

MIAA RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS FOR 2007-2009

The following reflects Rule Change Proposals that have been submitted as permitted in the Procedure for Requesting A Rule Change, Rule 87, page 85 of the current MIAA Handbook. **Please note: Rule Change Proposals list Current Rule (as in handbook now), Proposal, and Rationale.** All responding groups should review the proposals and forward their recommendations, using the attached form, to MIAA Assistant Director, Dick Baker. Although changes should not be made on the original proposals, any group may make amendments, which will be included in the report passed on to the next group in the process.

The MSSADA and all MIAA Administrative Committees are welcome to act on each rule change proposal. In the section on Sport Specific Rules (rule change proposals 13-31 within this packet) MIAA sport committees and coaches' associations act on general rules (rules 1-12 and 32-34) and rules for their own sport only.

Each of the below named groups, when reviewing a rule change proposal may take one of the following actions:

1. Provide an affirmative recommendation.
2. Provide a negative recommendation.
3. Propose an amendment.

REVIEWING BODY ACTIONS MUST REFLECT THE ACTUAL VOTE

1. MIAA Sport Committees, MIAA Administrative Committees, and Presidents of MIAA recognized State Sport Coaches' Associations votes are due to the MIAA Assistant Director, Dick Baker, by December 1, 2006.
2. The Massachusetts Secondary School Athletic Directors Association votes are due to the MIAA by February 1, 2007. The MIAA District Athletic Committees votes are due to the MIAA by March 1, 2007
3. The MIAA Board of Directors will act upon proposals by May 15, 2007.
4. The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Council will act upon all proposals by June 1, 2007.

1. **Page 21**
Part II, Section 9

By William Gain, MIAA

Current:

9. Athletes' Assembly

Prior to each season, every school should hold an Athletes' Assembly planned by the principal, athletic director, head coaches, and medical personnel to discuss policies, liability, sportsmanship, safety, and wellness. One parent or guardian should attend with each athlete.

Proposal:

Each member school **will** plan, schedule and deliver a minimum of one parent/student athletic event concurrent with the start of the fall season. It is recommended that a parent/student athlete event be planned, scheduled and delivered at the start of the winter and spring seasons.

Rationale:

Bringing together student athletes with their parents prior to the start of your competition season is a great opportunity to establish a climate, change the culture (if you are dissatisfied), and present expectations, policies and standards that will identify your athletic program during this fall season. This should create understandings which will avoid meetings and angst as the inevitable disappointing moments occur during the season. The subject matter to be presented should include school or athletic handbook matters that student athletes and parents should be reminded about, sportsmanship expectations, the mission of educational athletics, the relationship of the high school to the MIAA, along with the expectations of behaviors associated with educational athletics. Sportsmanship and Wellness should be among priorities addressed.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	no vote
Basketball Committee	7-9-0 Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	9-4-2 Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	7-4-0 Approved
Field Hockey Committee	0-9-1 Rejected
Football Committee	No Vote
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	1-6-0 Rejected
Golf Committee	3-3-1
Gymnastics Committee	6-1-0 Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote
Ski Committee	1-4-1 Rejected
Soccer Committee	5-8-0 Rejected
Softball Committee	6-6-1
Sportsmanship Committee	3-5-0 Rejected
Swimming & Diving Committee	0-6-0 Rejected
Tennis Committee	4-4-0
Volleyball Committee	2-11-0 Rejected
Wellness Advisory Committee	6-0-1 Approved

Wrestling Committee	8-2-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee	4-4-0	
TMC	8-5-1	Approved
District A		
District B	0-17-0	Rejected
District C	0-5-0	Rejected
District D		
District E		
District F	0-6-0	Rejected
District G		
District H	0-10-0	Rejected
MSSADA	0-12-0	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	2-7-0	Rejected
MIAC	4-13	Rejected

2. Page 31

Part III, Section 35.1 – Starting and Closing Dates for Tryouts and Contests

By Bill McGuirk, MIAA

Current Rule:

35.1 Fall practice may begin for all teams as early as the second Thursday preceding Labor Day (i.e., August 24, 2006; August 23, 2007). No team may have more than ten single practice sessions (i.e., "double sessions" count as two single practice sessions) through and including the Friday prior to Labor Day. Football teams must precede their initial contact practice day with an additional three days of single non-contact sessions. The Fall season must end with completion of the regular season varsity schedule except for the varsity team or individual students completing their participation in the MIAA tournament. *Sub-varsity teams or individual athletes may participate after the completion of the regular season varsity schedule to complete their season schedule (maximum of two weeks beyond varsity schedule completion) or to practice with the varsity team providing it has qualified for the MIAA tournament.*

Proposal:

Fall practice for soccer may begin as early as the second Monday preceding Labor Day (i.e., August 21, 2006)

Rationale:

1. Standards that require a more concerned look at the safety of "two a day" sessions in the heat of August. By keeping the same restrictions on the number of calendar days before the first game, we would eliminate this unhealthy practice of double workouts in the pre-season heat.
2. Would allow all schools to begin games immediately after Labor Day, as long as school is in session, and thus create less three-game week schedules and thus, decreasing the health risks associated with those three-game weeks, especially in the first weeks of the season.
3. This allows the Soccer cut-off date to be moved back by 1-2 days and thus allow the Tournament Committee to more closely follow the institutional standards of the regular season weekly game limit. (Example: the east has played 5 tournament games in 8 days).

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	No Vote
Basketball Committee	6-10-0 Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	2-11-0-Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-12-0 Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-10-0 Rejected
Football Committee	No Vote
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	0-6-0 Rejected
Golf Committee	0-7-0 Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	1-6-0 Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote
Ski Committee	1-7-0 Rejected
Soccer Committee	11-4-0 Approved
Softball Committee	2-10-1 Rejected – amended vote: change to read for all fall sports – 13-0-0 Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	0-6-0 Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-8-0 Rejected
Volleyball Committee	1-12-0 Rejected
Wrestling Committee	1-7-2 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	6-2-0 Approved
TMC	5-7-1-amended to for all fall sports-11/2/0 Approved
District A	
District B	1-16-0 Rejected
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	5-5-0
MSSADA	0-11-1 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	1-8-0 Rejected
MIAC	0-17 Rejected

**3. Page 31
Part III, Section 35.1 – Starting and Closing Dates for Tryouts and Contests
By MIAA Tennis Committee**

Current Rule:

35.1.1 "Fall sports include..... A school may offer golf or tennis in either Fall or Spring, but not both....."

Proposal: Strike/omit "*or tennis*" from the above.

Rationale:

Only 1 league currently schedules Girls tennis in the Fall. All other leagues schedule both gender tennis teams in the Spring. Since the tennis tournaments are Spring events, validating the eligibility requirements for tennis players that competed in the Fall season, and who may be playing other Spring sports, for the Spring tennis tournament is problematic and inconsistent with the MIAA tournament philosophy. In addition, it creates multiple scheduling conflicts for tournament directors, should an individual tennis player(s) also be on a Spring team which has also qualified for tournament play.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	No Vote
Basketball Committee	15-0-1 Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	15-0-0 Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	13-0-0 Approved
Field Hockey Committee	No Vote
Football Committee	No Vote
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	6-0-0 Approved
Golf Committee	5-0-2 Approved
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0 Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote
Ski Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Soccer Committee	15-0-0 Approved
Softball Committee	9-0-4 Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	2-0-4 Approved
Tennis Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Volleyball Committee	11-0-1 Approved
Wrestling Committee	10-0-0 Approved
Game Officials Committee	8-0-0 Approved
TMC	11-1-1 Approved
District A	
District B	17-0-0 Approved
District C	5-0-0 Approved
District D	
District E	
District F	6-0-0 Approved
District G	
District H	10-0-0 Approved
MSSADA	5-7-0 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0 Approved
MIAC	17-0 Approved

**4. Page 41
Part IV, Section 45 and 96**

By: MIAA Assembly during Annual Business Meeting (April, 2006) by a vote of 71 to 2.

