

# North Dakota High School Activities Association

Constitution & By-Laws and Handbook of  
Interpretations

July 2017



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## Foreword and History

The North Dakota High School Activities Association has had a continuous existence since 1908 as is evident from the pages listing the officials of the organization. Prior to 1949 the position of Secretary-Treasurer was a part-time position held by a school superintendent. In June of 1949 the position was made a full time one. The organization has now provided to enlarge the services of the Association, and these services are being expanded as rapidly as conditions warrant.

Effective July 1, 1955, the name of the High School League was changed to High School Activities Association to better indicate the nature of the work the Association performs. It is still the same organization which had its origin back in 1908.

Since the 1963-1964 school year, there have been two classifications of schools consisting of A and B divisions as outlined in Part Two, Article II of the By-Laws of the Association.

All states of the United States and Washington D.C. have banded together and formed the National Federation of State High School Associations (<http://www.nfhs.org>) with an executive office in Indianapolis, Indiana, that serves the entire United States through its press service, publication of rule books, and many other ways.

NDHSAA member schools are in complete control of the Constitution & By-Laws. The NDHSAA Board of Directors has the responsibility to make interpretations but no changes to the Constitution and By-Laws are made without a vote of the member schools.

School superintendents, principals, and coaches of the various fields of the so-called extra-curricular activities are frequently confronted with the problem of interpreting the eligibility rules, which govern the participants in these activities. It is the purpose of this publication to assemble the available material on all eligibility rules regulating interscholastic relations of the high schools of the State of North Dakota, and make these rules easily available for the busy school administrators in such form that questions concerning the rules may be quickly and easily answered.

**OUTLINE OF SECTIONS**

**PART I: NDHSAA Constitution**

Part One of this volume presents the Constitution of the High School Activities Association as unanimously adopted on January 31, 1955, at the meeting of the High School League in Bismarck, North Dakota with all amendments in July following the year they are adopted.

**PART II: By-Laws and Interpretation of By-Laws**

Part Two of this volume presents the By-Laws of the High School Activities Association as unanimously adopted on January 31, 1955, at the meeting of the High School League in Bismarck, North Dakota with all amendments in July following the year they are adopted.

**PART III: Board Regulations and General Information**

Part Three is an outline of general regulations established by the Board of Directors.

**PART IV: Junior High and 7-8th Grade By-Laws and Regulations**

Part Four follows a series of questions and answers that have grown out of correspondence with schools concerning their eligibility problems. While these questions will not answer all possible problems that will be raised, they should prove helpful in solving many of them. Part Four is devoted to the junior high and seventh/eighth grade regulations which became effective on July 1, 1966 with all amendments added in July following the year they are adopted.

**PART V: List of Association Officers since Organization**

Part Five will present the names of the officers of the organization since its formation in 1908. From the list will be recognized many names of both past and present school personnel who have had a definite part in the program of the High School League since its formation over one hundred years ago.

Should there be any questions on the interpretation of any Section of the Constitution or By-Laws, be sure to contact the Executive Director for clarification

**PART VI: Index**

**LEGEND**

- Art..... Refers to Article in Constitution or By-Laws
- Sec..... Refers to Section in Constitution or By-Laws
- BL..... Refers to By-Laws
- P..... Refers to Page Number
- Q..... Question
- A..... Answer

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# **Part I**

## **Constitution of the North Dakota High School Activities Association**

### **Article I: Name**

**This organization shall be known as the North Dakota High School Activities Association.**

### **Article II: Purpose**

**The purpose of this Association is to contribute to the education of high school boys and girls of North Dakota by:**

- a. Administering a program of interscholastic activities, clinics, contests and festivals among its membership;**
- b. Elevating the standards of good sportsmanship and encouraging growth in good citizenship, not only of high school students, but also of all others who come in contact with the school activities;**
- c. Protecting member schools, students and personnel from exploitation by special interest groups;**
- d. Encouraging pride in scholastic achievement as a fundamental basis for a well-balanced activities program;**
- e. Supplementing the dramatic, literary, music and physical education programs of the schools and giving due emphasis to those tendencies which promise best to promote the mental and physical health and social well-being of all students.**

### **Article III: Members**

**SECTION I: Any high school, so classified by the State Department of Public Instruction, may become a member of the Association by agreeing to abide by the rules of the Association as set forth in its Constitution and By-Laws, and by payment of the annual dues as hereinafter provided. The membership year shall be from September 1 to August 31 following.**

**SECTION II: Application for membership to the Association must be made by the superintendent or the principal of the school of the Association's prescribed form with the authorization of the Board of Education of the school district of high school applying for membership. Membership once attained is continuous by the payment of the annual Association dues as prescribed in Article IV of the Constitution.**

**SECTION III: No school shall be admitted to the Association during a school year in which it has as a non-member been represented in any interscholastic competition by a student who would have been ineligible under the rules of the Association.**

**SECTION IV: Any school resigning its membership may not re-enter the Association during the period of the school year in which it resigns nor during the following year.**

**SECTION V: Any school may be suspended or expelled from membership by the Board of Directors for violation of rules; and once expelled or suspended, may be reinstated only by action of the Board.**

**SECTION VI: Any approved junior high school housed and competing as a separate entity may become a member of the Association by its principal completing the proper application forms as outlined in Section II and by the payment of the annual dues.**

**SECTION VII:**

Each member school shall have one vote in the Representative Assembly.

**Article IV: Dues**

**SECTION I:** Dues shall be based on the rate of 20 cents per student enrolled in grades 7-12, the enrollment being the official enrollment as of October 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. The amount of the dues shall not be less than \$25.00 or more than \$350.00 annually

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION I of Article IV – Dues**

Art IV – Sec I. a. Also schools are required to pay a \$35.00 participation fee for each activity they participate in on their own or as part of a co-op. **(January 2004)**

Art IV – Sec. I. b. If a member of the Association brings a legal action against the Association and the Association prevails, the member shall reimburse the Association for all costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the Association in connection with the legal action. **(June 2016)**

**SECTION II:** Special assessments may be levied by a two-thirds vote of the Representative Assembly.

**SECTION III:** Dues for the ensuing year are payable to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer on September 1<sup>st</sup>. All Dues must be paid by November 1<sup>st</sup> and a penalty of one-half the amount of the original dues shall be added to the dues of each school which fails to pay by that date. Any school failing to remit its dues by December 1<sup>st</sup> is thereby automatically denied membership and may be reinstated only by Board action.

**Article V: Officers and Duties**

**SECTION I:** There shall be a board of directors, hereinafter called the Board, consisting of eleven members. Each new member shall be seated on July 1<sup>st</sup> following his/her election for a term of four years and may not hold office more than one elected term. Three board members shall be chosen from Class A schools, one each from two geographical areas and one at-large. The geographic designations are as follows: The state shall be divided into two areas – one area from the Montana border east to State Highway 3 (or State Highway 30), including Belcourt and one area is from State Highway 3 (or State Highway 30), east to the Minnesota border. One board member shall be designated as Class A West, one board member shall be designated as Class A East and one board member shall be designated as Class A At-Large. Four members of the board shall be chosen from Class B schools, each from a geographical area as Highway 83 and State Highway 14 north and south and State Highway 200 east and west forming the boundaries of said areas and one member will be from each area. Class B schools located in towns on the boundary lines as designated shall fall in the areas as determined by the location of the high school building in said towns in relation to the boundary lines. A secondary school principal as so defined by the Department of Public Instruction shall serve as a member of the Board. Two candidates shall be nominated by the Board of Directors of the Secondary School Principals Association and their candidate will be selected by mail ballot sent directly to the secondary school principals of all member high schools and his/her term of office shall also be the same. A member of the Athletic Administrators Association shall serve as a member of the Board. Two candidates shall be nominated by the Board of Directors of the Athletic Administrators Association and their candidate will be selected by mail ballot sent directly to the athletic administrator of all member high schools and his/her term of office shall also be the same. The Superintendent of Public Instruction or a member of his/her duly constituted staff, designated by him/her shall serve as a member of said Board. One school board member from a member high school, or the executive director of the North Dakota School Boards Association, shall be selected by the executive committee of the North Dakota School Boards Association, and his/her term of office shall be the same as that of other elective Board Members, except that there shall be no limitation on the number of consecutive terms which the executive director of the North Dakota School Boards Association may serve. Should this member cease to be a school board member from a member high school or the executive director of the North Dakota School Boards Association, the position shall be declared vacant and a successor

selected by the Board of Directors of the School Boards Association to fill the unexpired term. (Oct. 2005)

**SECTION II:** Board Members shall be nominated at the annual meeting of the Representatives of the Association, hereinafter called the Representative Assembly, and shall be elected by mail ballot, such ballot to be prepared by the Secretary and mailed to member schools on or before January 1<sup>st</sup> following the nomination and shall be returned to the Secretary before January 15<sup>th</sup>. The ballot is valid if the envelope in which it is mailed is postmarked before midnight January 14<sup>th</sup>.

Should any member move from the state profession, change into a different class school or different area of representation, cease to be an administrator or athletic administrator, or should the secondary principals representative cease to be a principal of a member school his/her position shall be declared vacant immediately and anew member appointed by the Board to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting when the regular procedure of nomination and balloting shall be followed to fill the vacancy of the remainder of the term of office.

**NOTE:** Membership on the Board is restricted to school superintendents, high school principals, athletic or activity directors and one member from the North Dakota School Boards Association and one from the Department of Public Instruction.

**SECTION III:** The Board shall select from its membership President and Vice-President. Each shall exercise all the functions assigned to him/her by word or implication of the Constitution, By-Laws and regulations of the Association or special rules of the Board. The President of the Board shall, in addition to his/her other duties, preside at all meetings of the Representative Assembly.

**SECTION IV: POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD:**

- a. The Board of Directors shall constitute the executive and administrative body of the organization subject to the restraint of the Constitution, By-Laws and regulations of the Association.
- b. It shall determine the time and place of its own meetings. Six members shall constitute a quorum.
- c. It shall have general supervision over all interscholastic activities of the schools of the Association and shall interpret the By-Laws of the Association.
- d. It shall contract for the services of an Executive Secretary-Treasurer who shall be paid a salary from the treasury of the Association. The qualifications, term of contract and amount of salary to be paid the Executive-Secretary-Treasurer hereinafter called the Secretary, shall be determined by the Board.
- e. The Board shall have charge of the funds of the Association and shall determine what expenditures are necessary.
- f. It shall decide all protests and shall fix the penalty for violation unless otherwise provided in the rules.
- g. It shall have the power to make investigations relative to the violation of the rules of the Association.
- h. It shall have the authority to appoint special committees to assist in the arrangement and supervision of various activities and contests.
- i. It shall have the authority to approve or disapprove invitational meets, contests or festivals in all types of interscholastic activities.
- j. It shall provide suitable awards for the winners of contests conducted by the Association.
- k. It shall have the authority to register major officials in all interschool contests, to establish qualifications for such registration, to establish procedures for advancement and rating of officials, to revoke, suspend, put on probation or invoke other disciplinary action against said registered officials as further provided for in the By-Laws and rules and regulations as established by the Board.
- l. It shall have the power to levy on the gross receipts of all tournaments conducted under Association auspices and to set entry fees for all activities.
- m. It shall have the authority to acquire by purchase, gift devise or otherwise, real estate or interest therein for the general use and purpose of the North Dakota High School

**Activities Association.** Title to all real estate acquired by the North Dakota High School Activities Association shall be vested in the President, Vice President, Executive Secretary-Treasurer and their successors in office as trustees for the Association. Said trustees shall hold, operate, lease, convey, encumber and generally manage all real estate of the North Dakota High School Activities Association as the Board of Directors shall direct for the use and benefit of the North Dakota High School Activities Association.

- n. It shall serve as a canvassing board for all elections.
- o. On matters not herein determined, the Board shall have absolute authority until the next regular annual meeting of the Representative Assembly.

## **Article VI: Executive Secretary-Treasurer**

**SECTION I:** The Executive Secretary-Treasurer hereinafter called the Secretary, is an officer of the Association and of the Board of Directors, and shall be appointed by said Board for a contract term of not to exceed three years.

**SECTION II:** The Secretary shall serve during the will and pleasure of the Board but shall not be removed during his/her term of office except for just and reasonable cause.

**SECTION III:** He/she shall receive for deposit and account for severally and separately all dues, fees and funds of the Association, expend them as directed by the Board and make a complete report of all receipts and expenditures to the Association at its annual meeting and such additional reports as he/she may deem necessary or may be required by the Board.

An audit of the financial records of the Association shall be made annually by a public accountant, and a report of such audit distributed to each member school of the Association.

**SECTION IV:** The Secretary shall be bonded in an amount fixed by the Board, the premium of such to be paid by the Association.

**SECTION V:** The Secretary shall be charged with the responsibility of maintaining an office and hiring assistants to conduct the Association's affairs, subject to the approval of the Board.

**SECTION VI:** The Secretary shall exercise the powers and prerogatives of an executive administrator of all Association policies, practices and project, and shall direct and supervise all state-wide interschool events as the Board may assign and direct.

## **Article VII: Representative Assembly**

**SECTION I:** The time and place of the annual meeting of the Representative Assembly shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

**SECTION II:** Special meetings may be called by the Board and must be called by the Secretary upon written request of fifty representatives; notice of such special meeting must be mailed to all member schools at least fourteen days previous to the special meeting.

**SECTION III:** The Representative Assembly shall have legislative and nominating functions only.

**SECTION IV:** Fifty official representatives shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Each member school may be represented by only one representative and shall have only one vote.

## **Article VIII: District Committee**

**SECTION I:** The immediate management of all activities in the various districts and classes of school of the state shall be placed in the hands of committees of three members who shall be chosen for a period of three years at the annual district meeting, one member of whom shall be elected each year. The representative of each member shall be the superintendent, principal or athletic/activities director.



One of the members of the district committee shall be chosen chairperson either by action of the district committee or by the representatives present.

**SECTION II:** In the event that the athletic district be of such size or contain so many schools as to be unwieldy for arranging contests or activities on the district level, it may, upon a majority vote of the representatives of the schools therein, subdivide itself; and in such cases each subdivision shall select its own committee to govern its own affairs.

**SECTION III:** Music and speech activities shall be governed by district committees of not more than three members of which at least one, but not more than two members, must be representative of each of the classes of schools which participate in the activities of each such districts, except that when the district is comprised of one class only, three members shall be elected from the same class.

**SECTION IV:** The district chairperson shall report or cause to be reported the names of the district committee members to the Secretary, who shall prepare and publish a list of all committee members and send same to all member schools.

**SECTION V:** The district committees shall meet at some suitable place on or before November 15<sup>th</sup> to consider the interscholastic affairs of its jurisdiction. To this meeting all superintendents, principals, athletic/activities directors, coaches and/or music and speech directors shall be invited, and the committee shall conform to the directions of the member schools. At this meeting the basis for deciding district championships in athletics and/or participation in other interscholastic activities shall be determined.

**SECTION VI: POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

It shall have authority under the restraints of the Constitution and By-Laws and regulations of the Board over all matters concerning athletics and/or speech and music activities in the district, including the power with a majority vote of district member schools to specify and schedule up to one regular season basketball game between member schools of the district in order for a member school to be eligible for district basketball tournament competition.

- a. The district committee shall report in full the proceedings of all meetings to all schools affected in the district and to the Secretary of the Association.
- b. In such activities as are carried on to the state level, the district committee must conform its planning with dates, fees, rules of eligibility and other regulations as set up on the next higher level or by the Board.
- c. District athletic committees shall have authority to set aside annually from tournament receipts a sum to be determined by member schools which shall be held in the district to be used at the discretion of the district committee for legitimate expenditures of committee delegates or committee members in the conduct of district affairs.

**Article IX: Local Control**

**SECTION I:** The superintendent, principal or athletic/activities director shall be the official representative of the school, hereinafter called the Representative.

The Representative is responsible to the Association and his/her school in all matters pertaining to the interscholastic relations of his/her school. Interscholar relations must be conducted by the duly appointed administrative officer of the school.

**SECTION II:** The principal, superintendent or athletic/activities director of each member school shall read or cause to be read to the high school and/or junior high school pupils thereof on or before September 15 of each year the eligibility rules of the Association. These rules shall be posted in the high school assembly room or on the school bulletin board and copies given to local papers. Special district rules and/or special rules of the Board shall be read and posted as soon as possible after their receipt.

**SECTION III:** Member school may join conferences or may unite with other schools to form conferences provided all such schools are members in good standing of the Association or of associations or leagues of other states or provinces, and provided, always, that the rules and regulations of such conferences may be in conformity with the rules of the Association and subject to the jurisdiction and authority of the Board. A copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of each such conference must be filed with the Secretary.

### **Article X: Amendments**

**SECTION I:** Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a majority vote of the member schools in a mail ballot, and amendments to the By-Laws and regulations of the Association may be made by a majority of the votes by those present or by those who cast their votes electronically five days prior to the regular or special meetings. Fifty or more members must be in attendance for an amendment to be considered and those electronic votes submitted will be noted and added to the final tally of votes. Proper notice of the proposed amendment with its substance being served at a previous meeting or by letter from the Secretary at the request of a Representative, and provided further, that there shall have been a lapse of thirty days between the time of presentment and the final vote thereon. (Oct. 08)

**SECTION II:** No amendment (either to the By-Laws or to the Constitution) shall be brought to a vote again within 23 months of the time the same amendment has been previously voted on and rejected. For purpose of this section the “same amendment” shall mean any proposed amendment that was either identically the same or so similar that its effect would be substantially the same as the amendment proposed for vote. Nothing in this section shall prevent reconsideration of proposed amendments pursuant to a motion to reconsider made and voted on at the same regular or special meeting in which the proposed amendment was rejected.

