches No-Contact Periods in Board Policy on Page 47.

- BE. Summer Camp/Clinic Waiver: Member schools shall have authority to approve a coaching waiver for camps and or clinics beginning on June 1 and ending on July 31. Each sport may have up to 20 days of contact. With the exception of Baseball and Girls' Softball, the summer waiver period also includes a one-week no-contact period in July the week of July Fourth. There is no appeal or waiver for the no-contact period.
- CE. Procedure for Granting Summer Coaching or Summer Camp/Clinic Waivers: The designated school representative of the member high school shall document, in writing and keep on file in the school:
- 1) letter of verification from the coach indicating an agreement to coach the students;
 - 2) The official League Summer Waiver Request – Coach form that is available on the League website (Home Page > Resources > Eligibility)

Rationale –

- A) This levels the playing field for coaches during the summer period sport-to-sport and community-to-community.
- B) All programs (except baseball and softball) have the same maximum number of contact days.
- C) Allows students to be multi-sport athletes and allows for participation in multiple sports during the summer.
- D) Allows for down time for students to work and take family vacations.
- E) Across Minnesota and nationally we are losing too many high quality coaches, early in their career, due to burnout and loss of family time.
- F) Becoming increasingly difficult to fill head coaching positions because of out-of-season expectations and pressures.
- G) Current Bylaw does not foster the Beliefs of the Minnesota State High School League and philosophy of Why We Play.
- H) Too much emphasis on success rather than transformational coaching. We need to reduce the burden on coaches.

Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 208.2.F Non-School Competition and Training (Team and Individual Sports)

(~~deleted language~~ proposed language)

Submitted by: Mark Kuisle - Rochester Century; Ryan Swanson – Owatonna; Randy Hockinson – Kenyon-Wanamingo; Broc Threinen – Kasson-Mantorville; Trent Hanson – Hastings; John Vraa – New London-Spicer; Ray Kirch – Mahtomedi.

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~~F. Participation in Captains Practice: Captains Practice is primarily for the purpose of physical conditioning organized and conducted by the students. Students may participate in Captains Practice provided that salaried or non-salaried school personnel are not involved in any capacity. It is the responsibility of school officials to become aware of the preseason activities in their school district and to ensure that the spirit and intent of the League rules are observed.~~

- ~~G~~ F. Participation in Open Gym: Open gym refers to the use of school facilities for recreational activities. Students may participate in open gym if all of the following conditions are met:
- 1) open gyms must take place outside the summer waiver period.
 - ~~4~~ 2) the school facilities are available for all students to participate regardless of skill level in a number of activities.
 - ~~3) the recreational activities are open to all students.~~ open gyms can be gender and sport/activity specific.
 - ~~3~~ 4) there is no coaching of the skills and techniques of activities provided in the school interscholastic athletic program.
 - ~~4~~ 5) there is no requirement for students to attend open gym activities as a prerequisite for membership on a high school team.

Rationale –

- A) Lack of proper adult supervision is a liability to school districts and community facilities.
- B) Reduces safety issues by having multiple activities going on at the same time in the facility.
- C) By eliminating captains practice this allows for a more controlled setting.
- D) Changes to open gym creates equitably sport-to-sport and community-to-community.
- E) Helps reduce pressures of in-season athletes having to attend out-of-season open gyms.
- F) Open gyms and Captains Practice were put into place long before summer coaching waiver and now coaches have substantial contact with students' out-of-season.

**Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 511.00: Hockey – Boys’ & Girls’
Hockey, Adapted – Co-Educational**

(~~deleted language~~ proposed language)

Submitted by: Minnesota State High School Coaches Association

1. SEASON BEGINS

~~Seventeenth~~Eighteenth Monday preceding the finals of the state tournament

The Boys’ Hockey Coaches Association is requesting that the season be extended by one week to allow participating schools to schedule up to 27 games.

Rationale:

USA Hockey, the National Governing Body (NGB) for amateur hockey, recommends under their Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model, that the competitive athletes of high school age get 125 ice sessions each year. These sessions consist of 80-85 practices and 40-45 games. By taking advantage of the summer waiver period, the three allowed scrimmage dates and the proposed season extension, Minnesota high school players can reach the minimum threshold while still allowing the athletes to participate in multiple sports.