Current Rule:

45. Loyalty to the High School Team: Bona Fide Team Members

A bona fide member of the school team is a student who is consistently present for, and actively participates in, all high school team sessions (e.g. practices, tryouts, competitions). Bona fide members of a school team are precluded from missing a high school practice or competition in order to participate in a non-school athletic activity/event in any sport recognized by the MIAA. Any student who violates this standard is ineligible for the next two contests or two weeks (whichever is greater) immediately upon confirmation of the violation. See Rule 96 for additional tournament restriction.

Proposal:

The current penalties associated with Rules 45/96 (Bona Fide Team Member) be changed to:

First Offense: Student athlete is suspended for 25% of the season.

Second Offense: Student athlete is suspended for 25% of the season, and is ineligible for tournament play.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	15-2-1	Approved
Basketball Committee	15-1-0	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	10-3-2	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	9-0-1	Approved – 2 contests or 2 weeks. Add some wordings as consecutive
Football Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	5-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	9-1-0	Approved
Ski Committee	7-1-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	14-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	9-1-3	Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	1-0-5	Approved
Tennis Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	11-2-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	10-0-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee	8-0-0	Approved
TMC	0-14-0	Rejected
District A		
District B	17-0-0	Approved
District C	4-1-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	10-0-0	Approved

MSSADA	12-0-0	Approved
MIAA Assembly	71-2	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0	Approved
MIAC	17-0	Approved

5. **Page 41**
Part IV, Section 46

By Dick Baker, MIAA

Current Rule:

46. Only One School Sport Per Season is Permitted

A student-athlete shall participate in only one MIAA interscholastic sport in any defined MIAA sport season (Fall, Winter, or Spring), including tournaments and/or championships in that season. For the purposes of this rule only, a student-athlete officially becomes a member of his/her team for the sport season on the date of that school's first regular season contest in that sport.

PENALTIES - If a student-athlete violates this rule, he/she will be ineligible for that season, and all contests in which he/she participated in both sports must be forfeited.

Proposal:

Add the following sub section: **46.1**

Exception: If a doctor recommends that an athlete terminate participation in a sport for medical reasons after the first contest, the athlete will be permitted to join another team if he/she receives the approval of the school doctor.

Sub section: **46.2**

Exception: A school may approve a varsity or sub varsity request to join a second varsity or sub varsity team after terminating his/her membership with the first varsity or sub varsity team, providing written approval is received from the principal, athletic director, and both coaches involved with the change, and it happens within the first ½ of the season.

Rationale:

Presently would need a waiver to allow this. If a change supported by principal, athletic director and coaches, probably a good thing for athlete.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	No Vote
Basketball Committee	12-4-0 Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	13-1-1 Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	2-10-1 Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-10-0 Rejected
Football Committee	No Vote
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	1-6-0 Rejected
Golf Committee	0-5-2 Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	6-1-0 Approved

Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote
Ski Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Soccer Committee	14-0-0 Approved
Softball Committee	6-7-0 Rejected
Swimming & Diving Committee	6-0-0 Approved
Tennis Committee	2-6-0 Rejected
Volleyball Committee	4-8-0 Rejected
Wrestling Committee	9-1-0 Approved
Game Officials Committee	8-0-0 Approved
TMC	9-5-0 Approved
District A	3-0-0 Approved
District B	15-2-0 Approved
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	6-0-0 Approved
District G	
District H	0-10-0 Rejected
MSSADA	12-0-0 Approved
MIAA Assembly	82-9 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	12-0 Approved
MIAC	17-0 Approved

6. Page 44
Part IV, Section 49.11 - Sportsmanship: Athlete and Coach Contest
Disqualifications/ Suspensions

By Dick Baker, MIAA

Current Rule:

49.11 Any coach who is suspended from an MIAA interscholastic athletic contest or had three (3) athletes suspended during his/her sport season will be required to attend a Sportsmanship Compliance meeting before being eligible to coach interscholastic events the following year in that sport at any MIAA school.

Proposal:

Add after sport in the last sentence:
or before coaching any other sport at any MIAA school.

Rationale:

Coach who is suspended needs to be held accountable if he/she coaches the next season. Example: JV basketball coach suspended and is also a Varsity baseball coach at another school. According to our present rule coach would only have to attend Sportsmanship Compliance prior to coaching basketball.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee 14-3-2 Approved

Basketball Committee	12-2-1	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	15-0-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	10-0-0	Approved
Football Committee	10-2-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	3-4-0	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	10-0-0	Approved
Ski Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	6-8-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	6-0-0	Approved
Tennis Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	8-2-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee	0-8-0	-amended to: must attend "next available meeting" 8-0-0 Approved Amendment
TMC	14-0-0	Approved
District A		
District B	6-8-3	Rejected
District C	5-0-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved-amend "must attend next available meeting"
District G		
District H	10-0-0	Approved-MIAA staff must ensure there are equitable opportunities to participate in such programs across all seasons.
MSSADA	11-0-1	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0	Approved
MIAC	17-0	Approved

7. Page 43 & 57

Part IV, Section 49.3 and Part V, Section 65.12 - Sportsmanship: Athlete and Coach Contest Disqualifications/Suspensions

By William Gain, MIAA and the MIAA Baseball Committee

Current Rule:

65.12 *Any coach ejected from an Interscholastic Baseball game will be suspended for the next 2 games.*

Proposal:

Add: *or player*

Rationale:

If the coach is suspended for the next 2 games, the player should be also.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	16-1-2 Approved
Basketball Committee	8-9-0 Rejected (chair breaks tie)
Cross Country & Track Committee	15-0-0 Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-13-0 Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	No Vote
Football Committee	No Vote
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	6-1-0 Approved
Golf Committee	4-2-1 Approved
Gymnastics Committee	0-7-0 Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote
Ski Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Soccer Committee	9-2-0 Approved
Softball Committee	8-4-1 Approved-amended to include all sports-7-4-1 Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	no vote
Tennis Committee	1-6-1 Rejected
Volleyball Committee	1-11-1 Rejected
Wrestling Committee	3-7-0 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	0-8-0 Rejected
TMC	6-6-2
District A	
District B	17-0-0 Approved
District C	1-4-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	0-8-1 Rejected
MSSADA	10-1-1 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	8-1-0 Approved
MIAC	15-1 Approved

8. **Page 43**
Part IV, Section 49.3 - Sportsmanship: Athlete and Coach Contest
Disqualifications/Suspensions

By William Gaine, MIAA and the MIAA Football Committee and supported by unanimous vote of Sportsmanship Committee.

