



Memorandum

To: State Association Executive Directors
From: Bob Gardner, Executive Director
Subject: Proposal to Amend NFHS Constitution
Date: October 31, 2012

The NFHS Board of Directors is preparing an amendment to the NFHS Constitution, Article 17 (Athletic Sanctioning). We have attached a copy of the proposed amendment, including a rationale for your information.

We will also be submitting this information to the National Council for consideration at the meeting on January 5, 2013 in Orlando, FL.

RBG/mm

Attachment: Proposal to Amend NFHS Constitution or Bylaws

PROPOSAL TO AMEND NFHS CONSTITUTION OR BYLAWS

(See Article 12)

Voting Member Submitting Proposal: NFHS Board of Directors

Chief Executive Officers of Voting Members: Kevin Charles, President

Date of Submission: October 31, 2012

Section Number of Provision to be Amended: Article 17 – Athletic Sanctioning

Current Wording of said Provision (set forth here or attach copy):

See attached for the full text of Article 17

Proposed Amendment (set forth here or attach pages as necessary):

Each voting member shall approve and receive NFHS approval of competition by a member school in an athletic event under that voting member's jurisdiction against a school from a foreign country, except two (2) school or three (3) school competition with a school or schools from Canada or Mexico. ~~which necessitates a round trip of less than 600 miles.~~

Rationale for Amendment (set forth here or attach pages as necessary):

Because of the frequent use of air travel for international competition, a mileage limitation is arbitrary, and may serve as a disincentive for schools to pursue the educational opportunities afforded by international travel.

**Strikethrough represents deletion*

Article 17 - Athletic Sanctioning

Each voting member shall sanction through the NFHS competition by a member school in any of the following contests:

1. **Co-sponsoring Sanction Requirement:** Any interstate competition involving two (2) or more schools which is co-sponsored by an organization outside the high school community (e.g., a university, a theme park, a shoe company), in addition to being sponsored by a member school, an approved school or a state association, shall require sanction of the NFHS office.

2. **Non-bordering State Sanction Requirement:** Subject to subparagraph 1, no sanction is required from the NFHS office if all competing schools, regardless of the number of competing schools, are from states which border the host state. Each state association shall sanction through the NFHS office interstate competition by a member school involving either:

- a. More than eight (8) schools, at least one (1) of which is from a state that does not border the host state, or
- b. Five (5) or more states, at least one (1) of which does not border the host state.

Competition involving border states, and all other configurations of interstate competition not requiring the sanction of the NFHS office, shall be sanctioned by the state associations involved according to their own procedures.

Each voting member shall approve and receive NFHS approval of competition by a member school in an athletic event under that voting member's jurisdiction against a school from a foreign country, except for two (2) school and three (3) school competition with a school or schools from Canada or Mexico which necessitates a round trip of less than 600 miles.

The Board of Directors shall establish and publish policies, procedures, criteria and application forms for sanctioning domestic and international competition. Sanction shall not be granted for any tournament, meet or other contest to qualify for and/or determine a single national high school individual champion or championship team. Championships for athletes with disabilities shall not require NFHS sanction.

In all interstate contests each voting member shall require each participating school to follow the contest rules of the voting member of which it is a member, or rules which have been approved by the voting member for interstate competition.

No voting member shall permit a member school to compete in any contest in any other state if the contest involves conditions which would violate the regulations or established policies of that school's voting member.