## Part II

# By-Laws of the North Dakota High School Activities Association

### Article I: Conduct of Meetings, Rules or Order

**SECTION I: Time and place of meetings:** Meetings of the Representative Assembly shall be held in accordance with the provisions of Article VII, Sections I and II of the Constitution, and shall be at an hour and place as determined by the Board, and such time and place shall be specified in the notice of meeting sent to each member school at least two weeks prior to the date of meeting.

**SECTION II: Call to order:** At the stated hour of the meeting the President shall take the chair, call the members to order and on the appearance of a quorum, and proceed to business.

**SECTION III: Representatives:** Only those who are official Representatives holding the signed delegate cards shall be seated and permitted to participate in the business of the Assembly, unless specifically empowered to do so by the President.

**SECTION IV: Quorum:** Fifty Representatives shall constitute a quorum.

**SECTION V: Committees:**

- a. All committees, whether standing or special, shall be appointed by the President unless otherwise provided by the Representative Assembly.
- b. A nominating committee, consisting of not less than three nor more than five members, shall be appointed by the President at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting of the Representative Assembly for the purpose of nominating members to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors as provided in Article V, Section II of the Constitution.
- c. The nominating committee shall submit two nominees for each vacancy and the Representatives shall have the power to make additional nominations from the floor.

**SECTION VI: Adoption of Committee Reports** of committees shall be considered in their proper place in the order of business and where reports are of such a nature that a vote is necessary for adoption, the President shall determine the manner of voting provided that no action may be taken on committee reports except in a regular or special meeting of the Representative Assembly, and provided further, that any member may call for a recorded vote by member schools if he/she is not satisfied with the method of voting selected by the President. If such member is sustained in his/her request by a majority of the members present, a recorded vote shall be taken.

**SECTION VII: Motions:** No motion shall be debated until the same shall have been seconded and put by the Chair; and if desired by any member, motions shall be reduced to writing, delivered to the President, and read before the same shall be debatable.

**SECTION VIII: Debate:** No member shall speak more than once on the same questions without leave of the presiding officer, unless he/she is the author of the matter pending, in which case he/she shall be permitted to speak in reply, and provided further, that no member shall speak more than a total five minutes on any question.

**SECTION IX: Robert's Rules of Order:** Where not specifically provided for in the rules of order, all matters or parliamentary procedure shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

## **Article II: Classification of Schools**

(Note: Official enrollment counts for Article II will be taken from the Fall numbers reported to the DPI. The “School Enrollments” portion of Article III, Section XI, will determine classifications for cooped activities.)

### **SECTION I: Class A Schools:**

- a. This group shall consist of all member high schools with a total enrollment of 325 or over, and/or an enrollment of 160 or more pupils in an all-male school in grades 9-12, inclusive as of October 1, 1974, plus any member high school that elects to choose Class A as provided in paragraph (b), (c) and (d) herewith.
- b. Any high school with a total enrollment between 200 and 324 in grades 9-12, inclusive on October 1, 1974, may elect to join Class A for interscholastic competition by written notice to the Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association before January 1, 1975.
- c. After classes are established on January 1, 1975, a member school having a total enrollment of more than 199 and less than 325 in grades 9-12, inclusive must give two years notice to the Board of Directors to change its classification. Such choice must be made not later than September 1st of any year and shall become effective with the opening of the fall term two years later. Schools that elect to become Class A schools must remain in that classification for a minimum of three years before they may again apply for reclassification. Provided further, when the total high school enrollment in grades 9-12 drops below 325, and/or the enrollment in an all-male school in grades 9-12 drops below 160, that school shall have one year of grace in which to choose its class of competition. Should an A school drop below 200 in enrollment in grades 9-12 and continue below 200 for two consecutive years, this school must be reclassified as a B school. Should a school rise above 324 in enrollment in grades 9-12, inclusive and continue above that figure for two consecutive years, this school must be classified as an A school unless waived by the NDHSAA Board of Directors upon a showing that the projected enrollment in grades 9-12 will be less than 325 in the first year of such reclassification as an A school.
- d. Should a new high school be established in an existing district or area, whose enrollment in grades 9-12, inclusive, exceeds 324, the two year waiting period stated in paragraph (c) above shall be waived and the school shall be immediately classified as an A school.

**SECTION II: Class B School:** All member high schools, other than those designated Class A, shall be classified as Class B schools.

**SECTION III:** Where there are two classes or divisions for competition in NDHSAA sponsored events, school classification (325 and above for class A, 324 and below for Class B) will be used and member schools must compete within their school classification (325 and above for class A, 324 and below for class B) in NDHSAA regional and state events. (January 2010)

**SECTION IV:** The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association is authorized to combine classes in all athletic or non-athletic contests and festivals if it appears expedient and desirable. (Oct. 2007)

## **Article III: Contests**

**SECTION I:** Final agreement for contests between two Association schools shall be incorporated into contracts on forms provided by the Association. These contracts shall be executed by mutual consent of the Representatives of the respective schools and exchanged prior to the contests, and shall not be cancelled or altered except by mutual consent of the schools involved.

### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION I of Article III - Contests**

Art III - Sec I .a.

The reason for such a rule should be obvious to any good school administrator. It is just simply good business and provides written evidence of the nature of the contest, the time, terms, and any other stipulation worthy of being added to the contract. Much confusion and trouble can be avoided by following this rule. Note that the rule reads

- "SHALL". It is therefore assumed that it should be mandatory to use these contract forms which are posted on the ndhsaa.com web site.
- Art III - Sec I .b. Compliance with this rule is now doubly important as the certification of eligibility of students is now incorporated in the contract forms, eliminating the necessity of exchanging eligibility sheets before each contest.
- Art III - Sec I .c. Sometimes schools neglect this important duty on the grounds that it is too much work.
- Art III - Sec I .d. One thing is certain. Should a school have trouble with another relative to terms of a contract for games and appeal its case to the Board of Directors for settlement, the Board of Directors would be obliged to ignore any such appeal if the contract forms provided by the Association are not used.

**SECTION II: No member of the Association shall schedule or engage in any contest with a non-member school which is eligible for membership in the Association under penalty of suspension for the remainder of the year; nor shall any member school enter into any contests with an out-of-state school which is not similarly qualified in respect to its own state.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION II, of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec II .a. If a high school chooses to belong to the Association, then its relations with other state high schools must be confined to those high schools which also are members. There can be no interscholastic relations between member high schools and non-member high schools who have failed or refused to join the Association and the penalty for such a violation is suspension for the remainder of the year. This rule does not prevent contests with town or independent teams if the local administration wishes to include such teams in the school schedule in as much as such organizations are not eligible for membership in the Association. It will also be noted that our state must again show the proper respect for other state organizations in not scheduling out-of-state schools unless they maintain membership in their own organizations.
- Art III - Sec II .b. For schools wishing to engage in contests with out-of-state schools, a national contract form has been drawn up and is available upon request; or schools may use the regular contract form with such minor changes as are needed.

**SECTION III: No member of the Association shall engage in any contest with a school whose membership has been suspended during the period of such suspension.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION III of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec III.a. Ordinarily the administration of such a penalty is done only after other means have failed. That would indicate in itself that the offense was willful and committed knowingly.
- Art III - Sec III.b. If and when such a drastic penalty is invoked, member schools will be informed through letter or email so every school having relations with the disciplined school will have definite information of the status of the school in violation.
- Art III - Sec III.c. The rule is clear that once a school is suspended no relations with member schools may be lawfully held until such time as the suspension has been lifted.

**SECTION IV: In any contest, whatsoever, except those among students in the same school, no ineligible student shall be used; nor shall such student appear on the field or floor in uniform or otherwise participate as a member of the contesting organization or group. Non-member schools using contestants of less than eligible status may not secure membership in the Association within the same year.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION IV of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec VI .a. This rule again reiterates the importance of maintaining all eligibility rules and lists the only instance under which ineligible players may participate. In the case of intramural sports, it is not necessary to maintain the Association rules. The rule further specifies what the penalty may be for violation of the eligibility rules.

**SECTION V: Contesting schools shall each have present an authorized faculty representative who shall be responsible to his/her school for the conduct of its participants and students throughout the contest and the visiting team's stay away from home.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION V of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec V.a. This rule is included in our Constitution in the interest of good school administration. No doubt there will be many games which the superintendent or principal cannot attend. It is then their duty to see that some member of the faculty is responsible for the students while away from home.
- Art III - Sec V.b. Normally this responsibility will be delegated to the coach and the presence of the coach fulfills the requirements of this Section.

**SECTION VI: Students shall not serve as business managers to arrange or handle contests between schools.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION VI of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec VI .b. The reasons for such a rule should be evident. The operation of the extra-curricular program in any school system is an important one financially. It is likewise important from the public relations angle. Surely it is too important to entrust in the hands of immature students. Schools may avoid many unpleasant situations between neighboring schools by seeing that all business pertaining to inter-school relations is handled through the administration offices.

**SECTION VII: High standards of courtesy, fair-dealing and sportsmanship must be featured in all Association contests. The Board may rate schools or students in these respects, recognizing high attainment and penalizing low.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION VII of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec VII.a. While this rule is a general statement and one which is difficult to enforce or reduce to objective standards, it is the core of the entire Association program. Good sportsmanship, respect for others, and fair dealing are basically the motives through which the entire Association program is justified and defended.

**SECTION VIII: Each school shall keep adequate record of contests and contestants on the record books or blanks provided by the Association; all reports required by the Board shall be supplied promptly and accurately.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION VIII of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec VIII.a. This rule implies two kinds of records. First, the records of achievement in the local school in the fields of endeavor including music, speech, athletics, and all extra-curricular activities. Second, it implies records that must be sent to the Association office. Proper blanks are sent out for supplying this information, and failure to comply may place the school membership in temporary jeopardy as indicated under Article V of the By-Laws and listed under Article V, Section I, f of the By-Laws.

**SECTION IX: No interscholastic event shall be held from 12:00 noon Thursday to midnight Friday of the NDEA Instructional Conference.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION IX of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec IX.a. This rule does not allow any interscholastic contests to be scheduled from noon Thursday to midnight Friday of the NDEA Conference. However, practice regulations during this period must be determined by the local school district.

**SECTION X: Interscholastic teams composed of members of both sexes are permissible in sports sponsored by the Association if a school does not provide for separate teams for each sex. Teams composed of members of both sexes shall follow the rules as outlined for boys and compete in the boys' division.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION X of Article III - Contests**

- Art III - Sec X.a. Interscholastic programs should be provided for girls as well as boys. Experience has shown that the best programs are those which provide for separate teams for each sex. As a general rule, only a very limited number of girls have an opportunity to compete when only one combined team is fielded.
- Art III - Sec X.b. It is the philosophy of the Association that wherever possible, separate but equal programs should be offered for girls and boys. If this is not possible, then teams open to members of both sexes are permissible. However, because of the greater physical size and strength of boys, this is not the best interest of either boys or girls in the contact and collision sports.

**SECTION XI: The Cooperative Sponsorship Amendment, which adds Section XI to Article III of the By-Laws, will become effective July 1, 1981, and reads as follows:**

- a. Cooperative sponsorship of any activity by two or more member schools will be considered under the following conditions:**
- i. Schools are to be located in the same geographical area.**
  - ii. School Enrollments:**
    - a) All member schools of the NDHSAA will be eligible to participate in the cooperative sponsorship program.**
    - b) When Class B schools are involved with the cooperative sponsorship of an activity and the combined enrollment of the schools involved exceeds 325 students in grades 9 through 12, these schools will compete as a Class A school in that activity. (Exception for wrestling, cross country and softball: co-op request must be approved by the NDHSAA Board of Directors.) (Amended January 2004)**
  - iii. Cooperative sponsorship agreements will be enforced for a minimum of three years. Any dissolution of cooperative agreements requires NDHSAA Board of Directors' approval. Dissolution will be considered only upon receipt of an official letter from each school board requesting consideration to end the agreement prior to the conclusion of the three-year period.**
  - iv. The school board of the participating member schools must jointly make the application to the NDHSAA Board of Directors.**
  - v. A resolution from each school board stating the purpose for sponsoring a joint team or activity must be submitted to the NDHSAA office.**
  - vi. Requests for a cooperative agreement for all activities except football between schools with existing programs must be submitted to the NDHSAA Board of Directors prior to the end of the preceding season in that activity. Completed football cooperative agreements must be received by September 15 of the preceding year to be considered by the Board of Directors. (Oct. 2005)**
  - vii. Note: "To emphasize the importance of avoiding late athletic cooperative sponsorship requests the Board has placed a \$500 late fee on any co-op application involving schools with existing athletic programs submitted after the last day of state competition for each activity (exception football). Each season ends with the last day of the state tournament in that sport/activity."**
  - viii. Following the initial three years of an approved cooperative agreement, it will remain in force until dissolved. To dissolve a coop after the initial three-year period, a school in said coop must submit a written dissolution request to the NDHSAA Board of Directors for approval. To be considered, the request must be made in a timely manner.**
  - ix. Decisions on all applications will be determined by the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of each application.**

## **Article IV: Rule Violations**

**SECTION I: Neither contest rules or eligibility rules may be waived by common consent and they must be fully observed by Association members even though competing with non-members.**

### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION I of Article IV – Rule Violations**

In short, this means that eligibility rules must be respected in all contests whether these relations are with member schools or with non-member schools. This implies that only eligible players may be used when playing out-of-state teams, independent teams or non-conference teams. Rules must likewise be respected whether it is a first team, a second team or a third team. Rules apply to any and all teams representing the school.

**SECTION II: All questions in dispute shall be referred to the Board and its decision shall be final.**

**SECTION III: Any school entering a protest against another school shall submit in writing a full statement of facts and grounds for protest to the Executive Secretary who shall submit a copy to the superintendent or principal of the accused school. Such protest shall be accompanied by a deposit of ten dollars (\$10.00) which shall later be returned if the protest is sustained by the Board. The school against which a protest or any charge has been made shall have the privilege of presenting its case to the Board.**

**SECTION IV: For any violation of Association rules an offending student may be barred from participating in contests which come under Association jurisdiction; and an offending school may be suspended, expelled, or caused to forfeit games or championship rights.**

### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTIONS II, III & IV**

Art IV - Sec II, III, IV .a. These sections deal with the proper procedure when schools have problems that cannot be settled between them, or when one school may have evidence that some school is not conforming to the rules. The procedure is clearly outlined and no further explanation should be necessary.

Art IV - Sec II, III, IV .b. Q: A school believes that another school is playing an ineligible person. What can be done?

A: As an association of member schools, the most desired process in a situation such as this would be handled by the administration of the schools involved. In these instances, the use of an ineligible person is many times the result of an error. School administrators themselves are the first to question the eligibility of their own players and if an error is discovered, report their own violation to their opponent school as well as the NDHSAA. The administration of our member schools maintain a high standard of integrity and are dedicated to comply with their NDHSAA Constitution and By-Laws. However, in the event there is need, a formal protest may be made to the Board of Directors as per Part Two, Article IV, Section III of the Constitution and By-Laws.

c. If a member of the Association brings a legal action against the Association and the Association prevails, the member shall reimburse the Association for all costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the Association in connection with the legal action. **(June 2016)**

## **ARTICLE V: Penalties**

**SECTION I: Expulsion: A school may be expelled:**

- a. **If the superintendent or the principal is not responsible for the administration of the interscholastic activities of his school, or**
- b. **If it refuses to abide by the decisions of the Board.**

**SECTION II: Suspension: A school may be suspended:**

- a. **For playing an ineligible player**
- b. **For failure to fulfill contracts**
- c. **For playing a suspended school or an ineligible non-member school**
- d. **For willful violation of the Constitution, By-Laws or regulations of the Association**



- e. For unduly influencing a student to attend school or by offering or giving any remuneration either directly or indirectly to influence him/her to attend or his/her family to reside in a given district in order to establish the student's eligibility on the team or activities of the school
- f. For failure to submit annual reports
- g. For participating directly or indirectly in the management, supervision, player selection, coaching or promotion of bowl or all-star type athletic contests, or permitting any of its employees to participate in any way directly or indirectly in such a contest if the players have not yet graduated from high school at the time of the contest.

**SECTION III: Forfeit of Games/Contests**

- a. The deliberate or inadvertent use of an ineligible participant in a team sport/fine arts contest shall require the offending school to forfeit the contest(s) in which the ineligible participant participated.
- b. The deliberate or inadvertent use of an ineligible participant in individual sports/contests shall require the offending school to forfeit the matches won and/or points earned by the ineligible participant or by a relay team of which he/she was a member. The points contributed by an ineligible participant to his/her team score shall be deleted, and the contest score as well as any affected placements will be adjusted according to the rules of that sport.
- c. A school may be required to forfeit games for other violations of the Constitution, By-Laws or regulations of the Association. (Jan. 2008)

**SECTION IV: Forfeit of Championship Rights: A school may be required to forfeit championship rights:**

- a. For playing ineligible players in any District, Regional or State Tournament or play-off, or;
- b. For any violation of the Constitution, By-Laws or regulations of the Association.

**INTERPRETATIONS SECTIONS - I, II, III & IV of Article V - Penalties**

These sections list the four possible penalties that may be applied to a member school for violations of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association and the conditions under which these penalties may be applied. These penalties are expulsion, suspension, forfeit of games, forfeit of championship rights.