Current Rule:

49.3 A student who is ruled out of a competition (including a jamboree, scrimmage, etc.) shall not participate in the next (note that ice hockey and soccer require a 2 game disqualification) scheduled interscholastic competition with a member school or in MIAA tournament play. The disqualified student is ineligible for any contest in that sport until the next contest at the same level has been completed. (Exceptions: field hockey - see rule 68.3, basketball--five personal fouls; ice hockey--six minutes in penalties; wrestling--technical disqualification, *girls lacrosse—2 yellow cards, see rule 73.8*).

Proposal:

Add at end of rule: A two (2) game suspension should be given to any student-athlete who is ejected from any contest for the following reasons:

- Fighting
- Punching or kicking an opposing player
- Spitting *at someone*

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	16-1-2 voted for amendment – 18-1 approved at someone
Basketball Committee	12-4-0 Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	15-0-0 Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	7-5-1 Approved
Field Hockey Committee	10-0-0 Approved-modify proposal by eliminating spitting: 9-1-0
Football Committee	13-0-0 Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	7-0-0 Approved
Golf Committee	7-0-0 Approved – spitting @ a player or official (7-0-0)
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0 Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	10-0-0 Approved
Ski Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Soccer Committee	11-0-0 Approved
Softball Committee	13-0-0 Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	9-0-0 Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	6-0-0 Approved
Tennis Committee	0-8-0 Rejected – Amend: spitting at - 8-0-0 Approved
Volleyball Committee	12-1-0 Approved – Amendment: add Spitting “at an individual” – Approved 11-0-2
Wrestling Committee	8-0-2 Approved
Game Officials Committee	7-1-0 Approved
TMC	13-0-1 Approved
District A	
District B	17-0-0 Approved
District C	5-0-0 Approved
District D	
District E	
District F	6-0-0 Approved
District G	
District H	9-0-1 Approved-The student suspension should be amended to read a minimum suspension of two games.

MSSADA	12-0-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	8-0-1	Approved
MIAC	16-0	Approved

**9. Page 45-47
Part IV, Section 51, 52, 55**

By David P. Linsky

Current Rule:

51. Student Eligibility: Baseline Eligibility Requirements

For a student to practice with, or to represent a MIAA member school in athletic competition, the student must be duly enrolled in that school. Additionally, the student must be a candidate for that school's diploma, subject to the jurisdiction of that school's principal (i.e. the principal must have the authority to suspend the student from classes), and under the supervision of that school principal (i.e. the principal must have control and knowledge of the student's daily attendance and achievement).

Prior to any interschool participation, every student must be certified as eligible under the following rules. Ultimately the interpretation and application of Association rules rests with the MIAA executive director/staff and the Board of Directors. Principals (or athletic directors) must contact the Association executive staff to resolve any possible eligibility issues before permitting a student to represent your school. This rule complements Rule 52, 53, 54 and 55.

52. Student Eligibility: Alternative, Collaborative, Detached or Other Non-Traditional Educational Programs

Students in alternative, collaborative, detached or non-traditional schools (e.g. taking a college course(s), dual enrollment, school to work, work-study etc.) are not eligible to practice or compete on high school athletic teams if there is any athletic opportunity available in the alternative, detached or other non-traditional program. Further, these students must be candidates for the regular high school diploma of that MIAA member school they wish to represent. The principal of that MIAA member school must have Jurisdiction (i.e. the MIAA high school principal has the authority to suspend the student from all academic programs), and Supervision (i.e. the MIAA high school principal has control and knowledge of the records of the student's daily attendance and achievement). The student must be satisfying all Association academic eligibility standards through academic pursuits that have been previously approved by that MIAA member school committee as eligible for credit toward the high school diploma. Required conditions must be agreed to in writing (the Whitebook includes sample letters) by the non-member school director prior to any practice or athletic participation by the student. Care must be given to insure that non-traditional students do not face athletic eligibility standards that are less restrictive than those required of the traditional students who will be their teammates. Alternative/detached collaborative/non-traditional pursuits must not provide less rigor in gaining athletic eligibility. All eligibility requirements that must be met by the "traditional" student must be satisfied by each student in a non-traditional program. This eligibility determination must be certified by the MIAA member school principal before the non-traditional student may be declared eligible to practice or

compete with that MIAA member school team. Because students in non-traditional programs are more difficult to monitor, extra care is necessary before athletic eligibility can be established and certified by the principal. It is advisable to alert students prior to non-traditional educational pursuits to the possibility that they may not be eligible to represent any MIAA high school on its interscholastic teams.

55. Student Eligibility: Membership in School

55.1 A student shall have been a member of the MIAA member secondary school for a minimum of two months (exclusive of the Summer vacation) and have been issued a report card preceding the contest, unless entering from an elementary or junior high school at the start of the school year *or transfers in from another school*. A pupil's attendance at school does not start when he/she registers in that school, but rather when he/she begins attending classes.

55.2 When a student drops out of school and then decides later to return to the same school, he/she cannot become eligible for athletics until a report card has been issued and until the expiration of a minimum of two calendar months from the date of his/her return to the same school.

55.3 Except as may be otherwise specified by statute or state regulation, a student must be a resident of and domiciled in a municipality which normally contributes student population to the school.

Proposal:

Students on Individual Education Plans

Notwithstanding any other eligibility rule, students who attend a public, private or vocational school in accordance with an Individual Educational Plan shall be eligible to play interscholastic athletics at their home high school provided that the school they are presently attending does not offer the same sport at the same interscholastic level of play. Students who participate in athletics under this rule shall meet all academic, attendance and disciplinary requirements for both the school they are attending and for the school for which they are participating in athletics. Said student shall be subject to the jurisdiction and control of the Principal of both schools. Said students are entitled to the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as any other students participating in interscholastic athletics.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	No Vote
Basketball Committee	2-14-0 Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-15-0 Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-12-1 Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	9-0-1 Approved
Football Committee	No Vote
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	0-7-0 Rejected
Golf Committee	1-6-0 Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0 Approved

Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote
Ski Committee	0-6-2 Rejected
Soccer Committee	5-6-0 Rejected
Softball Committee	0-10-3 Rejected
Swimming & Diving Committee	0-5-1 Rejected
Tennis Committee	3-5-0 Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-11-2 Rejected
Wrestling Committee	1-9-0 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	0-8-0 Rejected
TMC	0-14-0 Rejected
District A	
District B	0-17-0 Rejected
District C	1-4-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	0-0-10 This rule does not impact schools of District H & we are not sufficiently informed to render a vote.
MSSADA	1-11-0 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	2-7-0 Rejected
MIAC	0-15-1 Rejected

**10. Page 49
Part IV, Section 57.7**

TRANSFER RULE EXEMPTIONS

Following the MIAC adoption of the THE EXCEPTION, "A student who transfers from an outside school to the public school where he/she resides", the MIAA Board of Directors was authorized by the MIAC to suspend this rule through the 06-07 academic year.

Proposal: ELIMINATE THIS EXCEPTION PERMANENTLY

Rationale:

NON PUBLIC SCHOOL MEMBERS FEEL THIS CREATES TWO CLASSES OF MEMBER SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION. At the time this rule was originally proposed, the Form 200 process did not exist. This process addresses the scenario to a great extent.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	no vote
Basketball Committee	16-0-0 Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	15-0-0 Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	13-0-0 Approved
Field Hockey Committee	10-0-0 Approved
Football Committee	No Vote

Girls' Lacrosse Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote	
Ski Committee	7-1-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	3-9-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	no vote	
Tennis Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	10-0-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee	8-0-0	Approved
TMC	14-0-0	Approved
District A		
District B	17-0-0	Approved
District C	5-0-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	10-0-0	Approved
MSSADA	12-0-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	8-0-1	Approved
MIAC	16-0	Approved

11. Page 51
Part IV, Section 62 - Student (and Coach) Eligibility: Chemical Health/Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco

By: MIAA Assembly during Annual Business Meeting (April, 2006) by a vote of 66 to 9.