Continual modernization and updating is required to keep our athletes playing high school hockey. Competing leagues across the USA and Canada actively recruit Minnesota high school players and their pitch usually centers around our short season. These leagues typically run from September through March. In recent years up to 40 varsity players have left their programs early to play for one of these organizations. Even a small extension like the one we are requesting can help negate this trend.

Approval of this proposal will help our student-athletes spend more time with a coach that believes in the education-based athletic model and has the best interest of the student at heart. This is a “win” for everyone.

Girls’ Hockey: Practice begins October 22, 2018
Boys’ Hockey: Practice begins November 5, 2018

Girls’ State Tournament: February 20-23, 2019
Boys’ State Tournament: March 6-9, 2019

**Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 511.00: Hockey – Boys' & Girls'
Hockey, Adapted – Co-Educational**

(~~deleted language~~ proposed language)

Submitted by: Minnesota State High School Coaches Association

The Boys' Hockey Coaches Association is requesting this amendment.

2. PRACTICE SESSION BEFORE FIRST CONTEST
Cross Reference: Bylaw 411.10 (Scheduling of Contests)

One week of conditioning with limited contact with a coach and players immediately preceding the official start of the MSHSL hockey season shall be permitted.

During the limited conditioning week, two (2) on-ice and two (2) off-ice training sessions will be allowed. Each session shall not exceed 1.5 hours. Attendance at any on-ice or off-ice conditioning session shall not be mandatory.

Rationale:

Many parents hire outsiders to run a preseason conditioning/captain's practice. These instructors are not vetted by the local school officials, no background information is attached, and the training is not monitored by competent authority. By allowing the high school coaching staff minimal contact, the students will be supervised by a school-approved staff.

Girls' conditioning begins: October 15, 2018

Boys' conditioning begins: October 29, 2018

Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 520.00: Add Volleyball (Girls' Volleyball remains unchanged.)

Submitted by: Russ Reetz, Activities Director-Prior Lake; Sandra Setter Larsen, Activities Director-Eagan; Tom Dasovich Activities Director-Lakeville South; Bill Quan Activities Director-Osseo; Darin Keizer - Activities Director-Southwest Christian

Submitted: DATE: October 15, 2017

Rationale for this proposal:

- The addition of Volleyball would enable boys to compete in a sport comparable to Girls' Volleyball, and there is a high level of interest from member schools to do so.
- It will be in the spring season (opposite season of Girls' Volleyball) so there will be coaches and officials available.
- A spring season would result in the least amount of gym conflicts since Volleyball would be the only gym sport in the spring. Once spring sports are outside, there are very few conflicts for indoor court time either on weekends or in general. The season could start a bit later than other spring sports to alleviate the conflicts that might occur with spring sports wanting to practice indoors in bad weather. A state tournament in June would be workable, as other spring sports currently have MSHSL State Tournaments in June. A thirteen-week calendar could run from the third week in March through the second week in June.
- As in most sports, finding competent coaches and competent officials is always a major issue. Placing Volleyball in the spring allows for schools to use coaches from the girls' programs. Also, since the girls' season ends in November, there would be lots of strong officials available for a spring season.
- There is general agreement that a Volleyball season in the winter is a non-starter. That leaves fall or spring. There are currently three (3) sanctioned sports for boys in the fall season and five (5) in the spring. At first glance this would seem to argue for putting the boys in the fall. But the number of boys cumulatively playing in each season in the sports offered is close to the same.
- There are about as many boys playing fall football or fall soccer or running fall cross-country as there are boys involved in the five (5) sports offered in the spring. So about the same number of athletes would be affected regardless of where the season was placed, and thus, in terms of deciding which season make the most sense.
- If a school offers Girls' Volleyball, equipment is available (standards, all are adjustable, sleeves are in the floor, correct floor lines, nets, padding, and balls could be shared.)
- Only other indoor spring sport is Girls' Badminton.

Cite an example of how the proposed change would affect this activity:

Adding Volleyball will continue to increase the interest in the sport. It is already a long time Olympic sport and is a club sport at multiple colleges. It is also a high school sport for boys in many states including Wisconsin, Ohio and California.

How does your proposal impact:

- Other sports in the same season:

This would be in the spring and could impact facility use at some schools for indoor use by track, softball, baseball and lacrosse.

What are the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation?

Indoor volleyball court space.

Other items which should be considered regarding the above-stated proposal:

Schools would have to determine if Title IX is being met when adding this sport.

DRAFT