**INTERPRETATIONS SECTION III a: Team Sports/Fine Arts Contests**

- Art V - Sec IIIa a. Sports such as soccer, football, hockey, volleyball, basketball, softball and baseball are classified as team sports for the enforcement of Section III a.
- Art V - Sec IIIa b. Fine arts contests, such as plays, are included in Section III a.
- Art V - Sec IIIa c. If the infraction occurs during a tournament, including a state championship, the offending school shall be replaced by its most recently defeated opponent. Opponents defeated/eliminated prior to the most recently defeated opponent shall not be entitled to relief other than an adjustment of any affected final placement.
- Art V - Sec IIIa d. Team and/or individual awards shall be returned to the event sponsor.
- Art V - Sec IIIa e. Team and/or individual records and performances shall be nullified
- Art V - Sec IIIa f. The use of an ineligible participant in team sports/contests will require the participant to sit out the next regular scheduled contest at that level, in addition to the required forfeiture of the contest. If an individual exceeds daily participation limitations, the primary coach will be suspended for the next regular scheduled contest, not the individual. (Jun 17)
- Art V - Sec IIIa g. Self-reported violations during the tournament will be dealt with immediately.
- Art V - Sec IIIa h. Investigations of any allegations involving the use of an ineligible participant will not take place until after completion of the tournament. (Jan. 2008)

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION III b: Individual Sports/Contests**

- Art V - Sec IIIb a. Sports such as cross country, wrestling, gymnastics, swimming and diving, track and field, golf and tennis are classified as individual sports for the enforcement of Section III b.

- Art V - Sec IIIb b. Fine arts activities such as debate, speech, student congress and music are included in Section III b.
- Art V - Sec IIIb c. If the infraction occurs during a tournament, including a state championship, the ineligible participant shall be replaced by his/her most recently defeated opponent or the next highest finisher. Contestants defeated/eliminated prior to the most recently defeated opponent shall not be entitled to relief other than an adjustment of any affected final placement.
- Art V - Sec IIIb d. Individual awards earned by the ineligible participant and team awards, if necessary because of adjustments in the standings, shall be returned to the event sponsor.
- Art V - Sec IIIb e. Individual records and performances by the ineligible participant shall be nullified.
- Art V - Sec IIIb f. The use of an ineligible participant in individual sports/contests will require the participant to sit out the next regular scheduled contest at that level. If an individual exceeds daily participation limitations, the primary coach will be suspended for the next regular scheduled contest, not the individual. **(Jun 17)**
- Art V - Sec IIIb g. Self-reported violations during the tournament will be dealt with immediately.
- Art V - Sec IIIb h. Investigations of any allegations involving the use of an ineligible participant will not take place until after completion of the tournament.

It should also be noted under Part Two, Article IV, Section IV, that a student who violates rules of the Association may be barred from participating in Association contests. **(Jan. 2008)**

## **Article VI: Due Process Procedure**

The following Due Process Procedure shall govern the investigation into alleged or contested violations of the Constitution, By-Laws, or interpretations of the North Dakota High School Activities Association by a member school (party) (see Member Schools Complaint and Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 49 and incorporated by reference), or of appeals made pursuant to Part Two, Article XIV, Section IXb ("hardships") (see Member Schools Hardship Exception Procedure and Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 37 and incorporated by reference) or Section X ("eight semester rule") (see Member Schools Extra Semesters(s) Procedure and Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 38 and incorporated by reference) of the By-Laws. **(Oct. 2011)**

**SECTION I: When admissions of violations occur, penalties may be assessed without regard to these appeal procedures, subject to the right to appeal the penalty assessed.**

**SECTION II: Inasmuch as a protest is not allowed by the NDHSAA when it is based on judgment decisions of officials or misinterpretation or misapplication of playing rules, no investigation which affects the outcome of a contest or the disqualification of players, coaches and other bench personnel shall be conducted into the decisions of contest officials.**

**SECTION III: There is no appeal from a decision of the NDHSAA Executive Secretary concerning issues relating to the conduct of or participation by schools or students in the NDHSAA tournament/post-season activity for that sport.**

**SECTION IV: As used herein unless the context otherwise requires:**

- a. **Party may mean any of the following or a combination thereof:**
  - (1) **Any public or non-public school of North Dakota which is a member of the North Dakota High School Activities Association;**
  - (2) **Any official designated a representative of a public or non-public school of North Dakota which is a member of the North Dakota High School Activities Association;**
  - (3) **Any official, referee, judge or starter who is registered by the North Dakota High School Activities Association. (Disputes regarding officials' conduct and administration of playing rules and contests are not subject to these procedures.)**
- b. **When these rules require the "giving of notice", the notice shall be in writing and shall be mailed, by first class United States mail, to the last known address of the party, or delivered personally.**
- c. **Executive Secretary shall mean the duly appointed and serving Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the North Dakota High School Activities Association.**

- d. The designate of the Executive Secretary shall mean a person duly appointed by the Executive Secretary. Persons eligible to be a designate shall include employees of the North Dakota High School Activities Association, its legal counsel, and all administrators of public or non-public North Dakota Schools which are members of the North Dakota High School Activities Association.
- e. Executive Board shall mean the President, Vice President and one other member of the Board, appointed by the President on a case-by-case basis. If a member of the Executive Board has a conflict of interest, the President (or the Vice President, if the President has a conflict), shall appoint a replacement.
- f. Violation shall mean a breach of the rules and standards set forth in the Constitution, By-Laws, or interpretations promulgated by the North Dakota High School Activities Association.

**SECTION V:** The Executive Secretary or his or her designate may ask the party about whom allegations have been made to conduct an inquiry and report its findings, conclusions and actions to the Executive Secretary. If the party fails to respond or contests the allegations, the Executive Secretary or other designate shall conduct further investigation. Failure of a school to provide the Executive Secretary or designate the documentation deemed necessary by the Executive Secretary to perform a complete investigation under the NDHSAA Constitution Article V, Section IV (g) will result in an immediate requirement that the school show cause before the Executive Board why it is not in violation of the terms of its Membership Application.

**SECTION VI:** The Executive Secretary or designate shall give notice to the party being investigated within a reasonable time.

**SECTION VII:** If a designate conducts the investigation, the designate shall submit a written report to the Executive Secretary which shall contain:

- a. Findings of fact; and
- b. An opinion as to whether a violation has been committed by the party. This written report shall be submitted within a reasonable time after the appointment of the designate. The written report will be in no way binding on the Executive Secretary or the Board of Directors.

**SECTION VIII:** The Executive Secretary, after receiving the written report from his or her designate or after completing the investigation personally, shall prepare a preliminary determination which shall contain:

- a. A statement of the alleged violation;
- b. Findings of fact;
- c. A determination of whether a violation has been committed by the party, and;
- d. If it is determined that a violation has been committed by the party, a request to the Executive Board for a penalty to be imposed.

It is permissible for the Executive Secretary or designates to provide an expanded infractions report on each case appealed.

**SECTION IX:** If the Executive Secretary determines a violation has occurred, the Executive Board shall set the penalty and the Executive Secretary shall provide written notice of the determination to the party charged with the violation, including a statement of the following right to appeal:

- a. If the violation has not been admitted, the Executive Secretary's determination that a violation has occurred may be appealed to the Executive Board (see Section X);
- b. If the violation has not been admitted, the Executive Board's written decision to the party (see Section VIII) may be appealed to the Board of Directors with reference to the determination of the violation or the penalty imposed or both (see Section XIV); or
- c. If the violation has been admitted, the Executive Board's determination as to the penalty may be appealed directly to the Board of Directors; (see Section XIV).

**SECTION X:** A written notice of appeal by a party to the Executive Board must be postmarked or received by the Executive Secretary within fourteen (14) days after notice of the decision is postmarked or personally delivered. The notice of appeal must be addressed to the Executive Secretary.

**SECTION XI:** After receiving a timely and valid notice of appeal, the Executive Secretary or designate shall give notice to the party of the time and place where the appeal will be considered. The appeal shall be at the next meeting of the Executive Board, or if circumstances require, an earlier meeting may be held.

**SECTION XII:** All appeals to the Executive Board shall be in writing and contain all facts pertinent to the case including sufficient data to make it possible to reach a decision without further investigation. An appeal to the Executive Board is not *de novo*. An appearance may be allowed, at the sole discretion of the Executive Board, only if requested in the notice of appeal.

**SECTION XIII:** The Executive Board shall render a written decision to the party within a reasonable time after the meeting and shall publish an account of the appeal in Association meeting minutes setting forth:

- a. Findings of fact;
- b. A determination of whether a violation has been committed by the party; and
- c. The penalty imposed if a violation is found to have occurred.

**SECTION XIV:** A written notice of appeal by a party to the Board of Directors must be postmarked or received by the Executive Secretary within thirty (30) days after notice of the Executive Board's decision is postmarked or personally delivered. The notice of appeal must be addressed to the Executive Secretary.

**SECTION XV:** After receiving a timely and valid notice of appeal, the Executive Secretary or designate shall give notice to the party of the time and place where the appeal will be considered. The appeal shall be at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.

**SECTION XVI:** All appeals to the Board of Directors shall be submitted in writing and contain all facts pertinent to the case, including sufficient data to make it possible to reach a decision without further investigation. An appeal to the Board of Directors will include a hearing, only if requested in the notice of appeal to the Board. Parties are entitled to be represented by legal counsel at their own expense. A hearing, if requested, will be conducted as follows:

- a. The Chairperson of the Association may act as the hearing officer or may appoint a hearing officer to preside over the hearing.
- b. At the beginning of the hearing, the hearing officer will identify and clarify the factual matters agreed upon by the parties and the issues which are contested.
- c. Written copies of the decision of the Executive Secretary and the Executive Board will be entered into evidence.
- d. The Executive Secretary may provide testimony, subject to cross-examination by the opposing party and questioning from the Board.
- e. The appealing party may present additional evidence, including testimony of witnesses, subject to cross-examination by the opposing party and questioning from the Board.
- f. Following completion of all testimony, the parties will each be given an opportunity to make a closing statement, with the Executive Secretary making the first such statement.
- g. After receiving closing statements, the hearing officer shall declare the hearing closed and discussion thereafter shall be limited to members of the Board.

**SECTION XVII:** The Board of Directors shall render a written decision to the party within a reasonable time after its meeting and shall publish an account of the appeal in Association meeting minutes setting forth:

- a. Findings of fact;
- b. A determination of whether a violation has been committed by the party; and

- c. **The penalty imposed if a violation is found to have occurred. The Board of Directors may modify (increase or decrease) or eliminate the penalty [Constitution, Part I, Article V, Section IV (f) and Part II, Article V].**

## **Article VII: Sanctions**

**SECTION I: No member school shall be represented by any team or group in an interscholastic event where more than three schools are represented unless such event shall have received the sanction of the Board.**

### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION I of Article VII - Sanctions**

The NDHSAA Board of Directors has, by board action, "sanctioned" all season events except those requiring NFHS Sanctions as per Interpretations - Section III. Therefore, events with North Dakota schools or North Dakota schools and schools from contiguous states and/or provinces not requiring NFHS sanctioning do not require an application process.

If NFHS sanctioning is required, forms can be obtained from the NDHSAA Office. Sanctions submitted to the NFHS require a fee which is outlined on the form.

**SECTION II: No interscholastic football game shall be played after the Final State Championship has been decided; no interscholastic basketball game or tournament shall be played after the Final State High School Championship game each year.**

### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION II of Article VII - Sanctions**

This section definitely places a final date after which no high school football or basketball games or tournament may be played. This section applies to all member schools and includes any and all high school games which involve pupils from grades 7 through 12. Regulations as to junior high and 7th and 8th grade teams are found in the section of the handbook pertaining to junior high schools.

**SECTION III: In case a contest consists of schools from more than one state, National Federation approval and Association clearance must be secured providing the distance is more than 600 miles round trip, or unless these contests are between nearby schools in interstate conferences or between schools which have regularly competed in such sports during past seasons. Note: (Board Policy includes this to pertain also to music and speech activities.)**

### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION III of Article VII - Sanctions**

NFHS requires sanctioning along with a fee for any of the following events:

- a. Eight or more schools with at least one not being from a bordering state/province.
- b. Five or more states with at least one not being a bordering state/province.
- c. A business sponsors the event.
- d. NFHS sanctioning forms may be obtained from the NDHSAA office.
- e. Contests involving travel over 600 miles round trip must have Association approval. Schools are encouraged to minimize their loss of classroom time.

## **Article VIII: Amateurism**

**SECTION I: All contestants must be amateurs.**

**SECTION II: Professionalism is defined as accepting remuneration, directly or indirectly, for playing on athletic teams or for managing, officiating or playing under assumed names. Reasonable meals, lodging and transportation may be accepted if accepted in service and not in any other way.**

**SECTION III: A student shall be considered as violating his/her amateur standing if he/she participates in athletic activities, tryouts, practices and games held or sponsored by professional athletic organizations, clubs, or their representatives during the season of a sport. This rule shall not apply to activities during the summer vacation.**

**NOTE:** Any employee or school official of a member school who acts as an agent or encourages any negotiations between a student and representatives of Organized Baseball prior to the student's graduation is violating the agreement between the National Federation and Organized Baseball. Such action on the part of any employee or school official may cause his/her school to be suspended from the Association for a period of time to be determined by the Board.

Any evidence that a representative of Organized Baseball is attempting to, or has signed a student prior to graduation, should be reported to the Secretary at once. This is a violation of the agreement between the National Federation and Organized Baseball, and penalty for such action is under the jurisdiction of Organized Baseball.

**SECTION IV: No high school student shall be eligible to participate in any interschool contest or activity under the rules of the Association if it shall be shown that he/she or any member of his/her family is receiving or has received any remuneration, either directly or indirectly, to influence him/her or his/her family to reside in a given school district or to attend any given school in order to establish eligibility on the team or organizations of said school, and any school permitting such participation shall, upon satisfactory evidence, be suspended from membership in the Association for a term of not less than a year.**

**This rule shall not interfere with the right of high school pupils to work during vacation or during out-of-school hours in order to pay their way through school. It shall apply to the use of funds created by gift or by subscription with the intent of offering them or parts of them for the free use of the student or any member of his/her family as an inducement to secure their attendance at said school and to become eligible for participation in the activities thereof.**

**SECTION V: Reinstatement of amateur status: A high school student who has violated his/her amateur standing according to the rules and By-Laws of the Association may apply for reinstatement as an amateur to the Board one calendar year after the date he/she was declared ineligible on account of the violation, provided he/she has been in school throughout the year.**

**Such application shall be in writing and shall be signed by the student and superintendent or principal, and shall certify that one calendar year has elapsed since the student was declared ineligible, and that the student has not violated amateur rules during that calendar year.**

#### **INTERPRETATIONS SECTIONS I, II, III, IV & V of Article VIII - Amateurism**

Please note that this Article attempts to define and distinguish between amateurism and professionalism. This section applies specifically to athletic contests and is not applicable to music and speech events. This particular section is in the By-Laws to protect a student in his/her high school days and also to deter him/her from committing an act which could affect his/her amateur standing as a prospective college athlete.

### **Article IX: Awards**

**SECTION I: A student activities participant may not accept monetary compensation in recognition of activities ability, participation and/or achievement. (Oct. 16)**

**NOTE:** The giving and receiving of awards with the consent and under the supervision of the superintendent and/or principal concerned shall mean that the supervising official of each school shall have real control and supervision without pressure of any kind from outside persons or groups of persons.

**SECTION II: A student may accept non-monetary compensation or items of value solely in recognition of activities ability, participation and/or achievement if the total monetary compensation or items of value including the actual value of any gift certificate (so long as they are not convertible to cash), discounts, coupons, etc., does not exceed the amount set by the NDHSAA Board of Directors during the Association year (July 1 – June 30). (Oct. 16)**

#### **INTERPRETATIONS SECTION I & II of Article IX – Awards**

Art IX - Sec I & II .a. All awards must be kept within reasonable bounds. Individual awards are limited to those that do not exceed the amount set by the NDHSAA Board of Directors (\$300.00). (Jan. 2016)

**SECTION III: Non-monetary compensation or items of value does not include customary awards of symbolic nature without resale value such as the school's athletic letter, medals, ribbons, certificates, plaques, trophies and other emblems, provided the cost of the award does not exceed the amount set by the NHDSAA Board of Directors. (Oct. 16)**

**NOTE:** This rule does not regulate or prohibit compensation received by a student for ability, participation and/or achievement in a non-NDHSAA sponsored sport or activity, nor does this rule prohibit the acceptance of college scholarships by students.

**INTERPRETATIONS SECTION III of Article IX - Awards**

Art IX - Sec III .a. All awards must be given with the consent and approval of the superintendent or principal concerned.

Art IX - Sec III .b. Schools or conferences of schools may give awards provided they conform to items one and two above.

**SECTION IV: A coach or director is responsible for reporting to the school's athletic/activities director all compensation or items of value received by the students on that coach/director's team within one month of the receipt of the compensation or items of value. School administration is responsible for verifying that the total sum of compensation or items of value received by each student participant at that school does not exceed the retail value amount set in Section II. (Oct. 16)**

**SECTION V: The NDHSAA Board shall have authority to designate, give and control medals and trophies to be awarded to schools or individuals on championship teams in any sport or activity, provided that these awards are kept within the bounds of Section III. (Oct. 16)**

**INTERPRETATIONS SECTION V of Article IX - Awards**

Art IX - Sec V .a. No award may be given or accepted that in any way advertises any firm or individual business product.

**SECTION VI: Penalties for violations of the above rules may be suspension of the school and ineligibility of the individual who accepts the award. (Oct. 16)**

**INTERPRETATIONS SECTION VI of Article IX - Awards**

Art IX - Sec VI .a. No cash awards are permissible. Scholarships which are deposited with the college for the student are permissible awards.

## **Article X: Qualifications of Coaches**

**SECTION I: It is highly recommended local school boards hire coaches or activity advisors who are trained to be a certified teacher or possess a valid certificate.**

**NOTE:** Head coaches are required to complete mandatory clinics in sports and fine arts activities for which clinics are conducted. Penalty for failure to complete a regular clinic shall result in a \$50.00 fine assessed to the school for each offense for said school year.