Current Rule:

62.1 During the season of practice or play, a student shall not, regardless of the quantity, use, consume, possess, buy/sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product; marijuana; steroids; or any controlled substance. This policy includes products such as “NA or near beer”. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student’s own use by his/her doctor. This rule represents only a minimum standard upon which schools may develop more stringent requirements.

Proposal:

“During the season of practice or play ...” be replaced with, *“From the first fall practice to the close of the school year ...”*.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	12-6-1	Approved
Basketball Committee	11-5-0	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	14-1-0	Approved

Boys' Lacrosse Committee	11-2-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	7-3-0	Approved
Football Committee	9-3-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	6-1-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	4-5-0	Rejected
Ski Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	11-1-0	Approved
Softball Committee	13-0-0	Approved-amended to student must complete the season in which the suspension was served as a bona fide team member, otherwise the full suspension carries forward to the next season in which the student competes-13-0 Approved.
Sports Medicine	16-0-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	4-0-2	Approved
Tennis Committee	3-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	11-2-0	Approved
Wellness Advisory Committee	7-0-0	Approved – Programming should be included as part of penalty
Wrestling Committee	5-5-0	
Game Officials Committee	0-8-0	Rejected
TMC	12-1-0	Approved-amended to student must complete the season in which the suspension was served as a bona fide team member, otherwise the full suspension carries forward to the next season in which the student competes-12-0-1 Approved.
District A		
District B	16-0-1	Approved
District C	2-3-0	Rejected
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	8-1-1	Approved The ending point if the rule should state: “The end of tournament play” as some of our schools finish classes prior to the end of tournament play.
MSSADA	12-0-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0	Approved
MIAC	16-0	Approved

12. Page 54
Part IV, Section 65 (new rule) - Gambling

By William Gaine, MIAA

Proposal:

Add Rule: - Gambling

Staff Members of a member league or conference, athletics department of a member school and student athletes shall not participate in any gambling activity that involves interscholastic athletics through a bookmaker, parlay card, or any other method employed by organized gambling and/or amateur gambling.

Rationale:

MIAA Position on Gambling:

The MIAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering. Sports wagering has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests, and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and the interscholastic athletics community. Sports wagering demeans the competition and competitors alike by a message that is contrary to the purposes and meaning of “sport”.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	18-0-1	Approved
Basketball Committee	13-3-0	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	13-0-2	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	11-2-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	0-7-3	Rejected
Football Committee	11-1-0	Approved – Committee wants penalty identified
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0	Approved – would like penalty added
Ice Hockey Committee	5-3-1	Approved
Ski Committee	4-3-1	Approved – penalty needs to be identified
Soccer Committee	11-1-0	Approved
Softball Committee	2-4-7	Rejected
Swimming & Diving Committee	1-0-5	Approved
Tennis Committee	7-0-1	Approved
Volleyball Committee	11-2-0	Approved
Wellness Advisory Committee	7-0-0	Approved – Programming should be included as part of penalty
Wrestling Committee	10-0-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee	8-0-0	Approved
TMC	13-0-1	Approved – penalty needs to be identified
District A		
District B	17-0-0	Approved
District C	5-0-0	Approved – penalty needs to be identified
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	9-0-1	Approved-The District believes the current wording of the proposal is best served as a position statement of the MIAA. The current proposal does not outline sanctions and we, therefore, do not endorse the proposal as a rule.
MSSADA	12-0-0	Approved

MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0	Approved
MIAC	0-16	Rejected

**13. Page 56
Part V, Section 65.3 - Baseball**

By MIAA Baseball Committee and MIAA Sports Medicine Committee

Current Rule:

65.3 Batting helmets of the full-protection type must be worn by all players while at bat or on the bases. These helmets of the full-protection type shall have extended ear flaps which cover both ears and the temples. In addition, the helmet must carry the NOCSAE stamp, indicating it meets the NOCSAE standards, and must have an exterior warning label regarding the risk of injury. Batting helmets of this type shall be required of each batter, base runner, and on-deck batter. After an initial warning to a player and the coach by an umpire, failure to adhere to the rule by any subsequent player shall result in that player being removed from the contest (but for that game only). The penalty is to be enforced when the batter is in the box and the pitcher is in contact with the rubber ready to pitch.

Defensive players are permitted to wear face/head protection in the field. If a pitcher or any defensive player wears face/head protection, its outer covering shall have a non-glare surface. (This experimental rule was adopted by the Board of Directors to be effective during the Spring, 2006 season. Before voting, the Board was encouraged by both the Baseball and Sports Medicine Committee to adopt this Federation rule.)

Proposal:

Make this experimental rule permanent: *Defensive players are permitted to wear face/head protection in the field. If a pitcher or any defensive player wears face/head protection, its outer covering shall have a non-glare surface.*

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	17-2-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee		
Sports Medicine	16-0-0	Approved
TMC		no vote
District A		
District B	11-0-6	Approved
District C	5-0-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	9-0-1	Approved
MSSADA	12-0-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0	Approved
MIAC	15-0-1	Approved

**14. Page 56
Part V, Section 65.4 - Baseball**

By Richard A. Carey

Current Rule:

65.4.1 Metal bats may be used, but they must meet the safety specifications adopted by the National Federation. All non-wood bats shall meet the Ball Exit Speed Ration (BESR) performance standard and such bats shall be labeled with a silk screen or other permanent certificate mark.

Proposal:

Effective July 1, 2007 only wooden bats will be permitted in high school baseball.

Rationale:

Metal bats hit baseballs faster and harder than wooden bats do and therefore are more dangerous because they give pitchers, especially, less time to react. Also, metal bats hit baseballs harder more often because you can drive a ball off the handle. This is not so with a wooden bat. While a ball hit off the handle of a metal bat could kill a pitcher, this could not happen and would not happen with a ball hit off the handle of a wooden bat. The only damage that might be done would be to the bat. Consequently, pitchers are more at risk of suffering serious and life-threatening injuries when metal bats are used.

Safety therefore is the principal (but not sole) reason for mandating the use of wooden bats. For frequent football-like scores (35-8, 19-0, 20-1, 16-2, 20-6, 23-3, 20-5, 19-3, 14-1, 22-5, etc.) produced by metal bats have made a mockery of the great game of baseball. In fact, the metal bat game is not baseball at all but rather, bashball.

For these reasons then (safety, legitimacy, consistency, integrity), and for any other reason of your own, I urge you to require that only wooden bats be used in all your high school baseball games.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	5-14-0 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	
Sports Medicine	5-9-0 Rejected
TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	5-11-1 Rejected
District C	2-3-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	2-4-4 Rejected
MSSADA	2-9-1 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-9-0 Rejected
MIAC	3-12 Rejected

15. **Page 57**
Part V, Section 66.1 - Basketball

By: The Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Association Executive Board

Current Rule:

Mouth guards are required for all basketball players while on the court.

Proposal:

Mouth guards are *highly recommended* for all basketball players while on the court.

