
BYLAW 10. AMATEUR/AWARDS

Sec. 1) AMATEUR STATUS

A student who represents a member school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social and pleasure benefits derived from said participation.

An athlete forfeits amateur status in a sport by:

- a) Competing for money (cash) or other monetary compensation (allowable travel, meals and lodging expenses may be accepted);
- b) Receiving any award or prize of monetary value not approved by this Association;
- c) Capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money or other gifts of monetary value not specifically approved by Section 2 or 4 of this rule (scholarships to institutions of higher learning are specifically exempted if paid directly to the institution);
- d) Signing a professional playing contract in that sport; or
- e) Accepting in excess of a nominal standard fee or salary for instructing, supervising or officiating in an organized youth sports program or recreation, playground, or camp activities ~~shall not jeopardize amateur status.~~ "Organized youth sports program" includes both school and non-school programs.

Sec. 2) AWARDS

- a) Awards governed herein and received by a student-athlete while representing a member school include awards received by a student-athlete while enrolled during the academic year as a regular student or awards received by a student-athlete while representing the school at any other time.
- b) Awards received by a student-athlete participating in an event while not representing the school, shall conform to the regulations of the recognized amateur athletic organization(s) associated with the event. If no limit exists for the amateur organization, the limit shall be \$300. At no time shall the student-athlete be permitted to receive cash for this type of participation.
- c) Awards presented by a member school conference, or approved agency shall be uniform for all team members receiving the award.

Sec. 3) IMPERMISSIBLE AWARDS:

- a) An individual may not receive a cash award for athletics participation. An individual may not receive a cash equivalent item (i.e., an item that is negotiable for cash or trace or other services, benefits or merchandise) for athletic participation;
- b) Gift certificates and merchandise items that cannot be properly personalized shall be prohibited; and
- c) Cash or any other award that an individual cannot receive under these rules may not be forwarded in the individual's name to another individual, a different agency or individual.

Sec. 4) TYPE OF AWARDS

- a) Awards for recognition of interscholastic athletics participation (letter awards) may be presented each year by a member school. In addition, the school may present senior awards and awards in recognition of special attainments or contribution to a team's competitive season (i.e., scholar-athlete, most improved player, etc.)
- b) Awards for participation in special events (postseason tournaments) and established regional or national recognition awards (Mr./Miss Basketball, All-State, etc.) may be presented only by the management of the event, awards program, or by a school that has had or will have a team or individual participate in the event or sport.
- c) The total value of any award presented for high school competition shall not exceed \$300, except awards presented by the Association or a member school for participation in KHSAA sponsored events.
- d) Schools or conferences may not present individual awards to student-athletes for specialized performances in particular contests or events or during a limited time period (i.e., "player of the game" or "player of the week"). However, an organization, business firm or other outside agency may recognize a student-athlete's outstanding performance in a particular contest or during a particular time by presenting a certificate, plaque or medal valued at less than \$50. It is not permissible for an organization to provide any other tangible item or award.