A fine for a given activity must be paid prior to the school being allowed to participate in that NDHSAA sponsored post-season event. (June 2012)

## **Article XI: Officials**

**SECTION I: The major officials in all interschool contests shall be on the registered list of officials of the Association provided, however, that the Executive Secretary or his assistants may, in case of emergency, grant a member school a waiver of this requirement. The Board shall designate who will be defined as major officials.**

**SECTION II: The Board shall adopt the procedures for the registration of officials, shall set and establish rules and procedures for advancement and classification of officials, and shall set and establish rules, procedures and conditions for disciplining officials, including but not limited to the remedies of revocation of registration, or the suspension or probation of officials.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTIONS I & II of Article XI - Officials**

- Art XI - Sec I & II .a. Rules clinics are put on by the NDHSAA Assistants to the Executive Secretary and held seasonally either online or at locations across the state. Each year tests for each sport are administered to officials on specifically assigned dates. All schools are required to use registered officials in all high school games in the major sports provided in Part Two, Article XI of the By-Laws of the Association. It is also recommended that registered officials be used for grade or junior high games. In order to remain on the Officials' Listing, every official must complete a mandatory rules clinic and take the officials test each year in the sport or sports registered, provided such a test is mandatory. Officiating workshops are provided in baseball, football, basketball, hockey, gymnastics, softball and volleyball by the NDHSAA. Attendance at certain workshops is required relative to each official's classification. All registered officials are required to complete a Concussion Management Course.
- Art XI - Sec I & II .b. Major officials are interpreted as referee, umpire, field judge and head linesman in football, meet referee, starter and diving referee in swimming, referees in basketball, umpires in baseball and softball, referees and linesmen in hockey and soccer, referee in wrestling, gymnastic judges and referee and umpire in volleyball.
- Art XI - Sec I & II .c. Under Board regulations, all schools must use only registered officials in all interscholastic contests with member schools.
- Art XI - Sec I & II .d. All officials who wish to improve themselves in service will be given ample opportunity to do so through the Association program of clinics, tests, workshops and online courses.
- Art XI - Sec I & II .e. A maximum pay scale has been adopted by the Board of Directors.

**Article XII: Athletic Pre-Participation Health History Screening and Physical Examination**

**SECTION I: Prior to participation (including practice), a student participating in NDHSAA sanctioned athletic activities and representing his/her school must have on file with the superintendent, principal, athletic director or school nurse an annual NDHSAA-approved Athletic Pre-Participation Health History Screening and Physical Examination form completed by a qualified health care professional (i.e. Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant under the supervision of a physician); the Athletic Pre-Participation Health History Screening and Physical Examination is valid for one school year; a physical examination completed before April 15 is not valid for participation the following school year. (October 2010)**

**FORM:** A physical examination is required by a Medical Doctor, Doctor of Osteopathy, Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant. The front page (the health history screening) is to be completed by the student and parent/guardian. The back of the physical examination form is to be completed by the individual conducting the physical examination.

**INTERPRETATIONS SECTION I of Article XII – Athletic Pre-Participation Health History Screening and Physical Examination**

- Art XII - Sec I .a. This Article requires a physical examination as stated in Article XII of all prospective athletes. Parental consent is required before any athlete is permitted to participate in high school athletics. The purpose of this section of the By-Laws is to protect the athlete from undiscovered physical weaknesses, which might be aggravated by strenuous physical activity and also to protect the school administration from possible legal action charging negligence in permitting participation without a doctor's certificate of fitness. School administrators will keep records of the physical



examination and parental consent on their files.

### **Article XIII: Sports Seasons**

**SECTION I: All NDHSAA sponsored interscholastic activities shall be governed by regulations as established by the NDHSAA Board of Directors. (July 2005)**

### **Article XIV: Rules of Eligibility**

**SECTION I: A student shall have been in attendance as many school days as he/she missed at the opening of the semester, should his/her enrollment not have been made at the opening of the semester, providing however that he/she shall have made such enrollment and begun regular class work prior to the 11th day of the semester. NOTE:** If a student is enrolled in a National Guard summer program approved by the Department of Public Instruction and is not released until after the 11th day of the first semester, the student is immediately eligible in his/her home school if he/she enrolls immediately upon discharge from the Guard program. (Must adhere to practice regulations.) A school approved home bound program shall be interpreted as regular class work.

**NOTE ON HOME-BASED SCHOOL:** The 1989 North Dakota State Legislature passed a law that permits home-based education. Basically, this law allows children to be taught at home by their parents if all the provisions of the law are followed.

The 1999 and 2001 legislature amended this provision as follows:

Home education - Participation in extracurricular activities.

1. A child receiving home education may participate in extracurricular activities either:
  - a. Under the auspices of the child's school district of residence; or
  - b. Under the auspices of an approved non-public school, if permitted by the administrator of the school.
2. For purposes of this section, a child participating under the auspices of the child's school district of residence is subject to the same standards for participation in extracurricular activities as those required of full-time students enrolled in the district.
3. For purposes of this section, a child participating under the auspices of an approved non-public school is subject to the same standards for participation in extracurricular activities as those required of full-time students enrolled in the school.
4. Once a child's parent has selected the public school district or the approved non-public school in which the child will participate for purposes of extracurricular activities, and has provided notification of the selection through the statement required by section 15.1-23-02 in N.D. Century Code, the child is subject to the transfer rules as provided in the Constitution and By-Laws of the North Dakota High School Activities Association.

The responsibility of checking on the eligibility of students involved in home-based instruction is that of the school in which the student is participating in the co-curricular activities program. It is recommended that each school develop a form to be used in checking eligibility of all students including home-based students.

#### **INTERPRETATIONS SECTION I of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

- Art XIV - Sec I .a. This rule is designed to lend every encouragement for the student to begin school on the first day of school and to discourage students from staying out for varied reasons until the interscholastic season gets under way. Fundamentally, it is intended to see that students do not straggle in over a period of time. If for good and valid reasons a student cannot begin school promptly at the opening of the semester, the rule provides that he/she cannot represent his/her school in an interscholastic contest until he/she has attended as many days as he/she has missed.
- Art XIV - Sec I .b. It is not the intent of this rule that a student can register in the spring or at a pre-school registration date and then fail to attend classes and still comply with this rule. His/her actual presence in classes is implied.
- Art XIV - Sec I .c. Further, the rule requires that a student must enroll and attend regular class work before the 11th day of the semester in order to be eligible for any interscholastic competition during the semester.

- Art XIV-Sec I: 1. Q: What constitutes enrollment?  
A: Enrollment means actually having attended one or more classes in a school in addition to the appearance of a student's name on the school records.
- Art XIV-Sec I: 2. Q: Is it not the purpose of the rule to permit "enrollment" the first day as a protection or evidence of good faith after which a student may be absent for several days or weeks without the application of this rule, assuming he/she may have work to do or other logical or legitimate reasons?  
A: No, such is not the intent of the rule. The rule merely means that in the event a student does not start school normally, i.e. on the first day of school, he/she must be in school at least as many days as he/she has missed in order to have a fair chance to "catch up" with his/her studies, and in addition to "make-up work", total attendance since enrollment must at least equal absence prior to enrollment.
- Art XIV-Sec I: 3. Q: For certain valid reasons a student is unable to attend school the first week of school and enrolls and attends classes the following Monday? When can the student become eligible to represent his/her school?  
A: If a student has been out for five days, he/she must attend classes for an equal number of days and could become eligible at 4:00 p.m. or the usual closing hour of the fifth day of attendance.
- Art XIV-Sec I: 4. Q: A student misses the first week of school and enrolls the following Monday after school has been in session one week. He/she attends Monday and Tuesday but is absent Wednesday and Thursday. When is he/she eligible under the rule?  
A: Since this student missed five days of school before enrolling and beginning classes, he/she must be in attendance a minimum of five days before becoming eligible under this rule and hence the earliest possible date would be after school on the following Tuesday. In addition he/she must make up back work and be passing as prescribed under Article XIV, Section IV.
- Art XIV-Sec I: 5. Q: Because of farm work or some other valid reason, a student cannot begin class work until school has been in session for three weeks, when does he/she become eligible under this rule?  
A: Since school has been in session for more than 10 days, he/she cannot become eligible for interscholastic competition for the entire semester.
- Art XIV-Sec I: 6. Q: A student is prevented from enrolling the first day of school by sickness or other apparently legitimate excuse and being detained from school has books at home and studies faithfully, keeping pace with his/her classes. When he/she does enter school, takes some tests and proves that the work is "up", is he/she then immediately eligible?  
A: Article XIV, Section I is not to be confused with Article XIV, Section IV. This is an attendance rule. Either he/she did or did not start school the first day as pupils are supposed to do. In the event that he/she did not, then he/she must be in attendance as many days as he/she missed before becoming eligible.
- Art XIV-Sec I: 7. Q: In our school we have registration in the spring in preparing for the opening of classes in the fall. Does not this administrative procedure then relieve a pupil who is already enrolled in the spring but delays in entering school the first day or so of school in the fall from the application of the rule?  
A: No. The first day of school so to be taken literally, and whatever is expected of other students in the school must be expected of this particular student. No special provisions can be made for the athlete or other students who may participate in interscholastic contests.
- Art XIV-Sec I: 8. Q: A student who began the school year in school **A** moves with his/her parents to town **B** in October or November and enrolled in the high school of town **B** upon arrival in his/her new home. School **B** had already been in session for several weeks. Does this student come under this rule and must he/she attend as many days as he/she was out before becoming eligible?  
A: Since this student regularly enrolled and attended school prior to the change of residence, he/she has met the requirements of this rule and can be immediately eligible as far as Section I is concerned.

Art XIV-Sec I: 9. Q: Suppose a student living in town **A** knows his/her parents plan to move to town **B** within a few weeks and therefore decided not to enter the local high school. The parents move to the new town and the student begins attending his/her new high school three weeks after the school has opened. How does Section I affect this student?

A: Since this student did not enroll in any high school by the 11th day of the school term, he/she would not be eligible for the entire semester. If this student enrolls after the opening of the term but before the 11th day, he/she would have to attend as many days as missed before becoming eligible.

Art XIV-Sec I: 10. Q: May a student involved in home-based education be eligible for NDHSAA sponsored activities?

A: Yes. The legislature has ruled that a student is eligible in the student's school district of residence or at an approved non-public school, if permitted by the school administration. However, once the student's parent selects either the child's school district of residence or an approved nonpublic school, the NDHSAA transfer rules apply. The transfer rules apply to students involved in home-based education the same as they apply to students who elect to attend a public school or an approved nonpublic school.

**SECTION II: A student shall not compete for more than four seasons in any one branch of interscholastic contests, provided that competition while in the seventh, and/or eighth grade shall not constitute one of the four seasons.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION II of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

Art XIV - Sec II .a. This rule permits the normal high school youngster to compete each season in interscholastic contests for the four years in high school, if he/she has the ability to become a member of the team. It is designed to prevent an unusually good student from remaining in a school an extra semester in order to have additional competition. There is no way in which a student may play for more than four seasons after he/she qualifies as a high school student.

Art XIV - Sec II .b. A season is to be interpreted as any part of any game however unimportant, on any team representing the high school, whether first, second, or third team. Entrance into a game as a regular or substitute player for one minute, for a quarter, or a half, or for any period of time must be counted as a season.

Art XIV - Sec II .c. Under the terms of this rule any participation while in the seventh and eighth grade is not counted. Only that participation from the ninth grade up is to be construed as coming under this rule. Thus, a seventh or an eighth grader could possibly play for more than four years on a high school team, but never more than four years after reaching the ninth grade.

Art XIV - Sec II .d. This rule further implies that pupils below the seventh grade are not eligible to become a member of a high school team and represent the high school in any athletic contest. (See Question 4, page 23.) It should also be understood that a season in a given sport may overlap two semesters. Thus basketball is an activity, which covers a portion of two semesters. Playing on a team in either semester of a given year is considered a season of the sport of basketball.

Art XIV - Sec II .e. The Board has ruled that Part Two, Article XIV, Section II, concerning participation of pupils below the seventh grade does not apply to elementary pupils in such group events as bands, orchestras and choruses. All other eligibility rules listed in Part Two, Article XIV, apply equally to all students.

Art XIV-Sect II: 1. Q: Under what conditions may a student play more than four years in any sport?

A: Only by playing a part of the time as a grade student. Four years is the maximum time a student may play after reaching the ninth grade.

Art XIV-Sect II: 2. Q: May a student play on the high school team if he/she is in the seventh or eighth grade?

A: This is possible under this rule but the assumption is that the practice of playing seventh or eighth graders will be limited to the small school where available participant numbers may be limited. In schools maintaining grades 7-8-9 as a unit, competition in those grades between other Junior Highs within the city and nearby

- area is recommended, rather than encouraging children at the Junior High School level to seek membership on the regular high school team. If a junior high student is elevated and participates in high school competition they shall be able to move back to junior high competition. Care should be exercised that dual participation on two school teams does not result in "over" participation. Individual and team limits as spelled out in sport/activity regulations shall be administered. School administrators and coaches who permit this dual participation must assume the responsibility of preventing over-participation.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 3. Q: Does this rule mean that pupils below the seventh grade cannot play in inter-school athletics?  
A: No. The High School Activities Association is a 7-12 organization and its authority does not normally extend below the seventh grade. See Question 4.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 4. Q: Are there any conditions under which a fifth or sixth grader may be a member of a high school team?  
A: No, not under the present rules and regulations. However, it is possible for him/her to be a member of a junior high team if the enrollment in grades 7 and 8 is not over fifty (50) with the exception of football and wrestling. The total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 5. Q: Are there any conditions under which a ninth grader may not be properly played on a high school team so far as this rule is concerned?
- Art XIV-Sect II: 6. A: In those cities maintaining several junior high schools and more than one high school, junior high students are only eligible at the high school which they would normally attend upon completion of junior high.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 7. Q: If conditions are such - perhaps entirely legitimate and not within his/her control - that he/she cannot graduate within four years, may he/she play for a fifth season?  
A: No, although additional semesters of eligibility may be granted, there are no conditions under which a student may compete for more than four seasons in any one particular sport after entering high school.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 8. Q: May a student play three seasons in football and three seasons in basketball?  
A: Yes. A student may participate in as many "branches of inter-high school contests" as his/her ability and the school administration permit. But in each specific branch he/she is limited to the number of seasons as stated here.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 9. Q: During his/her freshman year a student does not play on the high school team until the second semester, hence he/she has not played a full season. May he/she subsequently play an extra semester?  
A: No. The question is based on an erroneous idea of "season". Note in **Interpretations – Section II** the definition of "season". Playing for any time at all, even part of a quarter, in a game even on the second team or other less important high school team, in any game however unimportant, just so long as it is representing a high school, must constitute one of these seasons.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 10. Q: Does participation on a class team in an intramural game or tournament count under this rule as one of the "seasons"?  
A: No. Intramural games do not come under this rule. However, if a "class team" or any other team were to play an interscholastic game or play elsewhere representing themselves as a "school team", this would be considered participation for a "season". As long as the play is limited definitely to "intramural", there is no problem under this rule.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 11. Q: Does participation on any sub varsity team count as a season?  
A: Yes. No matter what the team, nor what the game, nor how brief the time, participation on any team in any game representing the school constitutes a "season" in the meaning of this rule.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 12. Q: A student is taking two high school subjects and finishing up his/her eighth grade work. If he/she plays on the high school team, will this count as eighth grade participation since he/she has not yet finished his/her eighth grade, or will it count as one of his/her four high school seasons?  
A: The Board has ruled that a student must be taking four or more high school subjects for it to count as a semester of high school eligibility.

- Art XIV-Sect II: 13. Q: If a student does not participate in football, may he be allowed an extra season of basketball?  
A: No. Each sport season is a unit entirely by itself.
- Art XIV-Sect II: 14. Q: If a student plays as a "substitute" taking part only briefly in a game. Does this count as a "season"?  
A: Yes, the length of time, or frequency, or skills of his/her playing are not factors at all in the application of this rule.

