

WVSSAC
Rules and Regulations Handbook
2016-17 Proposed Rule Changes Passed by BOC

Proposal 1 (Yes-103 – No-11)

Amend §127-3-7. Out of Season Coaching. (Pg. 35) as follows:

7.1. Philosophy - Students should have the opportunity to engage voluntarily in school athletic activities provided that the student is eligible, that such activities do not interfere with the students' educational development and the activities do not conflict with the principles of wholesome amateur athletics. The WVSSAC wishes to enhance that opportunity while at the same time discouraging the exploitation of students by overzealous individuals and organizations who attempt to impose an obligation or pressure on the student. There has been growing evidence of commercialism and specialization of secondary school students. Experience has revealed that such occurrences tend to divide the allegiance of students, undermine respect for coaches and officials, and encourage the type of adulation which gives students an exaggerated sense of importance of their own athletic prowess. Rather, athletic participation should be used for the pleasure and satisfaction that is derived from athletic competition in a variety of experiences.

7.2. School organized out-of-season practice or related activities shall only be permitted with principal approval during ~~Weeks 50, 51 and 52 of the National Federation Standardized Calendar~~ three consecutive weeks established by each county Board of Education or by the governing body of a non-public member school. These three consecutive weeks may begin on or after Monday of Week 49, and must conclude by Friday of Week 4 of the National Federation Standardized Calendar; provided, there will be no out-of-season practice or related activities during the week of July 4th as determined by the National Federation Standardized Calendar (Refer to appendix in handbook for standardize calendar). Participation by students must be open to all students, voluntary, and not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school team. Participation by students during these weeks does not meet Practice Rule 127-2-13.4.

7.2.a. With Principal approval, each sport specific program may use six (6) "flex-days" from Monday of Week 49 through Friday of Week 48 of the school year. Flex-days shall not be used during the first week of each high or middle school sport season. Use of any part of a day for an activity will count as a full day of activity. (A flex-day is a day, outside the regular season and outside the three (3) week practice window, when a coach may have sport-specific contact with student athletes.)

7.3. A coach or principal designee of each sport or activity may be present as an observer, lecture participant, staff member, or in any capacity at any summer camp during weeks ~~50, 51, and 52 of the National Federation Standardized Calendar~~ established in rule 127-3-7.2 and 127-3-7.2.a.

7.4. A coach or surrogate shall not work with individuals in any form of drills or practice of the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except during those dates specified as the season for that specific sport or as designated in subsections 7.2, 7.2.a and 7.3.

7.5. Coaches may participate in a formal development program of the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) involving students of the same sport as their coaching assignments. The formal development program must be under the official guidance of the USOC through the National Governing Body (NGB) of the sport. The NGB must assure in writing to the WVSSAC that coaches will receive formal orientation and that strict supervision and monitoring of coaches will ensure that no recruitment or inappropriate influence will be exerted on students.

7.6. Conditioning/Recreation Programs - Students throughout the school year who are not participating in a school's athletic program may voluntarily participate in an off season conditioning program. This program may also occur during the summer subject to county board of education or governing body approval and the following provisions:

7.6.a. Participation in the program must be open to all students enrolled in the school providing the program.

7.6.b. Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school team.

7.6.c. Students will provide their own clothing (sweatsuit, shoes, etc.).

7.6.d. Activities will be limited to running, weight training, and stretching exercises. Agility drills that do not involve specific skills of a given sport are permitted.

7.6.e. Specific equipment pertaining to a given sport may not be used. This includes such items as footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, wrestling mats, discus, etc.

7.6.f. In those cases where schools schedule all students into the last period of the school day, the guidelines in items (c), (d), and (e) shall apply unless the class is considered a part of the physical education program and credit is given. There shall be no teaching of sport specific skills in this case unless those same skills and course of study are taught in all physical education classes at this same time of the school year.

7.6.g. The county board of education may choose to compensate the supervisor or director.

7.7. Coaches may not promote, initiate, organize, supervise, or participate in out-of-season events involving students of the same sport as the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except as specified in Rules 127-3-7.2, 127-3-7.2.a and 127-3-7.3. The county board of education shall be authorized to approve a coach to organize and/or supervise a recreation program for students. However, this type assignment must be recreational in nature, include a variety of activities, and comprise no coaching or instruction of that same sport as the school coaching assignment. In addition to the above, gymnasiums or facilities opened for recreational activities must use the following guidelines:

7.7.a. The gymnasium or field is open to all students for participation.

7.7.b. A variety of activities is available to students and is not limited to one sport or activity on a given day.

7.7.c. Supervisor or director must be approved by the county board of education or governing body.

7.7.d. There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and technique in any sport.

7.7.e. Comparable opportunities are provided both sexes.

7.7.f. Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a school team.

7.8. The principal assumes the responsibility for making certain that there is adherence to these guidelines.

Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Rationale:

To provide more flexibility for out of season coaching due to changes in school calendar.

Proposal 2 (Yes-85 – No-14)

Amend §127-3-31. Wrestling. (Pg. 54) as follows:

31.8.b. Middle school/9th grade school teams may have 16 matches excluding any conference tournament ~~including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC.~~

Richard Ott, Principal
Mannington Middle School

Rationale:

We feel that middle school/9th grade wrestling teams should have the extra 2 matches granted by not including the team's conference tournament. This is in line with high school rule 31.4 that excludes the regional and state tournament from their 18 allowable matches. Students much younger than middle school age wrestle many more matches on their own, we feel that the extra few matches they may wrestle with this rule change would be under professional supervision in a much safer and controlled environment. We also felt that the last part of 31.8b (including tournaments sanctioned by the WVSSAC) was not necessary for the rule's structure.