Rationale:

Since the required mouth guard rule has been in effect, the MBCA and its coaches have seen a high incidence of improperly fitted mouth guards which have not been effective. The MBCA would like to commend the Sports Medical Committee for its efforts in trying to ensure the safety of the basketball athletes throughout Massachusetts. To achieve the intended impact on safety, suggestions are needed to provide an option for schools with financial difficulties in providing the financial assistance for the mouth guard policy. The following are the reasons for requesting this rule change.

- The quality of the mouth guard hinders the intended purpose. The effectiveness is not consistent with the intent of the rule because of improper fitting mouth guards.
- Mouth guards of poor quality are being used and are being altered by players reducing their effectiveness; Difficulty in breathing for some players has been seen with poor quality mouth guards.
- There are many times the mouth guard is seen hanging from the side of a player's mouth or has been cut into a smaller one so it can be held in the side of the mouth. Some of these cut mouth guards are so small that they could cause a player to choke if swallowed.
- Most schools use "low quality" mouth guards with an improper fit. This causes the mouth guard to be handled excessively, fall out of the mouth, and inappropriate removal during various phases of play to improve communication.
- These practices have resulted in unsanitary practices that increase the spread of saliva and germs. During the game, saliva is passed between players of both teams through the handling of the mouth guard and the basketball. Common sanitary practices are ignored during the course of the game, which can contribute to a variety of illnesses among the players.
- Only a few schools have used "high quality" mouth guards which are properly fitted and function as intended.
- Players participate throughout the year in variety of leagues, AAU games, at parks and in their driveways without a properly fitted mouth guard.
- Other states have maintained the "highly recommended" language for their high school players. The MBCA would appreciate any background data regarding the mouth guard rule.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Basketball Committee	15-1-0 Approved
Game Officials Committee	
Sports Medicine	0-16-0 Rejected
TMC	14-0-0 Approved
District A	3-0-0 Approved (in favor of making them optional)
District B	16-0-1 Approved
District C	5-0-0 Approved
District D	
District E	
District F	6-0-0 Approved

District G	
District H	8-2-0 Approved
MSSADA	12-0-0 Approved
MIAA Assembly	73-25-1 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	7-6 Approved
MIAC	10-6 Approved

16. Page 57
Part V, Section 66.4 - Basketball

By: Brian Cogswell, Athletic Director, Lenox Memorial Middle & High School

Current Rule:

All varsity contests shall be played in 16-minute halves. Sub-varsity contests also shall be played in equal halves of no more than 16 minutes.

Proposal:

All varsity contests shall be played in 4, 8 minute quarters. Sub-varsity contests also shall be played in equal quarters of no more than 8 minutes.

Rationale:

In smaller schools with smaller participation numbers, this rule would allow for more competitive junior varsity games and allow more athletes to be able to play in contests on a consistent basis coming from the varsity to JV games and visa versa.

Other rules affected:

66.7.2 – Participate in more than 4 quarters per day.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Basketball Committee	12-3-1 Approved - MIAA Rule #66.5 will reflect the current NFHS guidelines for basketball games that are played in quarters. Clarifying the number of time-outs will be necessary when moving from 2-halves to 4-quarters.
Game Officials Committee	
TMC	4-6-4 Rejected
District A	3-0-0 Approved (in favor of playing them in quarters)
District B	12-3-2 Approved
District C	3-2-0 Approved
District D	
District E	
District F	3-3-0
District G	
District H	10-0-0 Approved
MSSADA	7-4-1 Approved
MIAA Assembly	62-38 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	8-3-1 Approved
MIAC	16-0 Approved

**17. Page 63
Part V, Section 72.2 – Ice Hockey**

By William Gaine, Ice Hockey Liaison

Current Rule:

72.2 A minor penalty shall be 1.5 minutes, a major four minutes, and a misconduct 7.5 minutes.

Proposal:

Delete MIAA amended rule regarding minor penalty time and adopt NF Rule for penalty time to be served on a minor penalty.

Rationale

The level of MIAA ice hockey is such that teams are asked to assume penalty time responsibility consistent with the High School National Code.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Ice Hockey Committee	0-9-0 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	
Sportsmanship Committee	0-7-2 Rejected
TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	1-15-1 Rejected
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	0-10-0 Rejected
MSSADA	0-12-0 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	4-5-1 Rejected
MIAC	0-16 Rejected

**18. Page 63-65
Part V, Section 72 (new rule) – Ice Hockey**

By William Gaine, Ice Hockey Liaison

Proposal:

Any Hockey team receiving more than 10 penalties in a contest will result in that member school assessed the following fines.

First Offense (any one season)	\$250
Second Offense (any one season)	\$500
Third Offense (any one season)	\$1500

Rationale:

Teams are receiving an inordinate number of distinct penalties with no consequence. Our current standards enable extensive roughing, hitting after the whistle and minor penalties to occur and have no apparent consequence.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Ice Hockey Committee	0-9-0 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	
Sportsmanship Committee	0-9-0 Rejected
TMC	0-14-0 Rejected
District A	
District B	0-17-0 Rejected
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	0-10-0 Rejected-The District H Committee has serious reservations about the philosophical rationale of this proposal.
MSSADA	0-12-0 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	1-8-0 Rejected
MIAC	0-16 Rejected

**19. Page 63-65
Part V, Section 72 (new rule) – Ice Hockey**

By William Gain, Ice Hockey Liaison and Board of Directors of the M.S.H.C.A.

Proposal:

School Leagues/Conferences with Ice Hockey are permitted to chose to play up to 17 minute periods during the regular season.

Rationale:

To encourage more participation. The new face off rule is contributing to faster games and consequentially does not incur additional financial implication. In effect this rule change would be consistent with NF Hockey Rules.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Ice Hockey Committee	6-4-0 Approved
Game Officials Committee	
TMC	0-14-0 Rejected
District A	
District B	1-16-0 Rejected
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	

District H	0-10-0 Rejected
MSSADA	0-12-0 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	2-6-1 Rejected
MIAC	1-15 Rejected

**20. Page 67
Part V, Section 75.2.12**

By MIAA Soccer Committee & at their meeting on August 9, 2005 the MIAA Board approved the recommendation of the Soccer Committee as an "experimental addition" for the 2005 season.

Current Rule:

75.2.12 A coach who receives a *third* yellow card in a season shall be suspended from coaching for a period of two matches. **"...A fourth yellow card in a season shall result in a one year suspension."**

Proposal:

To *permanently add* the following to existing MIAA Soccer Sport Rule 75.2.12 which addresses consequences for Coaches receiving yellow cards:

"...A fourth yellow card in a season shall result in a one year suspension."

Rationale:

That a coach, who should be setting the example for his/her players, should be held to a higher standard. If a coach has already received three (3) yellow cards in one season and has been suspended for two (2) games, then repeats his/her pattern of negative behavior and subsequently receives a fourth card, they should not be in a leadership position and are deserving of a minimum of a one-year suspension from the date the fourth offense occurs.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Soccer Committee	12-0-0 Approved
Game Officials Committee	
Sportsmanship Committee	9-0-0 Approved
TMC	9-2-3 Approved
District A	
District B	1-15-1 Rejected
District C	5-0-0 Approved
District D	
District E	
District F	6-0-0 Approved
District G	
District H	10-0-0 Approved
MSSADA	10-2-0 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0 Approved
MIAC	16-0 Approved

**21. Page 69
Part V, Section 76.4 (new rule) - Softball**

By MIAA Softball Committee

Proposal:

The distance between the nearer edge of the pitcher's plate and the apex of home plate shall be 43 feet.