**SECTION III:**

- a. **A student shall not have participated in a similar athletic contest during the same sports season as a member of any other than a high school team nor as an unattached individual in non-school contests during the high school season in that sport and the penalty for this violation shall be loss of eligibility from the date of the infraction for six contests for each violation in that sport. A school may petition the Board of Directors for exemptions from provisions of this section on behalf of a talented student involving competition with U. S. Olympic or International ramifications.**
- b. **Students who have participated in athletics representing a member school and who have not yet graduated from high school shall not compete on an "all-star" team, or in an "all-star" game, contest, or meet during the school year in sports sponsored by the Association. An "all-star" team includes, but is not limited to, the Shrine All-Star Football Teams, the Lions All-Star Basketball Teams, and the Optimists All-Star Volleyball Teams. Violation of this regulation shall result in loss of eligibility of the student for a period of one year from the date of the last violation. Nothing in this regulation shall prohibit any student from participating as an unattached individual or as a member of a non-school team in these sports during the off-season for that sport in the school term, providing the contest is not "all-star" in character. (Jan. 2008)**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION III of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

- Art XIV - Sec III .a. There are several justifications for this rule. In the first place, it is designed to prevent an over-indulgence in a given sport by seeking membership on several teams during a sports season. Without such a rule, it would be comparatively easy for an ambitious student to join up with several teams at the same time. Every town now has several teams such as Church, Sunday school teams, scout teams, YMCA teams, and independent teams.
- Art XIV - Sec III .b. The rule is further designed to assist the school and coach to guide and advise the student with no interference from outside teams; and further, to give some degree of assurance to the coach that his/her instructions will not be interfered with or modified by other coaches during the time students are under his/her charge.
- Art XIV - Sec III .c. The rule further specifies the penalty for violation of the rule.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 1. Q: What is the penalty to a student who plays on another team other than a school team in a particular sport?  
A: If he/she does so during the high school season for that sport, he/she loses his/her eligibility for six games or the remainder of the season if less than six games remain. However, if he/she does so prior to the start of the high school season for that sport or after the close of the high school season, there is no penalty.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 2. Q: May students play on an independent or non-school team during the basketball season and then in the spring be a member of the track team or baseball team?  
A: If a student is not a member of any high school basketball team that represents the school in a contest, he/she could play on some non-school basketball team such as a recreational team, 4-H Team, or an independent team with no penalty.  
If the student represents the school on any team, whether first or second, "B" team, Junior High team, or any team, he/she cannot play on any other non-school team in that sport except as explained under question 27.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 3. Q: Is there any exception to the application of this rule?  
A: Yes. By special Board of Director's ruling a student may play on the Junior American Legion Baseball Team or Babe Ruth Team and also be a member of the high school

- baseball team. This action is justified on the grounds that the high school baseball season extends into the summer and the American Legion program begins shortly before school closes.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 4. Q: May a student play a few games, maybe just one, on some other team than the high school team and still be eligible to play on the high school team?
- A: No. During the entire school season of a sport, he/she must not participate in any game on ANY OTHER than a regular high school team except intramural school teams. The rule applies to his/her playing regularly or even incidentally in many games or in part of one game on any independent team or city team, or scout team, or YMCA team, Sunday School team, or Church, or lodge or club team, or country league team, or "brothers" team, or any other team.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 5. Q: Five brothers made up a brothers' team to play a special game during the Christmas holidays when there was no school in session. Two of the boys are on the high school team. Is this all right?
- A: No. Such play would make the high school boys ineligible for their high school team for they have "participated in a similar contest during the same school sports season as a member of some team other than their high school team".
- Art XIV-Sect III: 6. Q: A group of college students, home for the holidays, make up a team by adding two or three high school students and play several games on a tour. Does this affect the standing of the high school students who are regular members of the high school team?
- A: Yes. It makes them ineligible under this rule.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 7. Q: Last year a student played on an independent team. Does this affect his/her eligibility this school year?
- A: No. The rule applies only for the given school year.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 8. Q: A student played on an independent baseball team last spring. Does this affect his football playing this fall?
- A: No. The penalty would only be loss of eligibility for the school baseball team that spring.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 9. Q: What is meant by participation?
- A: Taking part for any length of time, however brief, even substituting for a minute or two in one or more interscholastic games or contests constitutes participation. A player in uniform on the bench has not participated unless he actually enters the game.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 10. Q: What constitutes a game or contest in athletics and what is a scrimmage?
- A: As early as 1933 the Board of Control set up a series of characteristics or tests, the presence of any of which would constitute a contest.
1. Previous advertising or announcement
  2. Score and time periods kept
  3. Spectators present definitely for the purpose of the game and not merely incidental "happen-to-be-there-people"
  4. Contest regularly officiated without interruptions for coaching
  5. Admission charged
  6. Account of the game in local or other paper
- ii. It certainly is not intended that schools can hold "actual" games and camouflage them as "scrimmages". Any time a school meets another school and engages in play under regular playing conditions, keeping score, or otherwise playing under game conditions, it must be considered a contest. It is not necessary to make a charge for admissions or have spectators present.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 11. Q: A student is not eligible for the high school team the first semester and plays on an independent or some other basketball team. Will this affect his/her eligibility for basketball the second semester?
- A: Yes. He/she cannot be made eligible for the second semester for under this rule he/she has participated on some other than a high school team during the same sports season. His/her first semester ineligibility gives him/her no special privileges.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 12. Q: Does this rule prohibit participation in intramural sports?
- A: No, for such teams would be "high school teams" as approved by the rule.

- Art XIV-Sect III: 13. Q: If a player on any team representing the high school plays a game against some other team, does it matter if some of the students on the reserve or team are not eligible?  
A: Yes. The given high school must not be represented at any time in any contest of any kind against any contestant of whatever nature, unless the representatives of that given high school are all fully eligible in every respect.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 14. Q: Early in the fall before the volleyball season has started, may a student play with some other than a school team, provided she severs all connections with this team as soon as the school season opens?  
A: Yes, however if she continues to play with the non-school team after the opening of the school season, she loses her eligibility for the school team in that sport for six contests for each violation.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 15. Q: Our County promotes a 4-H Basketball Tournament and a student is a member of the 4-H Club and also a member of the high school basketball squad. Is there any way in which he/she can participate in a county 4-H tournament?  
A: Yes, only if the 4-H tournament is held prior to the beginning of the high school season or after the high school season schedule is completed and the team disbanded for the year.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 16. Q: May a student participate as an unattached individual in an AAU or college invitational indoor track meet in December or January?  
A: Yes, however participation in such meets after the opening of the school track season results in loss of eligibility in that sport for six contests for each violation.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 17. Q: May a student participate in a non-school golf tourney after the beginning of season in the fall?  
A: As Class A boys' and Class B boys' and girls' golf is a spring sport, they would be allowed to participate in such a tourney since this is not during the school season for the sport. However, Class A girls would not be permitted to do so during their fall season. Exception: Participation in a local club tourney confined to club members only is allowed. Also a tournament that is a result of advancement in Junior Golf. Also see Part Three, page1, #2.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 18. Q: May students participate in a non-school golf tourney in the spring or summer months?  
A: Class A boys and Class B girls and boys would no longer be permitted to play on the school team if they take part in such a meet prior to the end of the season; however, Class A girls could participate in such a tourney with no loss of eligibility. Any participant may enter such tournaments during the summer months, providing they do not violate the amateur rule.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 19. Q: If a student runs on his/her own all winter, would he/she be in violation of the rule for starting practice prior to the beginning of the track season?  
A: No, providing the coach or school does not mandate out of season student participation.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 20. Q: May a (a) cross-country runner or (b) track and field participant enter a community road race during the respective high school season in each of the sports?  
A: (a) No, (b) Yes. A road race has been interpreted as being the same as cross-country, but not the same as track and field competition.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 21. Q: May students enter a non-school wrestling meet after the close of the high school season or play on a non-school basketball team after the date of the final game of the last state tournament?  
A: Yes, providing they do so on their own.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 22. Q: The gymnastics season ends before the basketball season is over. Are gymnastic teams permitted to put on exhibition performances for half-time entertainment at basketball games after the close of the gymnastics season?  
A: Yes, however formal coaching by the school coach shall be discontinued at the end of the gymnastics season.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 23. Q: May a student take part in a club gymnastics program or participate in non-school meets after the close of the high school season and be eligible for spring sports?  
A: Yes, however she would have to do so as an unattached individual or as a member of a non-school team.

- Art XIV-Sect III: 24. Q: Are high school basketball players permitted to compete in a school "Class" tourney following the close of the regular season?
- A: Yes, this is strictly within the local school system, providing there is no formal instruction after said date and such tourney is held as part of the regular physical education or intramural program with no public attendance or admission charged.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 25. Q: May a student play on some out-of-school basketball team between the close of the school schedule and the date for the final game of the last state tournament?
- A: Technically, this would make him/her ineligible for school basketball the rest of the season but since that individual's school schedule is over, there is no penalty.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 26. Q: (a) May a school sponsor a "benefit" basketball game after the close of the season between high school students or (b) may a school participate in a "donkey" basketball game after the close of the season?
- A: (a) A school is not permitted to field a team in any sport after the close of the season for competition against other schools or teams consisting of personnel other than the student body except by special permission of the NDHSAA. These "benefit" contests must strictly adhere to NDHSAA guidelines which include:
1. Fundraiser for uniforms, equipment, etc.
  2. Raise money for community member in need
  3. Promote the activities program(s), school or community.
- B: (b) "Donkey" basketball is not considered as a basketball game under this rule, so participation in such a contest would not be a violation of the rule.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 27. Q: May a student play one game a week in a church or city league program during the regular season?
- A: No. If he/she does so, he/she loses his/her eligibility for the high school team.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 28. Q: Do these regulations apply to members of the varsity team only?
- A: No. All regulations apply to members of any team which participates in interscholastic contests, whether they are members of the varsity, junior varsity, B or junior high team.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 29. Q: What is the penalty if a school starts organized practice prior to the beginning of that sports season?
- A: This is a violation of one of the By-Laws and a school may be placed on probation, suspended or expelled from the Association for such a violation.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 30. Q: May a member of a school district's coaching staff in that sport hold practice sessions during June and July with students from that district?
- A: No. The coach may only have contact with his/her school's students during a contest or during a camp.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 31. Q: The junior high coach has been asked to coach the school's varsity team at an out of season tournament in April. Is this legal?
- A: Yes. However, no member of the high school staff could coach this team.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 32. Q: Could a school track team enter a summer track meet without penalty?
- A: No. A school cannot enter a team in such a meet, nor can a group of students compete in such a meet under the name of the school or use school uniforms; however, students from a certain high school can enter on their own or as members of a city recreation or similar team. If a school enters a team, that school is subject to suspension from the Association.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 33. Q: May the high school coach give some members of the football team a football to take home during the summer months so that they can get some practice?
- A: Yes. This is not a violation of rules.
- Art XIV-Sect III: 34. Q: May a member of a high school girls' basketball coaching staff coach a boys' out-of-season basketball team?
- A: No, with the exception of the June/July regulation. (Part III) During June and July, coaches of team sports (basketball, football, hockey, soccer and volleyball) from a NDHSAA member school's coaching staff in that sport (Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Boys' and Girls' Hockey, and Boys' and Girls' Soccer are each interpreted as one sport) (**Aug. 2004**)
- Art XIV-Sect III: 35. Q: Are the eligibility rules of the Association for athletic events only?



A: Most of the eligibility rules apply to all interscholastic events. However, some of the rules apply specifically to athletics.

Part Two, Article XIV, Section III, which deals with membership on out-of-school organizations applies only to athletics. It is possible for a member of a high school band or choir to be a member of an out of school organization of a similar nature and still be eligible to represent the school in music contests and festivals. It is a common practice for high school musicians to participate in church or community choirs or musical groups and certainly it would be ill-advised and impractical to apply this rule to music and speech participants.

Art XIV-Sect III: 36. Q: May the Board of Directors grant a school's request for an exemption from provisions of this section after a student has competed in a competition with U.S. Olympic or International ramifications?

A: No. Board of Directors permission is necessary prior to any competition; otherwise the penalty for violation of the rule must be applied. **(May 2017)**

Art XIV-Sect III: 37. Q: May a student participate in a skills contest (free throw; punt, pass, and kick; drive, chip, and putt, etc.) or a randomly drawn halftime contest during the season?

A. Local school policy will determine whether or not participation in non-school skills contests or randomly drawn halftime contests during the season is permitted. Variations of a sport due to numbers or surface are not considered skills contests (3 on 3 basketball, beach volleyball, 7 on 7 football, slow pitch softball, fustal, etc.) and participation in such events shall result in penalty. **(Nov. 2017)**

**SECTION IV: Students must be making satisfactory progress toward the school's requirements for graduation. The school where the student is fully enrolled and regularly attends shall determine satisfactory progress. Failure to acquire two and one half credits at the end of a semester will make him/her ineligible for a minimum of two weeks the following semester. (2015)**

#### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION IV of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

Art XIV-Sec IV: 1. Q: What is meant by fully enrolled?

A: Fully enrolled is the minimum number of credits required by the local school district with the minimum standard being two and one-half credits per semester.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 2. Q: How is satisfactory progress determined?

A: The Association does not set up academic standards for schools. Satisfactory progress is determined by the local school district.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 3. Q: May a student earn credit during the summer to make up failed course(s) from the preceding semester?

A: Summer makeup courses may be accepted as determined by the local school district.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 4. Q: When may a student who is academically ineligible the current semester for not having made adequate progress toward graduation the previous semester be considered eligible for participation?

A: This student becomes eligible exactly two weeks from the first day of the semester. If the first day of the semester falls on a Wednesday, this student shall become eligible at 4:00 p.m. the day prior to the Wednesday two weeks later if passing the current semester. Likewise, if the first day of the semester falls on a Monday, this student shall become eligible at 4:00 p.m. on the Friday, two weeks later. Local schools districts may have higher standards.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 5. Q: What courses count toward the minimum number of credits needed to make satisfactory progress?

A: Approved course credits recorded on a student transcript are allowable as determined by the local school district.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 6. Q: What other information should be considered in determining eligibility:

1. A student entering ninth grade for the first time is immediately eligible for interscholastic competition. Each succeeding semester after the first time in the ninth grade, a student must complete a minimum of two and one half credits and be eligible as determined by the local school district.

2. Thirty days or more of attendance or participation in interscholastic competition within any shorter period constitutes enrollment in any semester.
3. The last semester of attendance need not necessarily be immediately preceding the present semester except under Part II, Article XI, Section X, which states that the seventh and eighth semesters of a student must be consecutive.
4. Jr. High students must be passing all courses to be eligible to participate on a high school team.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 7. Q: Is a high school released from application of the rule if they maintain all of their credits on a unit or trimester basis and do not record credits at the end of a semester?

A: No. All Association rules apply equally to all member schools. The school is responsible for determining a date that will be considered the end of the semester that is approximately halfway through their school year. In order to be eligible to participate in NDHSAA sponsored sports and activities the following semester, each student must have completed at least two and one half credits per local school policy the previous semester of attendance.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 8. Q: Is a fully enrolled ninth grade student who fails to make satisfactory progress and returns as a ninth grade student the following school year eligible to participate immediately just like other ninth grade students?

A: No. This would be his/her third semester in high school.

Art XIV-Sec IV: 9. Q: May a student who is academically ineligible during a semester transfer to another school and be eligible to participate at the new school?

A: A student is academically ineligible for competition at all levels until he/she is determined academically eligible by the local school district in his/her new school.

Art XIV-Sec. IV: 10. Q: What is meant by regularly attends?

A: Regularly attends is the minimum number of classes required by the local school district.

Art XIV-Sec. IV: 11. Q. What if a student maintains a full class load entirely online?

A: A student who maintains a full online class load is ineligible to compete for any NDHSAA member school. During the current semester a student who takes online courses must also physically attend at least one (1) class at his/her NDHSAA member school of attendance in order to be eligible to participate. A student who transitions from an entirely online class load to physical attendance is subject to NDHSAA transfer rules.

**SECTION V: A student shall not be eligible to compete in interscholastic activities after he/she is a high school graduate. Exception: A student eligible for and participating in a spring activity prior to graduation shall remain eligible in that activity until the season is completed. A "graduate" is defined as a student who has received a valid high school diploma from the high school of attendance. (A student shall also not be eligible to compete after having earned credits sufficient to meet graduation requirements unless said credits have been earned in less than eight semesters of school attendance.) (January 2006)**

#### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION V of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

Art XIV - Sec V .a. This rule is primarily to make alumni ineligible for interscholastic competition. As far as this rule is concerned, a student is a graduate regardless of diploma, cap and gown, commencement exercises, or other formalities as soon as he/she has earned credit to meet the simplest graduating course of the high school unless he/she has earned those credits in less than the normal number of semesters. This rule does not contemplate that a student may switch courses within a high school and prolong his/her number of semesters in high school. Thus, he/she cannot graduate from a commercial course and then decide to switch to a scientific, vocational, or a college preparatory course and create a situation where his/her number of semesters are increased and retain his/her eligibility beyond the normal number of semesters.

Art XIV - Sec V .b. Note also that this rule does not penalize the ambitious student who could possibly meet the graduation requirements of a minimum course in less than the normal

- number of semesters. If this student could meet the other eligibility rules, it is possible for him/her to compete after having the normal units required for graduation.
- Art XIV - Sec V .c. A graduate shall be defined as a student who has received a signed high school diploma or equivalent from the high school of attendance, regardless of the number of semesters attended. Accepting the diploma constitutes graduation making the student an alumnus of that school and therefore, no longer eligible for extra-curricular activities or competition at the high school level.
- Art XIV - Sec V: 1. Q: A student completes his/her graduation requirements at the end of the first semester. There is no mid-year graduation. May he/she be considered eligible for the second semester since he/she has not "graduated"?
- A: Yes, as long as he/she has attended less than eight semesters and is taking at least 20 credit hours per week (full credit courses per year 1/2 credit per semester).
- Art XIV - Sec V: 2. Q: A student has never participated in athletics before. May he/she return after graduating to take advantage of this privilege he/she has missed?
- A: No. The student has graduated.
- Art XIV - Sec V: 3. Q: A student's parents prefer to have their child spend another year in high school rather than graduate since they cannot afford to send him/her to college. Can this student return to high school?
- A: The right to return to high school would be determined by local administration. Eligibility would be governed by all eligibility rules including the eight semester rule in Part Two, Article XIV, Section X.
- Art XIV - Sec V: 4. Q: A student gains the required credits at the end of the seventh semester. May he/she be considered eligible during his/her eighth semester even though he/she has now credits enough to graduate?
- A: Yes, this is specifically provided in the rule.

**SECTION VI: A student shall not be eligible to compete in interscholastic activities on or after the day on which the twentieth anniversary of his/her birth occurs.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION VI of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

Under the terms of this rule a student becomes ineligible to participate in interscholastic activities on and after the day on which his/her twentieth birthday occurs.

- Art XIV - Sec VI: 1. Q: A student's birthday is Friday, and a game is scheduled for that night. May he/she play?
- A: No. The definite interpretation has been made to avoid any misunderstanding that a student may not play on the twentieth anniversary of his/her birthday.
- Art XIV - Sec VI: 2. Q: Suppose a student becomes 20 years of age during the football season. May he not complete the season?
- A: No. He is through on the last day before the 20th anniversary of this birth.
- Art XIV - Sec VI: 3. Q: If he/she has played all season, may he/she not play a post season game, even though it might come a few days after his/her 20th birthday?
- A: No. He/she is only eligible through the day before the 20th anniversary of his/her birthday.
- Art XIV - Sec VI: 4. Q: Should a school use a player whose 20th birthday comes during the season?
- A: There is no reason so far as the Association rules are concerned why he/she should not be used up to the very day before the 20th anniversary of his/her birth occurs. Such a question can be answered only by the local administration.
- Art XIV - Sec VI: 5. Q: During the regular season a student is okay, but his/her birthday comes within the few days of the final tournament. Since he/she has built up the team and helped it toward victory, should he/she not be allowed to play these extra two or three days?
- A: No. The rule is to be taken literally. Nothing can be done to change the student's birthday.
- Art XIV - Sec VI: 6. Q: How can a student's age be determined?
- A: This is one of the most significant questions in this book. The Board of Directors considers testimony to be valid and acceptable in the following order: (a) A record

in the State Bureau of Vital Statistics at Bismarck, (b) A record in the local birth registry, (c) An infant baptismal certificate.

