

## WYOMING HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION (WHSAA)

### How to Protect Your Eligibility for High School Activities

The WHSAA believes you should know the rules that determine your eligibility. Most students who find themselves ineligible do so for one of two reasons: 1) They do not know the eligibility rules or 2) They disregard these rules with the hope that no one will discover the violation. The rules of the Wyoming High School Activities Association are explained in the following paragraphs. Please understand this contains only a summary of the rules. Read them carefully. Abide by them so you are eligible to enjoy the privilege of interscholastic competition. Since this is only a summary of the rules, please contact your principal or athletic director for an exact copy and meaning of any rules you are unsure about.

These eligibility rules were not developed by chance, but have been developed gradually over a period of years by necessity to protect the welfare of youth and to ensure interschool activities provide experiences of educational value to students. Only when activities provide such experience can they be justified as part of the total educational program. All of these rules have been voted on by the member schools of the WHSAA.

Because your school is a member of the Wyoming High School Activities Association, it adopts the rules of this Association as minimum eligibility rules. Your school board, superintendent and principal have the authority to establish any additional rules which they feel are beneficial to your school. Furthermore, coaches and sponsors may adopt training rules they deem advisable in the best interest of individual students and the team, so long as they are not in violation of the policies of the local school board. By abiding by these rules you can be eligible to take part in any interscholastic activity.

A complete copy of the WHSAA Rules Handbook may be obtained from the WHSAA office. Following each rule in ( ) is the WHSAA reference number for that rule.

### What Are These Rules?

#### 1. \* Student in Good Standing (6.1.0)

You must be a regularly enrolled student in good standing carrying not less than twenty (20) class hours of work per week. Good standing implies that you be a creditable school citizen whose conduct in and out of school is such that it will not reflect discredit upon your school. You will become ineligible if you are under suspension from school by your principal or superintendent for any reason.

#### 2. \* Grades and Credits (6.2.0)

You must currently be passing five (5) solid subjects (three [3] solid subjects in an accelerated block schedule), and you must have passed five (5) solid subjects during the immediate preceding semester. Deficiencies, including incompletes, conditions, and failures for the previous semester may be made up during the subsequent semester, summer session, night school, correspondence or tutoring for qualification purposes. The makeup work must match the class where the failure occurred.

#### 3. Transfer or Change of Schools (6.4.0, 6.4.3, 6.4.5, 6.4.6, 6.4.7)

If you transfer from one school to another without a corresponding change of resident on the part of your parents, you will be ineligible for one (1) year from date of enrollment for varsity competition in the sports in which you competed in the previous twelve months. If this transfer is made with a corresponding move on your parent's/legal guardian's part, you will be just as eligible in this new school as you were in the former school. Only that legal guardianship which has been established at least 12 months prior to the student's moving is recognized by the WHSAA.

Before you are eligible to represent the new school in either of the forgoing cases, the principal must submit the completed transfer form to the Association office attesting your move and your eligibility. To understand the exception to this rule, please ask your principal.

#### 4. \* Number of Semesters of Competition (6.5.0)

You are limited to competing in no more than four (4) fall and four (4) spring semesters for a total of eight (8) semesters. These eight (8) semesters shall be consecutive and begin once you start the ninth grade.

**5. Age Limits (6.3.0)**

You must be under twenty years of age on August 1 for fall sports, November 1 for winter sports and March 1 for spring sports.

**6. Physical Examination (6.6.0)**

Before you are eligible to compete or practice in any sport within the current school year, you must have on file a certificate of physical fitness issued by qualified medical personnel and a statement of permission signed by your parent/guardian. The physical must be taken after May 1 of the current school year. You must also have proof of immunization on file.

**7. Amateur Standing (5.7.0)**

You must be an amateur, that is, a person who has never used and is not using his/her athletic skill for gain as a participant in athletic contests. For gain means accepting money or other monetary compensation as a result of athletic competition.

**8. Number of Practice Days (5.10.1)**

You must participate in the required number of practices in your sport before you can compete. Check with your coach to find out the number of days required for your sport.

**9. Awards (5.6.0)**

You will be declared ineligible if you receive merchandize and/or cash because of athletic involvement.

**10. Assumed Name (6.1.6, 5.0.3)**

Competing under a false or assumed name will cause you to become ineligible. Your name must be certified by your principal on a standard form to the opposing school or schools for each contest in which you are to compete.

**11. Undue Influence (4.1.0)**

Transferring from one school to another because of being influenced by any person to do so will make you ineligible for one (1) full year.

**12. \* Independent Teams (5.8.0)**

You may not play on an independent team while you are a member of your high school competing squad in the same sport or activity. Should you do so, you would forfeit your eligibility.

**13. Specialized Sports Camps (5.4.0)**

A coach or school representative may not directly or by implication direct you to attend camps/clinics as, open gym sessions, or weight room training as a condition to practicing, participating or otherwise influencing your opportunity to participate in any school interscholastic program. You may not participate in a specialized sports camp/clinic teaching individual skills for a period greater than two (2) calendar weeks during any calendar year in which any of your coaches or high school faculty members are involved. The athletic camp fee shall be paid by your or your parent/guardian. No school funds may be used for entry fees, equipment, transportation, or uniforms. Students going to summer camps will not be covered by school or WHSAA catastrophic insurance.

**Special Education Requirements**

Special education (handicapped) students will be expected to meet the same activity eligibility requirements as regular education students since each student, through child study committee action, is placed into an individualized educational program that is designed for academic success.

Please ask your principal, activities director or event coordinator if you have questions about these rules.

\* Fine Arts and Vocational participants need only meet these requirements