Rationale:

This is an effort to increase safety of softball pitchers. Moving the plate from 40' to 43' will be consistent with NCAA distance as well.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Softball Committee	12-1-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee		
TMC	12-2-0	Approved
District A		
District B	15-1-1	Approved
District C	5-0-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	0-8-2	Rejected
MSSADA	8-4-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0	Approved
MIAC	14-2	Approved

**22. Page 70-72
Part V, Section 79.3 (new rule) - Tennis**

By Michael Mowatt, Oliver Ames Boy's Tennis Coach

Current Rule:

None

Proposal:

No competitor or team in tennis will be allowed to compete without wearing a proper uniform that has the school's name and/or insignia.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Tennis Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee		
Sportsmanship Committee	9-0-0	Approved
TMC	12-0-2	Approved
District A		
District B	17-0-0	Approved

District C	3-2-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	9-0-1	Approved-The rule should be amended to define what constitutes a uniform.
MSSADA	12-0-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-0-0	Approved
MIAC	16-0	Approved

**23. Page 72-74
Part V, Section 80.7 (new rule) - Volleyball**

**By Michele Cahill – Girls’ Varsity Volleyball Coach, Hamilton-Wenham Regional H.S.
& Doug Beach, PAVO State Official, North Shore Junior Olympic Director**

Proposal: (For boys playing on a girls team) This proposal is actually written to modify the NCAA Women’s Volleyball rules.

Section 5.Attack-Hit ARTICLE 1. on page 66 states: “An attack-hit is an action, other than a block or a serve, which directs the ball toward the opponent. An attack-hit is completed the instant the ball completely crosses the vertical plane of the net or is touched by an opponent.” **Please add MIAA modification of:** Because the net height is set almost 8 inches lower than the required male net height of 7 feet 11 ¾ inch, it is illegal for a male player on a coed team to at any time complete an attack-hit inside the 10’ attack line if, at contact, the ball is entirely above the top of the net. Such an attack would be ruled illegal and constitutes a fault.

Rule 14 Playing the Ball Section 6. Blocking ARTICLE 1. on page 67 states: “Blocking is the action of a player(s) close to the net that deflects the ball coming from the opponent by reaching higher than the top of the net.” **Please add MIAA modification of:** Because the net height is set at the female net regulation height of 7 feet 4 1/8th inch, only female front row players are permitted to participate in a completed block.

Rationale:

Prohibiting males from attacking and blocking inside the 10’ attack line on a net that is almost 8 inches lower than the boy’s net will provide needed safety for all players since girl’s volleyball is played at the girl’s regulation net height of 7 feet and 4 1/8th inch. It has been difficult for parents, coaches and officials to observe as players are hit and injured on a court system that was designed for females.

Other Rules Affected

Since there are no coed rules in the 2005 NCAA Women’s Volleyball and Interpretations rule book, other rules would not be affected. When I inquired by email to Marcia Alterman, the Secretary-Rules Editor on the NCAA rules committee, as to where I could find coed volleyball rules for high school play, she stated that the higher levels of play do not allow for coed play.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	13-0-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee		

TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	16-0-1 Approved
District C	5-0-0 Approved
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	10-0-0 Approved
MSSADA	11-0-1 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-3 Approved
MIAC	11-2-1 Approved

24. Page 72

Part V, Section 80.1 - Volleyball

By: Nick Zacchilli, Chairman MIAA Volleyball Committee

Proposal: Delete 80.1 in its entirety and replace with:

"NFHS Volleyball Rules shall be used for both boys and girls with modifications adopted by the MIAA Volleyball Committee."

Rationale: NFHS Volleyball Rules have evolved to the point where they are very similar to the NCAA rules which we now play by. It is my feeling that there may be fewer modifications needed than what we now address. I would support whatever recommendation presented by the Volleyball Committee on the rules comparison now being undertaken.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	2-11-0 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	
TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	0-16-1 Rejected
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	0-7-3 Rejected
MSSADA	0-11-1 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-12 Rejected – NCAA proposals
MIAC	0-14 Rejected

25. Page 73

Part V, Section 80.2 - Volleyball

By: Dick Baker, CAL Secretary Treasurer

Current Rule:

80.2 Schedule of Matches:

All varsity competitions will be three out of five games, played to 25 points utilizing rally scoring, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit. The fifth varsity game will be played to 15 points. Junior varsity competitions will be two out of three games, played to 25 points utilizing rally scoring, with the third game to 15 points, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit.

Proposal:

All varsity competition will be 2 out of 3 games, played to 25 points utilizing Rally scoring and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit. (no change in last sentence referring to the jv games).

Rationale:

CAL Athletic Directors believe that 2 out of 3 is a fair competition and that 3 out of 5 take more time and not needed for the same results.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	0-12-1 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	
TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	2-15-1 Rejected
District C	2-3-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	0-10-0 Rejected
MSSADA	0-11-1 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	1-11 Rejected
MIAC	0-14 Rejected

26. Page 73

Part V, Section 80.2 - Volleyball

By: Nick Zacchilli, Chairman MIAA Volleyball Committee

Proposal: Junior varsity competitions will be two out of three games, played to 25 points using rally scoring, with the third game played to 25 points.....

Rationale: When we reduced the games from 30 point games to 25 point games and then limited the third game to 15 points, we significantly reduced the playing opportunities at the sub-varsity level where playing time is needed.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	11-1-1 Approved
Game Officials Committee	

TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	16-0-1 Approved
District C	2-3-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	6-0-0 Approved
District G	
District H	9-0-1 Approved
MSSADA	11-0-1 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	10-2 Approved
MIAC	13-0 Approved

27. Page 73

Part V, Section 80.2 - Volleyball

By: Dual County League Athletic Directors & Volleyball Coaches

Current Rules:

80.2 *Schedule of Matches:*

All varsity competitions will be three out of five games, played to 25 points utilizing rally scoring, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit. The fifth varsity game will be played to 15 points. Junior varsity competitions will be two out of three games, played to 25 points utilizing rally scoring, with the third game to 15 points, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit.

80.5.2 *When competing against only one school on a given day, a student may participate in part of a varsity or junior varsity contest on the same day provided he/she does not appear in more than a total of five games.*

80.5.3 *When playing a match against each of two schools on the same day, a student is limited to a maximum of 5 games against each opponent.*

Proposal:

80.2 All varsity competitions will be two out of three games, played to 30 points utilizing rally scoring, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit. Junior varsity competitions will be two out of three games, played to 30 points utilizing rally scoring, with the third game to 15 points, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit.

80.5.2 When competing against only one school on a given day, a student may participate in part of a varsity or junior varsity contest on the same day provided he/she does not appear in more than a total of three games.

80.5.3 When playing a match against each of two schools on the same day, a student is limited to a maximum of 3 games against each opponent.