1. Any of these foregoing records have almost complete testimony value, practically incontrovertible, but the following testimony is of very doubtful value, and particularly so when there are discrepancies among them as is quite likely: (f) Record in the family Bible, unless there is some way of establishing that the record was made at the time of birth, (g) School or census records when free from discrepancies have some testimony value, but they are not sufficient to depend upon in case of question, and (h) Affidavits of doctor, midwife, parents, or player, these have been found, sorry to say, have almost no marked accuracy and have little testimony value.

Art XIV - Sec VI: 7. Q: We have searched everywhere, and to the best of our knowledge and belief, a player's age is only 18 although some of our school records seem to show him/her a year older. Or worse still, sometimes the question pertains to a 20 year old player. So what can be done?

A: These situations must be addressed the moment there is any question raised. Every effort should be made to have the matter settled before it can have any possible bearing on the student's subsequent or present participation.

NOTE: The situation of all ninth semester high school students should be studied well in advance of their participation. Check on the student as soon as he/she begins his/her athletic career. The burden rests on the school to find the legal birthday of a student. It is a matter of legal significance that the school will be rendering him/her a valuable service to get the matter settled.

**SECTION VII: Thirty days or more of attendance or participation in interscholastic competition within any shorter period being sufficient to constitute enrollment in any semester. (2015)**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION VII of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

Art XIV - Sec VII: 1. Q: Is a student eligible to participate if he/she did not attend school the previous semester but was academically eligible per local school policy the last semester of attendance?

A: Yes, The last semester of attendance need not necessarily be immediately preceding the present semester except under Part II, Article XIV, Section X, which states that the seventh and eighth semesters of a student must be consecutive.

Art XIV - Sec VII: 2. Q: If a student is enrolled less than thirty school days in a semester, would this constitute one of his/her semesters of attendance?

A: No, since it is less than thirty school days, unless he/she participated in interscholastic competition.

Art XIV - Sec VII: 3. Q: If a student withdraws after 30 school days in a semester, does this count as a semester of attendance?

A: Yes. Enrollment of thirty school days or more constitutes a semester.

**SECTION VIII: A student shall be an amateur and shall always have contested under his own name.**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION VIII of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

The first portion of the rule dealing with amateur standing is so important that Article VIII, Section I through V of the By-Laws is devoted to it.

It is suggested that Article VIII be carefully studied by all school coaches and principals so no question remains as to the intent of the rule.

The second part of the rule states that no player may use an assumed name. No doubt violations of this rule are few and far between. However, instances are known where professional or semiprofessional players have assumed fictitious names either to conceal their real identity or for publicity purposes. The rule is designed to prevent high school players from using this means to cover up any infractions of the eligibility rules. It is to be taken literally and the violation of this rule must be considered a serious as well as an unethical offense.

Note. Perhaps the rule accomplishes its completed purpose merely by being on the books, thus preventing students from yielding to other temptations to break rules.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 1. Q: What is meant by an "amateur"?

A: An amateur under this rule is an athlete who has never used his/her athletic ability or training for financial gain by being a participant in any athletic contest. Remember, students would lose their amateur status in only the sport in which they have been ruled to be a professional.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 2. Q: What is meant by the term "professionalism"?

A: "Professionalism" is defined as the acceptance of remuneration, either directly or indirectly for playing on an athletic team.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 3. Q: Does this rule apply to high school students who may form a school band and play for a few dances for a small fee?

A: No. This particular portion of the rule applies to athletic teams only as explained in Section II of Part Two, Article VIII of the By-Laws.

Likewise, Part Two, Article XIV, Section VIII, concerning amateurism applies only to athletics.

High school musicians frequently sing at weddings and funerals or other church events or may become members of local bands who receive token payments for performances they may make. To enforce this regulation against music and speech participants would be undesirable and impossible.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 4. Q: May a high school basketball player who plays on an independent team share in the profits made by the team during the season and divided amongst the members of the squad at the end of the season?

A: Sharing of any such profits would be considered a violation of the amateur rule.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 5. Q: May a high school player be a member of a baseball or basketball team where there are one or more paid players if he/she doesn't receive or accept any pay for his/her services?

A: Yes, as long as he/she does not accept any pay for his/her services.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 6. Q: May a student be paid for his services as a baseball player on an independent team during the summer months when school is not in session?

A: No, the amateur rule applies to athletic activity during the summer vacation as well as during the school year.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 7. Q: Does the acceptance of expense money for meals, lodging, or travel violate the amateur rule?

A: No, provided it can be shown that any money so received is for that purpose and the amount appears to be compatible with the expenses incurred.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 8. Q: May a student officiate at a contest and accept pay for this service without violating his/her amateur standing?

A: Yes.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 9. Q: May a student compete in an amateur tournament and accept money or merchandise prizes without violating his/her amateur standing?

A: The Board has ruled that the acceptance of cash prizes by a student would be a violation of the rule, but acceptance of merchandise prizes of reasonable value in amateur tournaments held outside the high school season would not be a violation.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 10. Q: If a student accepts a **\$75.00** cash prize in a bowling tournament during the year, would this affect his/her eligibility?

A: No, because it is a non-sponsored activity.

Art XIV - Sec VIII: 11. Q: What is the penalty for violating the amateur rule?

A: The penalty is loss of eligibility for a calendar year in that sport. The student may then apply to the Association Board for reinstatement.

**SECTION IX:**

- a. A student shall have been in attendance at the school which the student represents for one (1) calendar year upon transferring from another school unless the student's parents have become residents of the school district to which the student transferred or unless the school from which the student transferred does not offer work of the corresponding year in which the student is ranked, and there is no evidence of recruitment or undue influence. In the instance of a pupil transferring from a public high school to a private or parochial high school, or vice versa, the student shall not be eligible to represent the new high school in varsity competition for one (1) calendar year beginning with the first day of attendance in the new school. Should a school district maintain more than one high school, residence shall be understood to refer to the territory assigned to a specific high school by the Board of Education, and any transfer by a student from one school to another within the school district without a corresponding change in parental residence shall result in a loss of eligibility in varsity competition for one (1) calendar year. Should the student transfer from one school after the completion of the school year to another school prior to the start of the subsequent school year, the one (1) calendar year loss of varsity eligibility shall begin on the first date for fall practice in any sport. (Jan. 2016)
- b. A student who, because of hardship including, but not limited to, broken home conditions, death of parents or guardians, abandonment or other exceptional or emergency reasons, finds it necessary to transfer schools, may be declared eligible for varsity competition by the Executive Secretary, provided the member school of attendance submits and supports a hardship application and the Executive Secretary's investigation verifies the transfer was necessary and there was no undue influence or recruitment. The decision of the Executive Secretary may be appealed pursuant to Due Process Procedures of Article VI, Sections XV through XVII of these By-Laws (see Hardship Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 37 and incorporated by reference). (Oct. 2011)
- c. When some of the senior high schools within the same public school district are organized as three-year high schools and others are organized as four-year high schools, students finishing the ninth grade in the school system operating a three-year high school have the privilege of transferring to the four-year high school system without loss of eligibility if the transfer is made at the start of the first semester of the tenth grade. Such transfers are not permitted from four-year high schools to the three-year high school without loss of eligibility. This in no way abridges the right of a student to establish his/her eligibility in any high school of his/her choice at the beginning of the ninth grade.

**INTERPRETATION - SECTION IX of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

This is perhaps one of the most important eligibility rules and is the source of more correspondence seeking answers to individual problems of transfer than all other eligibility rules combined.

Art XIV - Sec IX: a. If parental custody of a student is removed by court order, for court-determined reasons which are not related to extra-curricular eligibility and which do not involve parental consent, the student is immediately eligible in the new school in that community if all other eligibility requirements are met. When the court-order removal of custody is related to eligibility or involves parental consent, other than for a legal adoption, the student is not eligible unless eligibility is established under the "hardship rule" provision of paragraph b of this section.

Art XIV - Sec IX: b. When the custody of a student is placed with a local Human Services agency and that agency subsequently places the student in a new community within its jurisdiction, the student is immediately eligible in the new school in that community if all other eligibility requirements are met.

i: The one (1) calendar ineligibility period is waived if:

1. A student is placed in another school by Special Education placement, English-Language Learners (ELL) placement, or other NDHSAA Board approved programs. After that placement the student's election to compete in his/her school of placement becomes his/her school for eligibility purposes. Any subsequent change not made necessary by a change in parental residence or change in placement, makes him/her ineligible one (1) calendar year for varsity competition. (Jun 17)

2. A student who transfers from one school to another within an existing co-op (see definition of Cooperative Agreement, Part Two, Art. III, Sec. XI) will be eligible immediately in the activity/activities within the agreement if the student meets all other NDHSAA standards.
3. A foreign exchange student who is participating in an approved and listed CSIET Program. (Part III - Regulations) **(Jan. 2006)**
4. Except for a legal adoption, the establishment of guardianship or other consensual assignment of a student's parent(s), with or without a court order, will not be sufficient to establish a student's eligibility, unless the student qualifies under the "hardship rule" provisions of paragraph b of this section.
5. A change in residence is not established until the entire family makes the actual physical move by totally vacating the old residence and begins residing in the new home. Open enrollment is not a change of residence under this interpretation.
6. A student who transfers to be with a parent, who is a state legislator, during the legislative session, will be eligible.
7. If a student is enrolled in the National Guard during his last semester in school under a program endorsed by the Department of Public Instruction and earning credits for same equivalent to the regular rule pertaining to scholastic eligibility, said student shall be considered eligible in his/her home school should he/she be back in time to participate in extracurricular activities that semester.
8. If a high school building closes, as a result of a school district's decision to become a non-operating district, a dissolved district or a reorganized district, students who were attending the high school at the time it closed, would become immediately eligible in the North Dakota high school they elected to attend, the same as any ninth grade student. **(July 2005)**
9. Seventh and eighth grade students attending a parochial school in a city in which there is no parochial high school or existing coop with another member school in said activity(s) are eligible to compete with the parochial high school which they will be attending. **(Oct. 06)**
10. All foreign exchange students must have the school they are attending in the state have a NDHSAA Foreign Exchange Student form on file at the Association office.

Art XIV - Sec IX: c. First, the rule recognized several reasons for transferring schools without loss of eligibility. In the first place, when a parent moves, a student is permitted and expected to move with his/her parents to the new location. He/she may do so with no loss of eligibility.

Art XIV - Sec IX: d. Second, when a student has attended and completed the number of years of work offered in that school system, he/she is privileged to seek a new high school. He/she may select any high school in the state. However, it should be remembered that once a student selects a high school, that high school becomes "his/her" high school and any subsequent change makes him/her ineligible for a period of one (1) calendar year.

Art XIV - Sec IX: e. A transfer is considered complete on the first day of attendance or the date on which a change of residence occurs.

Art XIV - Sec IX: f. Under the hardship rule, a student may become eligible under certain conditions.

Art XIV - Sec IX: g. A farm pupil living in a district where there is no high school is to be neither at an advantage or disadvantage as compared with other students. His/her first semester of high school in the ninth grade may be in any school he/she or his/her parents select. Once selected, that is his/her high school and any subsequent change except for the two reasons cited previously must result in ineligibility for **varsity competition** for one (1) calendar year.

Art XIV - Sec IX: h. The same thing is true for all classes of school - parochial, private, or public. If a student elects to attend a parochial school his/her first year of high school, he/she may do so without penalty. Once the school is selected, that is his/her high school and any

- change from parochial to public or public to parochial, unless for the two reasons cited, must result in ineligibility **for varsity competition** for one (1) calendar year.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: i. The rule applies equally to students within a given city or to students living in different cities or districts. In cities where several schools exist, a student must make a choice and, once made, that choice is final. There are conditions of convenience, financial reasons, chance for a part time job, ease of securing room and board, living with an uncle, desire to get special subjects, and possibly other good reasons for transferring schools, but they do not countermand the effects of this rule.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 1. Q: A pupil completes the eighth grade and there is no high school in his/her district. What high school may he/she attend?  
 A: According to Association rules he/she may enter any high school in the state and be immediately eligible just like all other ninth grade students in their first semester.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 2. Q: Suppose the same student changes schools the second year to be nearer home, or for any one of a number of good reasons. Is he/she then immediately eligible in the new school?  
 A: No. Having chosen a school for the first semester of his/her ninth grade, that becomes his/her school, and any subsequent change not made necessary by a change in parental residence makes him/her ineligible for one (1) calendar year.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 3. Q: A student is 18 years old and moves into his/her own apartment in a school district different from his/her parent(s) residence. Is this student eligible at (a) the original school or (b) the new school within his/her district of residence to which he/she transfers?  
 A: In (a) the student remains eligible at the original school if no transfer of schools takes place. In (b) this student will be ineligible for varsity competition for a period of one (1) calendar year.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 4. Q: Only two years of work are offered in the high school a student attends. For his/her third year may he/she change to a four year school and be eligible.  
 A: Yes, he/she is immediately eligible as provided specifically by the wording of the rule.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 5. Q: A student cannot secure the course or some of the studies he/she wants in the high school he/she has been attending and changes to another high school. Is he/she eligible?  
 A: No. Transfer in order to obtain certain subjects or a special course is not a legitimate reason under this rule.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 6. Q: If a high school is closed, as the result of a school district's decision to become a non-operating district or to dissolve or to reorganize, what is the eligibility status of the students who were attending the school when it closed?  
 A: These students would be immediately eligible in the high school of their choice, the same as any ninth grade student. However, once these students have enrolled in another school, any subsequent transfer would result in a period of ineligibility as provided in this rule.  
**NOTE:** All questions dealing with the eligibility of student involved in the formation of a consortium shall be referred to the NDHSAA.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 7. Q: If a school district closes its high school but continues to operate an elementary school, what is the eligibility status of the students who were attending the high school when it closed?  
 A: These students would become immediately eligible in the high school of their choice, the same as any ninth grade student. However, once these students have enrolled in another school, a subsequent transfer would result in a period of ineligibility as provided in this rule.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 8. Q: Would the same ruling apply to the closing of a private or parochial school?  
 A: Yes.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 9. Q: A home is broken. The mother continues to live in the same town and the father moves elsewhere. A student goes with his/her father though there is no court order. Or the parents are roving or any one of a wide variety of unstable conditions that exist following "broken homes", the status of which have not yet been established by court



- decrees. What is the eligibility of a high school student who changes schools for this reason?
- A: These are some of the "complicated cases" each of which must be answered only after a rather complete investigation is made. They come from abnormal home conditions or untraditional conditions; hence, no traditions can be established that can "fit" such cases properly. It is wisest to write in full to the Board of Directors and secure a specific ruling for each such case. The Board usually likes to find some good and appropriate way of ruling such students' eligible, but frequently there is no way it can be done within the meaning of the rule.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 10. Q: A student comes to live with an uncle, grandmother, other relative, friend, school superintendent, or coach, who assumes a "guardianship" of one or another of the many legal kinds. Is he/she eligible?
- A: No. The Board of Directors does not accept guardianship of any kind as bearing upon this rule. Only actual "legal adoption", a rare condition, can affect a student's eligibility under these conditions, unless he/she qualifies under the terms of the "hardship rule".
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 11. Q: Economic conditions make it impractical for a student to continue to live at home, but he/she has a chance to work for his/her room and board with an uncle or friend or someone else, or he/she gets a chance to go to school in a new school, or any one of a wide range of possibilities. What is his/her eligibility status?
- A: No. Not until he/she has been in attendance the specified period prescribed in the rule does he/she become eligible for varsity competition.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 12. Q: A student is on his/her own, and has been for a year or more. Under the circumstances he/she can get along much more readily in some other town, and changes high school. Is he/she immediately eligible?
- A: No. Not until after one (1) calendar year attendance, but it is worthwhile to write the Board for a special interpretation for there may be something about his/her individual conditions that may make him/her eligible. Usually such cases are not "entirely on their own" except for some degree of convenience.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 13. Q: A student enters a parochial or private high school from some other town. When is he/she eligible?
- A: Not until at least one (1) calendar year have passed is he/she eligible unless entering high school for the first time.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 14. Q: After attending a parochial or private high school in a given town away from his/her home town, a student returns to his/her home town to attend the high school at home. When is he/she eligible?
- A: After one (1) calendar year he/she would become eligible for varsity competition.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 15. Q: A student attending a state training school is released by the court during the school year to return to his/her own town and attend school there. Is he/she eligible?
- A: The Board of Directors rules that he/she is eligible on the grounds that his/her actions were being controlled by the court, an influence just as direct and authoritative as would be his/her family's changing residence.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 16. Q: A family moves from the farm and rents an apartment in a city located in another school district. What is the eligibility status of the students of this family?
- A: The students would be ineligible at the new school unless the former residence is totally vacated "lock, stock and barrel".
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 17. Q: A family moves to a new home. When is he/she eligible?
- A: He/she is immediately eligible each time the family moves as far as the rule is concerned.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 18. Q: Suppose the student did not move with the parents but elected to stay in his/her original school. Is he/she then eligible to compete?
- A: Yes, he/she continues to be eligible as he/she did not transfer schools.
- Art XIV - Sec IX: 19. Q: If a family moved to a new town and a student elects to remain in his/her present school for the balance of the school year in order to avoid complications in his/her program of study is there any limit on the time when he/she must make his/her choice of going with his/her parents or remaining in his/her present school?

