

**WVSSAC  
Rules and Regulations Handbook  
2011-12 Proposed Rule Changes Passed by BOC**

**Proposal 1 (127-1)**

**Amend §127-2-3. Enrollment and Team Membership. (Pg. 16) as follows:**

3.2.4. Students enrolled in the ninth grade of a four, five or six year high school may participate on the high school team. Also, ninth graders of a feeder school may participate on their high school team and sixth grade students of a K-6 elementary feeder school may participate on their middle school/9th grade team if granted permission by the county board of education or governing body of a private/parochial school and the school principals involved. Once a ninth grade student becomes a member of the high school team said student will be ineligible for the middle school/9th grade team in that sport. Members of a 9th grade team may be grouped for practice with members of the varsity/jv team. However, if a 9th grade student participates, which would include but not limited to dressing, in a varsity/jv scrimmage or game that student becomes ineligible for the 9th grade team.

Joseph Findley, Principal  
Grafton High School

**Rationale:**

Grouping of students for practice purposes will more efficiently utilize the available facilities, reduce the wait time for late practices and decrease late arrival home of participating students. The flexibility to group students for practice purposes provides a solution for several issues.

**Proposal 2 (128-2)**

**Amend §127-2-10. Non-school Participation. (Pg. 22) as follows:**

10.1. During the school year and while a member of a school team, a student shall neither participate, which would include, but not limited to, fund-raising activities, team picture, tryouts, etc., on any formally organized non-school team in the same sport, nor shall the student compete as an individual unattached in non-school formally organized competition in the same sport. The following sports are exempted from the provisions of this rule: cross country, golf, swimming, tennis, track, and wrestling, providing:

Constitution and By-Laws

**Rationale:**

To further clarify what students are not permitted to do while a member of a school team.

**Proposal 3 (125-1)**

**Amend §127-2-13. Practice. (Pg. 24) by adding the following:**

13.4.3 A student athlete who is absent from practice with their team for non-medical reasons, not under a doctor care, for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days must have the required full fourteen (14) practice days before resuming participation in a contest. Students participating in football must follow the practice progression as set forth in Rule 127-3-23.

Constitution and By-Laws

**Rationale:**

Recommendation from WVSSAC Sports Medicine Committee to clarify number of practices a student must have if they are absent from participation for non medical reason.

**Proposal 4 (121-6)**

**Amend §127-3-10. Classification. (Pg. 38) as follows:**

10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAA, AA, or A based on the enrollment figures in grades 9-10-11 and 12 at the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification.

Leon Pilewski, Principal  
Robert C Byrd High School

**Rationale:**

County boards of education and high schools have different policies and regulations regarding number of credits required to graduate and to be placed at a grade level. Counting all students in every high school eliminates this disparity.

**Proposal 5 (122-4)**

**Amend §127-3-23. Football (Pg. 46) as follows:**

23.4.1. The total number of quarters for a student in one season is ~~40~~ 50 exclusive of the play-off games.

Mike Wells, Principal  
St. Marys High School

**Rationale:**

Athletes in small schools may need to play some JV Quarters in order to field a team and have a JV football game/team. Injuries and other unforeseen circumstances dictate athletes to play varsity quarters, limiting them to either play varsity or not play varsity and have no JV football game/team. This change would allow more athletes to participate in JV football games, rather than not have enough players to competitively field a team. Not having a JV football team not only affects the home school, but also limits football schedules for other teams and schools involved.

**Proposal 6 (127-1)**

**Amend §127-4-2. Sportsmanship. (Pg. 55) as follows:**

2.3. It shall be the responsibility of any team, student, coach, or attendant to remain in or a part of a contest until its normal end as provided by the National Federation Rules of that particular sport. The exception to the above would be provided by the same National Federation Rules of that particular sport. The penalty for a violation by a coach, student, or team attendant will not only involve ejection during that particular contest but shall also involve that student, coach, or team attendant not being a part of that school's team for the next regularly scheduled contest(s) or post season progression in a playoff tournament, as regulated in §127-4-3.7.3. The coach, student, or team attendant may practice in the days prior to the contest but may not dress or participate on the day of the contest. Rule 127-3-8 further explains the forfeiture consequences.

Constitution and By-Laws

**Rationale:**

To further clarify contest an individual must be removed from if in violation of Rule 127-4-2.