Rationale:

The current rule states matches will be best of five 25-point games for varsity, and best of 3 25-point games for junior varsity, deciding games to 15 points. Varsity matches between two well-matched teams can last over two hours, and the junior varsity match has to be played in addition. Consequently, the time requirement for the players is extensive. Contests can require over 5 hours in a single day when factoring in travel time. Students and parents have expressed concerns over this because of the need to balance limited time with academic demands as well as family time. In addition, costs for officials and busses have increased at a time when schools are having difficulty with funding. Another issue is that the junior varsity players lost playing time when the rule changed to best of five for varsity. By returning the rule to what it was in the 2004-2005 season, these concerns can be resolved.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	0-12-1 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	
TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	2-14-1 Rejected
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected
District G	
District H	0-10-0 Rejected
MSSADA	1-10-1 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	2-10 Rejected
MIAC	0-13 Rejected

28. Page 73

Part V, Section 80.5.4 & 80.5.5 - Volleyball

By: Dual County League Athletic Directors & Volleyball Coaches

Current Rules:

- 80.5.4 There will be no limit to the number of substitutions of junior varsity players in a junior varsity contest. However, players who did not/or will not participate at the varsity level against the school that day must be substituted into their correct serving rotation, but are not limited to three entries per game. All junior varsity players so substituted are ineligible for the varsity contest.
- 80.5.5 *If a coach wants to request that players on his/her team participate in more than 5 games, this must be agreed upon by both coaches prior to the match. Prior notification is required if a varsity match is going to precede a junior varsity match.*

Proposal:

DELETE 80.5.4:

- 80.5.4 There will be no limit to the number of substitutions of junior varsity players in a

junior varsity contest. However, players who did not/or will not participate at the varsity level against the school that day must be substituted into their correct serving rotations, but are not limited to three entries per game. All junior varsity players so substituted are ineligible for the varsity contest.

(This rule is obsolete: unlimited entries are permitted in both junior varsity and varsity contests.)

EDIT 80.5.5

80.5.5 If a coach wants to request that players on his/her team participate in more than 3 games, this must be agreed upon by both coaches prior to the match. Prior notification is required if a junior varsity match is going to precede a varsity match.

(The intent of this rule was to prevent coaches from using the junior varsity match as a warm-up for a varsity match that followed, not vice-versa.)

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	10-1-2	Approved
Game Officials Committee		
TMC		no vote
District A		
District B	16-0-1	Approved
District C	0-5-0	Rejected
District D		
District E		
District F	0-0-6	
District G		
District H	10-0-0	Approved
MSSADA	7-4-1	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	9-2-1	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

29. Page: 73

Part V, Section 80 – Volleyball

By: Sean MacDonald - Frontier High School

The following is a proposal to eliminate a modification of NCAA volleyball rules by the MIAA

Propose following NCAA rules with regards to the “Pursuit Rule”

CURRENT MODIFICATION:

Rule 14, Section 1, Article 1 - The pursuit rule will not be in effect.

Rationale: Safety concern.

Proposal: Allow the pursuit rule in facilities that have enough room. Any net system that incorporates guy wires or chains shall be deemed unsuitable for the pursuit rule regardless of the amount of free space around them.

Rationale: NCAA, USA Volleyball, NAIA, NJCAA, and FIVB (International) all utilize the pursuit rule. When the MIAA decision to not use the pursuit rule was made, the pursuit rule was a brand new rule. Many coaches and officials had concerns about how it would work and many thought it would be a nightmare. The rule has been in place for about five years now, and no nightmares have come true. The pursuit rule is no more dangerous than any other aspect of the sport of volleyball. The pursuit rule involves saving a ball that has passed beyond the plane of the net outside the court. The pursuing player must go around the net poles, not under the net, to save the ball back to his/her team. NCAA rules require officials to confirm a minimum of two meters, (6' 6"), on BOTH sides of the net to have the rule be in effect. When the pursuit rule is successful, it's very exciting. As far as safety is concerned, everyone wants the game to be safe. Players can dive on a hardwood floor to save a ball, they can fall into the bleachers after playing a ball, they can legally crash into the net poles or the official's stand, but they are not allowed to run around the official's stand and touch nothing but the ball. Most pursuit opportunities involve the ball crossing the plane of the net by 1-2 feet, with no opposing players nearby. The pursuit rule will not happen very often, but it should not be universally prohibited if the facility has enough room. As much as I try to avoid modifications to a rule, I added the wording about guy wires to alleviate safety concerns.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	9-4-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee		
TMC	no vote	
District A		
District B	16-0-1	Approved
District C	5-0-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	10-0-0	Approved
MSSADA	9-2-1	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	12-0	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

30. Page: 73

Part V, Section 80 – Volleyball

By: Sean MacDonald - Frontier High School

The following is a proposal to eliminate a modification of NCAA volleyball rules by the MIAA.

Propose following current NCAA substitution rules for varsity competition.

CURRENT MODIFICATION:

Each team is entitled to 18 player substitutions in varsity volleyball matches during the regular

season and tournament play.

Libero replacements are not counted as player substitutions.

Unlimited substitutions are allowed in sub-varsity matches.

This rule may be waived by prior agreement of both coaches during regular season play only. If the rule is waived, the Varsity contest must precede the Junior Varsity contest.

Each team is entitled to 18 player substitutions per game in varsity matches. Libero replacements are not counted as player substitutions. Unlimited substitutions are allowed in sub-varsity matches.

This rule may be waived by prior agreement of both coaches. If the rule is waived, the Varsity contest must precede the Junior Varsity contest.

Proposal: For varsity competition: Use NCAA rules as written. NCAA rules allow 15 team substitutions per game. Libero replacements are not counted as substitutions in NCAA rules. Junior varsity contests would have unlimited substitutions as in Proposed Rule 80.1.4. The substitution rules may not be waived.

Rationale: Before the introduction of the libero, NCAA allowed 18 substitutions per game. With the adoption of the libero, NCAA dropped the number of substitutions to 12. The MIAA modified it's rules to allow 18 substitutions instead of 12. This was when the MIAA games were played to 30 points. MIAA competitions are now played to 25 points, not 30 points. NCAA rules have increased the number of substitutions from 12 to 15, based on a 30 point game. Last year, MIAA allowed 18 substitutions for a 30 point game. There is no need for an INCREASE in the number of substitutions. As an example, if a game to 30 points is VERY close, one team may win 31-29. That is a total of 60 points played. 60 points, divided by 18 substitutions, (60/18), equals 3.33 points per substitution. In a close game to 25 points (26-24), 50 points are scored in this example. Using the current NCAA 15 substitution rule, 50 points divided by 15 substitutions equals 3.33 points per substitution, which is the same as a 30 point game with 18 subs. USA Volleyball rules play to 25 points and use 12 subs. There is no reduction in the opportunity for participation as compared to last year with the NCAA rule and there is no need to make a modification to this rule when playing games to 25 points

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	0-13-0 Rejected
Game Officials Committee	
TMC	no vote
District A	
District B	0-16-1 Rejected
District C	0-5-0 Rejected
District D	
District E	
District F	0-6-0 Rejected

District G	
District H	0-10-0 Rejected
MSSADA	0-11-1 Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-12 Rejected
MIAC	0-14 Rejected

31. Page: 73

Part V, Section 80 – Volleyball

By: Sean MacDonald - Frontier High School

The following is a proposal to eliminate a modification of NCAA volleyball rules by the MIAA

Propose following NCAA rules with regards to teams switching courts in the deciding game.

CURRENT MODIFICATION:

Teams will not switch sides of the court in the middle of the deciding game.

Rationale: None listed.

Proposal: Teams should switch sides when one team reaches eight points in the deciding game. This is the current NCAA rule and should be followed.