A: Yes, this choice must be made within a reasonable time. If, after finishing the school year in which he/she was originally enrolled, he/she decided to go to his/her new home, he/she is immediately eligible in his/her new school. It is reasonable to assume that curricular difficulties may make it advisable for a student to finish out a school year before he/she goes to his/her new location. However, should he/she continue in his/her present school and register the following year, it would be assumed that he/she is exercising the right of choice of schools, and any subsequent change of schools would result in ineligibility for one (1) calendar year under this rule.

Art XIV - Sec IX: 20. Q: Does the transfer rule apply to open enrollment students?

A: Yes. The North Dakota Legislature was careful when crafting the open enrollment law in that transfers were to be for academic reasons only.

Art XIV - Sec IX: 21. Q: What are the applicable definitions for determining residence, hardship, and undue influence/recruitment?

A: The following definitions are applicable to determining residence and transfer requirements:

1. **Residence:** "Residence" shall be defined as the place where the student's parents have established their permanent home. This means that the family regularly eats and sleeps in a specific place of lodging. It is the place where the student and the student's parents are habitually present and to which when departing, they intend to return.
2. **Change of Residence:** A change of residence under this rule shall consist of the moving of all household properties to the new address and the parents and student actually living there with the intent to change legal residence; a second residence shall not meet the requirements of this standard.
3. **Parents:** The term "parents" shall mean the student's:
  - a. natural parents;
  - b. adoptive parents;
  - c. foster parents, if the student is placed in a foster home after becoming a ward of the court;
  - d. custodial parent, if the parents are divorced;
    - i. A student of divorced parents who have joint, legal custody of the student, as indicated in the court-issued divorce decree or most recent custody judgment, who moves from one custodial parent to the other custodial parent shall be immediately eligible at the time of the move;
      1. At the moved-to public school of residence
      2. At a nonpublic-school located within the moved-to public school district of residence.
    - ii. The student may utilize this provision only one time during grades 9-12. The parents must provide proof of joint, legal custody as identified in the parents' court-issued divorce decree or most recent custody judgment to the administrator in the school the student attends.
  - e. legal guardian, but only in a case where neither parent is living or legally competent; or
  - f. a family with whom a student has been living continuously for at least one (1) calendar year
4. **Open Enrollment:** Open enrollment is treated as any other transfer.
5. **Limitations on Hardship:** A hardship under Part Two, Art. XIV, Section IXb is limited to those cases which are beyond the control of a student or the student's parents. It must involve undue hardship or an emergency which does not violate the intent of any standards of eligibility. Cases involving any choice on the part of the student or parents shall not be heard under this Section. The Board of Directors has determined that any transfer deemed to be motivated by athletics or activities shall not be approved.

6. **Undue Influence:** Undue influence may, if primarily used to encourage or facilitate participation in interscholastic activities, include but not be limited to:
- a. The offer or acceptance of money, room, board, clothing or other valuable considerations to a student, or a student's parents or guardian, including but not limited to:
    - i. transportation to and/or from school by any school official;
    - ii. provision for free or reduced rent for a parent or guardian;
    - iii. offer or payment of the moving expenses of a parent or guardian
    - iv. the offer or acceptance of remuneration for work in excess of the amount regularly paid for such service
    - v. the offer or acceptance of school privileges or considerations not normally granted to other students
    - vi. any inducement to get a parent, guardian or student to change residence for interscholastic activities purposes
    - vii. the contracting of a student(s) in another school by any person or group connected, directly or indirectly, with a member school (including but not limited to alumni associations, booster groups or similar organizations), and attempting to persuade or induce that student(s), primarily for interscholastic activities purposes, to attend the inducer's school

**SECTION X: A student shall not participate in any interscholastic contest after his/her eighth semester in high school unless he/she is under 18 years of age, nor after his/her seventh semester, if his/her seventh and eighth semesters are not consecutive. In the event that a student has been unable to participate in an activity due to a diagnosed life threatening disease or other exceptional reason, the Executive Secretary has the power to grant/deny the student one or two additional semesters of eligibility provided the member school of attendance submits and supports an extra semester(s) application establishing that the student has not reached his/her twentieth birthday and the student is academically eligible. The decision of the Executive Secretary may be appealed pursuant to Due Process Procedures of Article VI, Sections XV through XVII of these By-Laws (see Extra Semesters(s) Appeals Flow Chart, attached hereto at page 38 and incorporated by reference), provided the student has not reached his/her twentieth birthday and is otherwise eligible. (October 2011)**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION X of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

This rule is to be taken literally and merely requires that a student, who is in his /her senior year, must see that his/her seventh and eighth semesters follow one another consecutively.

- Art XIV - Sec X: 1. Q: A senior who is now in his/her ninth semester has never participated in basketball before. Since he/she has never participated previously, may he/she not be free from the application of the rule?  
 A: No, the rule applies just as stated. Whether or not the student has participated he/she has had eight semesters of eligibility
- Art XIV - Sec X: 2. Q: Our school had midyear promotions. Instead of graduating at the close of the fall semester, a student does not attend school for the eighth semester but with parental approval prefers to take a trip abroad, get a four months' job, or do some other worthy thing. Does the fact that the eighth semester does not follow the seventh affect his/her eligibility?  
 A: Yes, he/she is ineligible unless the eighth follows the seventh consecutively.
- Art XIV - Sec X: 3. Q: How shall the eighth semester be interpreted in our school where we have a three year junior high school of grades seven, eight and nine, and a three year senior high school?  
 A: Under the Association rule by "high school" is always meant the four years of secondary education included in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12, without regard to the type of school organization. The ninth grade represents the first two semesters of

secondary education (high school) whether it is in the junior high school or in the traditional four year high school.

Art XIV - Sec X: 4. Q: Is there a definite connection between this rule and Part Two, Art. XIV, Section VII?

A: Yes, a definite connection. Under Part Two, Art. XIV, Section VII, attendance for 30 days or more represents a semester and must count as one of the eight semesters.

Art XIV - Sec X: 5. Q: Is there any time when a student may be granted up to one extra year of eligibility?

A: Yes, if a student underwent an organ transplant or was unable to attend school for a portion of a school year because of cancer or some other life threatening disease, the Executive Secretary may grant this student an extra year of eligibility if he/she has not reached his/her twentieth birthday and is academically eligible.

NOTE: If a student is denied an opportunity to participate during any previous semester(s) of eligibility due to unusual circumstances beyond his/her control, the Executive Secretary will consider granting additional semester(s) of eligibility.

Art XIV - Sec X: 6. Q: Does attendance at a non-accredited high school count towards semesters of eligibility?

A: Yes

**SECTION XI: The use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or any controlled substance as defined by North Dakota Law is prohibited. Any student who is in violation of the foregoing shall be suspended from participation in interscholastic contests or activities for a minimum period of six consecutive school weeks for the first offense and a period of 18 consecutive school weeks for any subsequent offense.**

**The use, possession or sale of non-prescriptive anabolic steroids by any student athlete at any time during the school year is prohibited. Any student athlete found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to the penalties provided in Section XI of Part Two, Article XIV of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association.**

**The use or possession of anabolic steroids prescribed or directed by a physician shall not be a violation of this section. NOTE: Administrators should remind students when suspended that they may not play on non-school teams while under suspension.**

#### **INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION XI of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

Art XIV - Sec XI: 1. Q: Why was the previous rule which left the penalty for violation of this rule in the hands of the local school administration changed so as to establish a rigid uniform penalty?

A: The membership felt that because of the extreme variance in penalties prescribed by schools that a minimum penalty should be established. The penalties as outlined are minimum penalties, schools may adopt more stringent regulations if they so desire.

Art XIV - Sec XI: 2. Q: Who determines whether a student has violated the rule and enforces the penalty?

A: As is true of all other rules, the local school authorities are responsible for determining whether a student has complied with the rule, and for the enforcement of the penalty in case of violations. As is the case with all rules, should a member school feel that another school is not complying with the rule, they may enter a protest with the State Association as provided under Section III of Part Two, Article IV.

Art XIV - Sec XI: 3. Q: If a school is not aware of the violation until several days afterwards and as a result the student participates in a contest or contests after the date of violation when does the penalty begin?

A: In all cases, the penalty would be prescribed as 6 weeks from the date of notification of suspension by the school administration.

Art XIV - Sec XI: 4. Q: If the suspension period runs into Christmas vacation, is the period extended by an amount equal to the length of said vacation?

A: No, the suspension period is for 6 calendar weeks of the school term from the date of suspension.

Art XIV - Sec XI: 5. Q: If the violation occurs two weeks before school is out in the spring, does the suspension carry over for the next school year?

A: No, however the suspension remains in effect until the end of the spring activity season.

Art XIV - Sec XI: 6. Q: Is this rule applicable during the Christmas vacation or during the summer months?

A: The rule is applicable during the Christmas vacation period as this is considered as part of the school term. However, it is not applicable during the summer vacation period, but becomes effective with the opening of school in the fall or with the opening of the fall sports seasons for students engaged in those sports.

Art XIV - Sec XI: 7. Q: Is the use of anabolic steroids a violation of the tobacco, drug and alcohol rule?

A: Yes, if the anabolic steroids have not been prescribed or directed by a physician, the student is in violation of said rule and would be subject to the same penalties as said rule.

Art XIV - Sec XI: 8. Q: What types of tobacco products are included in this rule?

A: "Tobacco products" means: any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, or any component, part or accessory of a tobacco product including e-cigarettes.

**NOTE:** The above interpretation includes a reported violation for use, possession, or sale of non-prescription anabolic steroids.

**SPECIAL NOTE:**

A student may be reinstated for competition upon completion of an inpatient alcohol or drug treatment program, provided the student or school provided a signed completion report from said treatment center to the NDHSAA office and eligibility is approved by the local school's administration.

**SECTION XII: Any student or coach ejected from an interscholastic contest by game officials for unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not limited to flagrant, violent or verbal misconduct, will be ineligible for the next regularly scheduled game/meet at that level of competition and all other games/meets in the interim at any level of competition. When a non-typical schedule is involved, the ejection penalty may be administered on a case-by-case basis.**

**Any subsequent ejection in that season's activity carries a four (4) regularly scheduled game/meet ineligibility. If penalties are imposed at the end of the sport season and no contest remains, the penalty is carried over in that particular sport until the next school year. In the case of a senior, the penalty will continue to the next sport season. (Oct.06)**

**INTERPRETATIONS - SECTION XII of Article XIV – Rules of Eligibility**

**Student:** Any time a student is ejected from a game/meet, he/she does not participate the remainder of that day. The student is also suspended for the next scheduled, rescheduled or contracted contest at that level of competition and all contests in the interim at any other level of competition. **Note: To meet this requirement, the contest must take place.**

**Coach:** "When a coach has been ejected in accordance with Section XII, he/she is not allowed to attend any of his/her team's contests or to be on site for any pre-game contact direct or indirect with participants during the suspension."

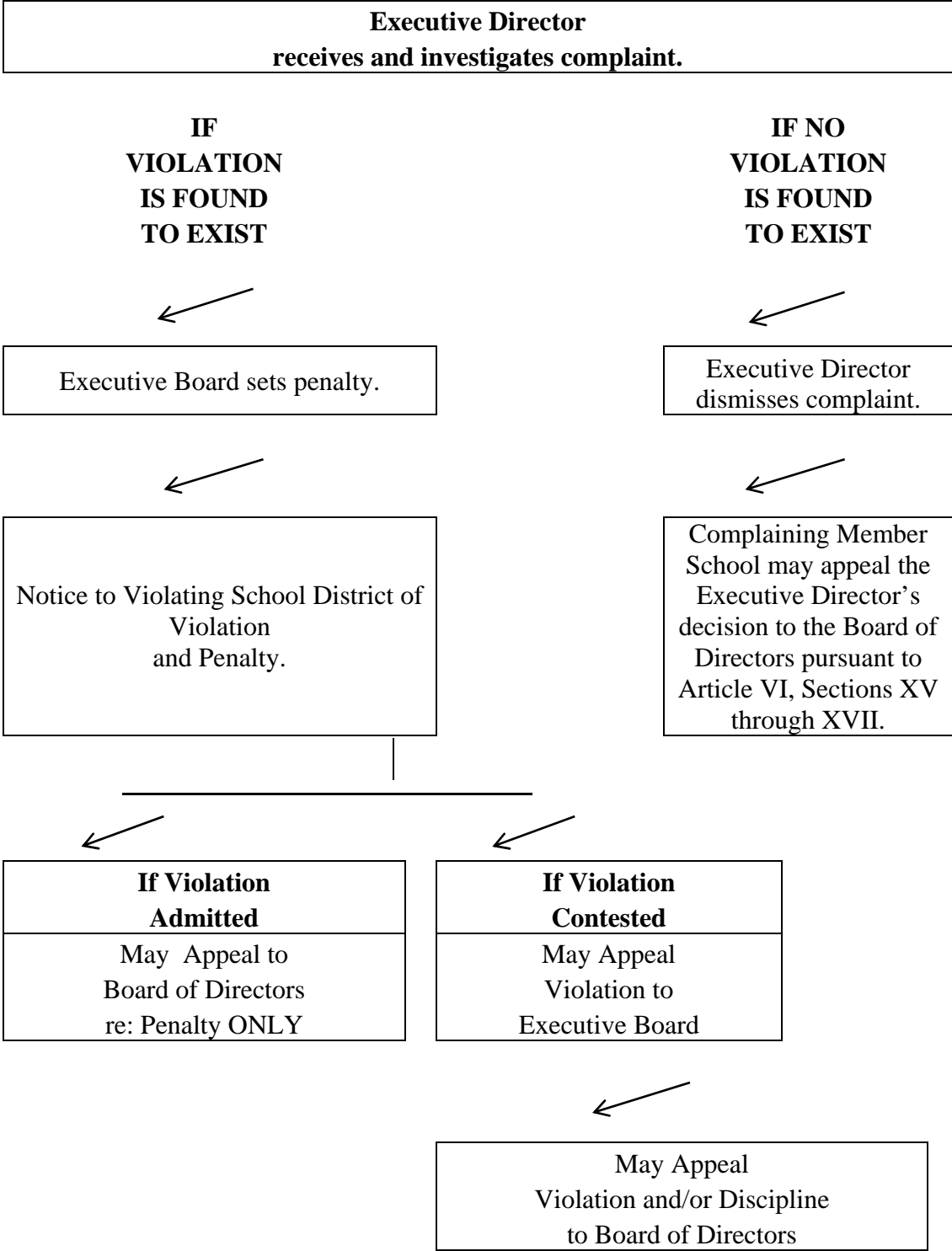
**Appeal:** A coach may appeal the penalty only when he/she is disqualified and his/her action did not contribute to the disqualification. This appeal will be heard by the local school administration. A complete report must be sent to the NDHSAA for review.

The "next regularly scheduled game/meet" is defined as the next scheduled, rescheduled, or contracted contest.

**Baseball Example:** "A1 is ejected from the first game of a double-header baseball game. What is the penalty for A1?" **Ruling –A1 must sit out the second game of the double-header. If the second game is the same level as the first, A1 would be eligible for the next regularly scheduled contest. If not, A1 will sit out the regularly scheduled contest at that level and all games in the interim. This ruling would also**

**apply to double-dual or dual team wrestling meets and junior varsity/varsity football or basketball double-headers, as well as any other sport sanctioned by the NDHSAA.**

**MEMBER SCHOOLS  
COMPLAINT AND APPEALS FLOW CHART  
PART TWO, BY-LAWS ARTICLE VI (New Article)**

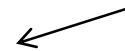


**MEMBER SCHOOLS  
HARDSHIP EXCEPTION PROCEDURE  
AND APPEALS FLOW CHART**  
[Part Two: By-Laws Article XIV, Section IXb]

**Role of Member School of Attendance in Hardship Applications**

**IF MEMBER SCHOOL  
OF ATTENDANCE  
SUBMITS AND SUPPORTS  
HARDSHIP APPLICATION**

**IF MEMBER SCHOOL  
OF ATTENDANCE  
DECLINES TO SUBMIT  
AND SUPPORT HARDSHIP  
APPLICATION**



Administrator submits letter  
as to why the student is  
the victim of a hardship

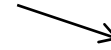
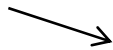
Appeal may be made pursuant to  
the Member School's policy,  
if any  
**[No appeal to NDHSAA]**



A Hardship Eligibility Application  
is completed by the Member School  
and school from which the student  
transferred



NDHSAA Executive Director  
investigates the  
Hardship Application



**If Hardship  
is Granted**  
Other Member Schools may  
appeal the Executive Director's  
decision to the Board of  
Directors pursuant to Article VI,  
Sections XV through XVII

**If Hardship  
is Denied**  
School of Attendance may  
appeal the Executive Director's  
decision to the Board of  
Directors pursuant to Article VI,  
Sections XV through XVII

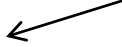


**MEMBER SCHOOLS  
EXTRA SEMESTER(S) PROCEDURE  
AND APPEALS FLOW CHART  
[Part Two: By-Laws Article XIV, Section X]**

**Role of Member School of Attendance in Extra Semester(s) Application**

**IF MEMBER SCHOOL  
OF ATTENDANCE  
SUBMITS AND SUPPORTS  
EXTRA SEMESTER(S)  
APPLICATION**

**IF MEMBER SCHOOL  
OF ATTENDANCE  
DECLINES TO SUBMIT  
AND SUPPORT EXTRA  
SEMESTER(S) APPLICATION**



Administrator submits letter to NDHSAA Executive Director

Parent/adult student may appeal pursuant to the Member School's policy, if an  
**[No appeal to NDHSAA]**



NDHSAA Executive Director investigates and rules on Extra Semester(s) Application



**If Extra Semester(s)  
Granted**  
Other Member Schools may appeal the Executive Director's decision to the Board of Directors pursuant to Article VI, Sections XV through XVII.