Rationale: There is no compelling reason to modify the NCAA rule. NCAA, USA Volleyball, NAIA, NJCAA, and FIVB (International) all switch sides in the deciding game. Some critics have said that it “takes to long.” I would testify, as an official for more than 12 years, that in most cases, it takes less than 60 seconds. Before the deciding game, there is a coin toss with team captains. Both captains are reminded about the switch at eight points. Both captains are reminded that the switch is NOT a timeout. It is NOT a time to get a drink, or talk with a coach. They are reminded that teams are required to change sides and IMMEDIATELY get on the court and be ready for play. In some facilities, it doesn’t matter what side of the court you are on, conditions are the same. In many facilities, conditions are very different on each side of the court. 100 football players yelling at a girl’s team, are on one side of the court. Lighting conditions, whether it be the sun coming through windows, or artificial lighting can vary dramatically. Other facilities have lighting that is not symmetrical over the volleyball court. That is, one side of the court is darker than the other. Other gyms have lights that burned out. In a perfect world, it would be nice to say, “Change the bulbs,” or “get curtains for the windows,” or “tell the football players to cheer politely,” but we live in the real world and sometimes a match is played in less than ideal conditions. Volleyball is different from basketball, soccer, or other sports, since the opposing teams are not intermixed on the court or field. A team is restricted to its own side. The majority of a team’s offense comes from the left side of its court, which is the opponent’s right side. When one team’s left side hitter has to look into the sun to hit a ball, and the other team’s left side hitter gets to hit a ball that is lit up by the sun at his back, there is a distinct advantage for a team. Switching at eight points in the deciding game insures that one team will not have the advantage for the whole DECIDING game,

and that the outcome of the game will not be greatly affected by a coin toss. 60 seconds more, in a match that has already lasted four games, and is tied two games each, is a small amount of time spent to insure a fair contest. There is no compelling reason to modify the NCAA rule.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Volleyball Committee	12-1-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee		
TMC	no vote	
District A		
District B	14-2-1	Approved
District C	5-0-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	6-0-0	Approved
District G		
District H	9-1-0	Approved
MSSADA	4-6-2	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	12-0	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

32. Page 80

Part VI, Section 84.2 - Participation of an Ineligible Student

By: Dick Baker, MIAA

Current Rule:

84.2 In all contests such as track, tennis, golf, cross country, gymnastics, wrestling and skiing, the participation of an ineligible player shall result in the forfeiture of the whole contest.

Proposal:

Rewrite to say: If a school uses an ineligible student in any interscholastic contest, such contest shall be forfeited to the opposing school. In individual sports, the use of an ineligible player would result in the contest being forfeited. However, the performances and outcomes of the other individuals would stand.

Rationale:

This answers the often asked question – In a forfeiture what counts and what does not. All records of the ineligible player do not count – all others do. (taken from NY Interscholastic Handbook).

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	No Vote
Basketball Committee	14-2-0
Cross Country & Track Committee	15-0-0
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	12-0-1
Field Hockey Committee	9-0-0
Football Committee	No Vote
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	7-0-0
Golf Committee	5-1-1
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0

Ice Hockey Committee	No Vote
Ski Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Soccer Committee	12-0-0 Approved
Softball Committee	12-0-1 Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	9-0-0 Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	6-0-0 Approved
Tennis Committee	8-0-0 Approved
Volleyball Committee	12-0-1 Approved
Wrestling Committee	9-0-1 Approved
Game Officials Committee	8-0-0 Approved
TMC	13-0-1 Approved
District A	
District B	17-0-0 Approved
District C	5-0-0 Approved
District D	
District E	
District F	6-0-0 Approved (What about Team Sports & Individual records)
District G	
District H	10-0-0 Approved
MSSADA	11-1-0 Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	11-0 Approved
MIAC	14-0 Approved

33. Page 91

Part VIII, Section 90 - Game Officials - Policies and Procedures

By: Nick Zacchilli, Chairman MIAA Volleyball Committee

New Rule Proposal

"All officials' assignors/commissioners engaged by member schools and/or leagues to assign officials to MIAA contests must attend an annual pre-season meeting with MIAA staff."

Rationale:

There is too much inconsistency in the way sport rules, and MIAA rules, are interpreted and enforced by different boards of officials. Since it seems to be a daunting task for the MIAA to offer mandated officiating courses, perhaps we can start by "training the trainers". I also believe that it would be helpful for all officials, many of whom are now coming from outside the field of education, to be educated on how to better communicate with athletes and coaches. While we have made great strides in the areas of sportsmanship and interpersonal relationships with our coaches and athletes, we have neglected the officiating side.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	18-0-1 Approved
Basketball Committee	14-2-0 Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	15-0-0 Approved

Boys' Lacrosse Committee	11-2-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	7-1-2	Approved
Football Committee	0-13-0	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	1-6-0	Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	8-2-0	Approved
Ski Committee	6-2-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	9-3-0	Approved
Softball Committee	9-4-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-1-0	Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	0-5-1	Rejected
Tennis Committee	2-6-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	11-1-1	Approved
Wrestling Committee	7-1-1	Approved
Game Officials Committee	1-7-0	Rejected
TMC	10-2-1	Approved-amended to add "or their designee" after all officials' assignors commissioners-10-3-1 Approved.
District A	3-0-0	Approved
District B	17-0-0	Approved <i>with designee</i> added
District C	3-2-0	Approved
District D		
District E		
District F	0-6-0	Rejected
District G		
District H	0-7-2	Rejected
MSSADA	7-4-1	Approved
MIAA Assembly	72-24	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	2-8	Rejected–leagues do it now–redundant: no calls @ the game
MIAC	13-1-0	Approved

34. Page 92

Part VIII – page 91, Section 90.18 (new rule) - Game Officials - Policies and Procedures

By: MIAA Sportsmanship Committee

Proposal:

Game Officials will remain present at the conclusion of every interscholastic event to assist in monitoring the student-athlete handshake.

Rationale:

This is a procedure that has been in place for a number of MIAA sponsored sports. It is a sportsmanship strategy, which has benefited the athletic climate significantly. It is an example of utilizing the partnership of coach and official as teachers for the expected and programmed

outcome of respect for opponent. It adds to providing a positive environment, which has a modeling impact on fans.

REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	17-1-1	Approved
Basketball Committee	0-14-2	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-15-0	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	3-10-0	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	9-1-0	Approved
Football Committee	0-13-0	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	6-1-0	Approved
Golf Committee	3-3-1	
Gymnastics Committee	5-0-2	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	9-1-0	Approved
Ski Committee	4-3-1	Approved
Soccer Committee	12-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	8-5-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	9-0-0	Approved
Swimming & Diving Committee	0-6-0	Rejected
Tennis Committee	4-4-0	
Volleyball Committee	9-2-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	4-5-0	Rejected
Game Officials Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
TMC	0-13-0	Rejected
District A	0-3-0	Rejected
District B	3-11-3	Rejected
District C	0-5-0	Rejected
District D		
District E		
District F	0-6-0	Rejected
District G		
District H	9-0-0	Approved-The District believes this should be sport specific and weigh the balance of official presence and the safety of officials. It is imperative for site administrators to ensure the safety of official if they are to remain after the finish of play.
MSSADA	7-5-0	Approved
MIAA Assembly	49-43-6	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	4-6	Rejected
MIAC	10-4	Voted to table