**If Extra Semester(s)  
Denied**  
School of Attendance may appeal the Executive Director's decision to the Board of Directors pursuant to Article VI, Sections XV through XVII.

## PART III

# BOARD REGULATIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

### By-Laws & Board of Directors Regulations Affecting Length of Season, Number of Events, General Regulations, Etc.

#### Pre-season, in season, and post-season participation rules:

1. A student may participate in non-school competition from the opening of the school term until the beginning of the high school season in a particular sport and from the close of the high school season in that sport until the end of the school term with no loss of eligibility in that sport or other sports for the school season.
2. Students may compete only on a school team during the high school season of that sport. Violation of the regulation results in loss of eligibility for six contests or remainder of season, whichever is less, for each violation in that sport. The only exception to the above rule is in the case of talented students involved in Olympic competition as explained under Part Two, Section III, Article XIV of the By-Laws.
3. No school sponsored teams for interscholastic competition are permitted in any sports during the summer months, nor may schools enter individual contestants in non-school meets; however, intramural school teams are permissible and students may participate as unattached individuals or as members of non-school teams in all sports. High school coaches may be employed as coaches of non-school teams.
4. A student (Grade 7-12 student) participating in an activity "out of season" may not receive coaching or training from a salaried or non-salaried member of his/her **high school's coaching staff (Grade 9-12 coach)** in that sport except under the following provisions:
  - a. During June and July, coaches of team sports (basketball, football, hockey, soccer and volleyball) from a NDHSAA member school's coaching staff in that sport (Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Boys' and Girls' Hockey and Boys' and Girls' Soccer are each interpreted as one sport) may instruct students in a summer contest or camp who have participated in a contest as members of their school team in that sport.
  - b. Coaches of individual sports (cross country, golf, gymnastics, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, and wrestling) from a NDHSAA member school's coaching staff may coach students in that sport "out of season" provided that it is not under the supervision and operation of the member school. **NOTE:** Any non-salaried student teachers who were coaching while undergoing their supervised teaching experience are exempt.
  - c. Baseball and softball are granted an exemption to the out-of-season coaching rule beginning with the 2012 season. This exemption is from the beginning of the season until Sept. 1 of that year.
  - d. Boys' and girls' soccer are granted an exception to the out-of-season coaching rule beginning with the 2012-13 season. This exemption is from the end of the girls' state tournament until August 1 of that year.
    - i. **Students may participate in summer sports camps on their own. However, participation in such camps for fall team sports (football, boys' soccer and volleyball) is not permitted after July 31.**
    - ii. Special training camps held during the season are not permitted.
  - e. At any time during the off-season, coaches of team sports who are also parents may instruct/coach their own children who have participated in a contest as members of their school team in that sport and/or are in 7-8 programs that feed into 9-12 programs. **(July 2016)**

#### SPECIAL NOTE ON SUMMER CAMPS

1. Individual or team camps may be sponsored by non-member entities, member schools or coaches of member schools, provided the camp is conducted in June or July and is not exclusive to their own athletes. **(June 2016)**
2. The use of school equipment, pads, and the like, other than school uniforms, at summer camp is permissible.
3. NDHSAA catastrophic insurance does not cover summer camps.

### **Guidelines Relative to Out-of-Season Practice and Use of Facilities:**

Schools may open their facilities for recreational activities during out-of-season periods when in accord with the following guidelines:

1. The facilities are open to all students for participation.
2. There is no coaching or instruction in the skills and techniques in any sport that is "out-of-season" under NDHSAA regulations.
3. There shall be no group pre-conditioning exercise practice prior to the start of the season. However, an individual can do this by himself/herself, but not with the coach.
4. Participation is voluntary and is not required directly or indirectly for membership on a high school squad.
5. Comparable opportunities are afforded both sexes.
6. The school administration assumes the responsibility of making certain there is adherence to these guidelines.

### **Scrimmage Rule: (Team Sports)**

The following conditions must be met in conducting scrimmages.

1. One scrimmage may be held prior to the first contest and will not count against allowable contests.
2. Scrimmages held after the first regular scheduled game count as contests.
3. When more than 2 teams are involved in a scrimmage no team should participate longer than what would constitute a regular contest.

### **Pre-Season Practice Sessions:**

1. Pre-season practice sessions in all sports shall be held in the immediate environment of the city or school district in which the school is located. **(Sept. 2007)** Executive Secretary has authority to waive this regulation when appealed by a member school. **(June 2014)**
2. "Required preseason practices, which are not attended by an athlete because that athlete is actively involved in practice for or participation in NDHSAA post season athletic competition held concurrently with such preseason practices shall be waived".
3. Two days of the 9 day practice rule may be waived due to Basic Military Training/AIT attendance, provided there is a conflict with the first contest.
4. Three days of non-pad football practice may be waived if practice is missed due to attending basic military training. Six days of pad practice is required.
5. Practices held the same day as a game/meet shall not count towards the required minimum practice rule.
6. Pre-season practice requirements shall apply to both teams and individuals. Though the requirement may have been met to number of team practices, individual students would not be eligible for the first contest scheduled if they had not personally met this requirement.

### **Official Rule Books:**

The National Federation Rules Book will be the official rules book in all sports for which such is available. In those sports for which no Federation rules book is available, the NDHSAA shall designate the official rules book.

Regulations governing each activity as approved by the Board of Directors will be posted on the web site prior to the beginning of each respective activity season.

## **Foreign Exchange/International Students:**

*(Board approved March 2003)*

*(Board amended September 2005)*

A foreign exchange student who is enrolled in and attending a North Dakota high school will be eligible to participate in varsity competition provided the student meets all of the conditions listed below.

### **Foreign Exchange Students**

1. A foreign exchange student must be under the auspices of and be placed with a U. S. host family by an international exchange program that has been accepted for listing by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) and recognized by the U. S. Department of State. The foreign exchange program must assign students to host families by a method that ensures that no student, school or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The foreign exchange student may not be selected or placed on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities.
2. A foreign exchange student is considered to be placed with a host family when written notice of placement is provided by the exchange organization to the student and his/her parents and to the host family.
3. Neither the school the student attends nor shall any person associated with the school have input into the selection or assignment of the student with regards to co-curricular abilities.
4. The foreign exchange student must possess a current J-1 visa, issued by the U. S. Department of State.
5. The foreign exchange student must comply with all eligibility requirements set forth by the North Dakota High School Activities Association and the school of attendance. A completed registration form must be filed by the school and approved by the Association office before the student is eligible for varsity competition.
6. Once a foreign exchange student is no longer participating in an approved CSIET program, as defined above, that student will be subject to the eligibility rules for "Other International Students", as provided below.

### **Other International Students**

An international student who is enrolled in and attending a North Dakota high school and who is not under the auspices of and placed by a CSIET listed exchange program is subject to the same eligibility/transfer rules as any other student, provided the student meets all of the following conditions:

1. The student must possess a current F-1 visa, issued by the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.
2. The student must provide to the principal of the school he/she attends an official untranslated transcript and a transcript that is translated into English, by an acceptable agent or agency, which indicates work taken in all grades in which the student was enrolled.
3. The international student must pay tuition to the high school he/she attends as prescribed in Section 625 of U. S. Public Law 104-208.
4. The international student must comply with all NDHSAA and school of attendance eligibility requirements. A completed registration form must be filed by the school and approved by the Association office before the student is eligible for competition.

## **State Qualifiers for State Events:**

*(Board approved June 2003)*

The NDHSAA Board of Directors recommends that each school try to ensure that a state qualifier in any activity is able to participate in the state event. Participation in a state event should have priority over regular

season participation in any other activity. Schools are requested to discuss this recommendation with all coaches/directors prior to the beginning of each school term.

**Intent to Sponsor an Activity:**

*(Board approved October, 2009)*

For those sports involving statewide scheduling, the following dates shall be applied to member schools that are declaring intent to sponsor that activity:

- Fall sports: June 1, prior to the start of season
- Winter sports: September 1, prior to the start of season
- Spring sports: January 1, prior to the start of season

Any member school not having declared intent in writing to the NDHSAA office by the deadline date and therefore not included in a statewide schedule may compete with an independent schedule but shall not be eligible for post-season competition that season.

All NDHSAA and NFHS rules and regulations shall apply to all teams sanctioned by NDHSAA and sponsored by the member school.

## **PART IV**

### **JUNIOR HIGH AND SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE BY-LAWS**

(Effective July 1, 1969)

NOTE: Unless otherwise specified in the rules which follow, the rules and regulations of the North Dakota High School Activities Association for regular high schools apply to junior high schools.

#### **Article I: General Philosophy and Aims to be Considered in an Interscholastic Athletic Program for Junior High Schools**

**Section I:** The program should be suited to the needs of students of junior high school age. It should provide as broad and varied an athletic program as is possible with an equal opportunity for participation on an equal basis for all students.

**Section II:** The interschool program should grow out of and be operated from as broad a base as possible to offer experience to many students. Experiences in inter-squad competition should be made available to all.

**Section III:** The Association favors an interscholastic program but feels that this program should be very carefully controlled, regulated and limited.

**Section IV:** The program should place considerable emphasis on companionship, sportsmanship, physical skills and techniques and training.

#### **Article II: Recommendations**

**Section I:** Most athletic contests should be played between the hours of 4 - 6 P.M.

**Section II:** When athletic contests are played during school time or in the evening, student pep groups and bands should not be encouraged to follow the visiting team to the host school.

#### **Article III: General Regulations**

**Section I:** Competition is limited to seventh, eighth and ninth grades, except as hereinafter provided. Public and private elementary schools not accredited or organized as junior high schools must be members of the NDHSAA and abide by these junior high school rules in order to participate in the program.

**Section II:** Elementary schools in school districts not operating a high school, having seventh and eighth grade teams must join the Association in order to play seventh and eighth and/or junior high school teams of member schools by paying the regular membership fee of twenty (20) cents per pupil in grades seven and eight with a minimum fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).(January 2004)

**Section III:** If the total enrollment of the seventh and eighth grade pupils in a school or cooperative sponsorship school is not over fifty (50), the fifth and sixth grade pupils of the school may be permitted to participate on all the junior high teams except tackle football and wrestling. Note: The total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied.

**Section IV:** A member school with teams in both junior and senior high school may select pupils in grades seven, eight or nine for either the junior high school team or as members of a high school team. Any student who participates on a high school team(s) or a combination of junior high and high school teams is regulated by individual limitations established for high school students. A student involved in junior high competition only is regulated by junior high school limitations. This rule applies except in sports where specified differently.

**Section V:** All students participating on a team registered in the junior high division must be enrolled in the same school and be under the supervision of the same administrative head, except that schools which have less than 50 students enrolled in grades 7 and 8 may combine with another school in their district, or their designated high school district. NOTE: This amendment makes it possible for schools meeting the above criteria to join in all activities. (Junior high school co-ops must count total junior high enrollment of all schools involved.) Also, the total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied.

**Section VI:** Any team combination of 7th and 8th grade is considered junior high school. Ninth grade teams may declare their status and participate as either a high school team or as a junior high school team. A team designated as a ninth grade team must have fifty percent or more of the participants enrolled in the ninth grade. Any 7th or 8th grade student who plays on a 9th grade team plays at the status chosen for that team. If the 9th grade team chooses high school status, high school rules apply, or if a 9th grade team declares itself a junior high team, junior high rules apply.

**Section VII:** Teams registered in the junior high division may compete with other teams registered in this division or with similar teams holding membership in the state high school association of other states, if such associations hold membership in the National Federation of State High School Associations.

**Section VIII:** Games with "B" teams or varsity teams of senior high school are prohibited. A junior high school team cannot play with or against tenth graders under any circumstances.

**Section IX:** A student must not have attended a three year junior high school more than six semesters, or a two-year junior high school consisting of grades seven and eight more than four semesters. The same rule as applies to senior high schools relative to what constitutes a semester's attendance shall prevail.

**Section X:** A ninth grade student shall be eligible to compete in the junior high division for the complete school term if his/her sixteenth birthday occurs on or after September 1, a seventh and eighth grader if his/her fifteenth birthday occurs on or after September 1.

**Section XI: Scholarship: Jr. High students must meet the same academic requirements as set forth for senior high school competition. (2015)**

1. Jr. High students must be passing all courses to be eligible to participate on a high school team.

**Section XII: Physical Examinations:** The same rule as applies to senior high school students shall prevail.

**Section XIII: Residence:** A student is eligible in the school of the district where his/her parents are bona-fide residents. A student who transfers from one junior high school to another must meet the same rules pertaining to residence and migration as set forth for senior high school competition.

**NOTE:** In districts which have more than one junior high school, the home school of the pupil shall be the same school as is determined by the Board of Education for all students living in a designated area.

**Section XIV: All NDHSAA sponsored interscholastic activities (including Junior High) shall be governed by regulations as established by the NDHSAA Board of Directors. (October 2005)**

## **Other Junior High Regulations**

### **General Statement:**

In the junior high school if the 9th graders are kept separate for competition and teams are composed strictly of 9th graders, the regulations for each sport are exactly the same as they are for high school teams.

Whenever a team is composed of students from grades 7-8-9, 8-9, 7-8, or 7-9 these teams are limited to regulations pertaining to junior high school teams.

**Guidelines for Junior High Competition**

1. If a junior high student is elevated and participates in high school competition they shall be able to move back to junior high competition.
2. A team made up of a combination of 7th and 8th grade students is considered a junior high team and is subject to those limitations as outlined in the By-Laws. Seventh and eighth grade students may be "moved up" to a high school team.
3. A ninth grade team may be declared for junior high status or high school status and that team must maintain that status the entire season. Ninth grade teams choosing high school status must be comprised of at least 50% ninth grade students.
4. If a combination team (8 and 9 or 7, 8 and 9) has less than 50% ninth grade students, that team cannot declare high school status and must follow junior high limitations.
5. All Jr. High seasons shall be no longer than the high school season in that sport. No Jr. High participant may participate in a total number of consecutive weeks in excess of the number of weeks established for the high school season.



## Part V: Officers

<b>1908</b>	<b>1923</b>	<b>1933</b>
Pres. - G. W. Hanna, Valley City	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo
V. P. - C. C. Gray, Grafton	V. P. - C. L. Love, Mandan	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan
S. T. - W. C. Stebbins, Grand Forks	S. T. - H. E. Polk, Williston	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot
<b>1909</b>	<b>1924</b>	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton
Pres. - A. G. Crane, Jamestown	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	C. L. Robertson, Jamestown
V. P. - F. Thordarson, Mayville	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	<b>1934</b>
S. T. - H. L. Rockwood, Enderlin	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo
<b>1910</b>	<b>1925</b>	V. P. - C. L. Robertson, Jamestown
Pres. - A. G. Crane, Jamestown	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot
V. P. - S. H. Wolfe, Minot	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	M. B. Zimmerman, Grafton
<b>1911</b>	P. S. Berg, Dickinson	<b>1935</b>
Pres. - A. G. Crane, Jamestown	W. C. Stebbins, Grand Forks	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo
V. P. - S. H. Wolfe, Minot	<b>1926</b>	V. P. - C. L. Robertson, Jamestown
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot
<b>1912</b>	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton
Pres. - A. G. Crane, Jamestown	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	M. B. Zimmerman, Grafton
V. P. - S. H. Wolfe, Minot	P. S. Berg, Dickinson	<b>1936</b>
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	W. C. Stebbins, Grand Forks	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo
<b>1913</b>	<b>1927</b>	V. P. - C. L. Robertson, Jamestown
Pres. - P. S. Berg, Dickinson	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot
V. P. - S. H. Wolfe, Minot	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	M. B. Zimmerman, Grafton
<b>1914</b>	P. S. Berg, Dickinson	<b>1937</b>
Pres. - P. S. Berg, Dickinson	W. C. Stebbins, Grand Forks	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo
V. P. - S. H. Wolfe, Minot	<b>1928</b>	V. P. - C. L. Robertson, Jamestown
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot
<b>1915</b>	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton
Pres. - P. S. Berg, Dickinson	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	(Resigned)
V. P. - L. P. Linn, Kenmare	P. S. Berg, Dickinson	M. B. Zimmerman, Grafton
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	W. C. Stebbins, Grand Forks	<b>1938</b>
<b>1916</b>	<b>1929</b>	Pres. - B.C.B. Tighe, Fargo
Pres. - Bruce Francis, Minot	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	V. P. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton
V. P. - L. P. Linn, Kenmare	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	S. T. - L.A. White, Minot
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	Earl Abrahamson, Mohall
<b>1917</b>	P. S. Berg, Dickinson	J.J. Roberts, Elgin
Pres. - Bruce Francis, Minot	C.L. Robertson, Jamestown	<b>1939</b>
V. P. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	(Completing unexpired term of	Pres. - B.C.B. Tighe, Fargo
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	W.C. Stebbins, deceased)	V. P. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton
<b>1918</b>	<b>1930</b>	S. T. - L.A. White, Minot
Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	Earl Abrahamson, Mohall
(Francis Resigned)	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	J.J. Roberts, Elgin
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	<b>1940</b>
<b>1919</b>	P. S. Berg, Dickinson	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo
Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton	V. P. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton
V. P. - C. J. N. Nelson	C.L. Robertson, Jamestown	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	<b>1931</b>	Earl Abrahamson, Mohall
<b>1920</b>	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	J.J. Roberts, Elgin
Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	<b>1941</b>
V. P. - C. J. N. Nelson	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	Pres. - B.C.B. Tighe, Fargo
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	C. L. Robertson, Jamestown	V. P. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton
<b>1921</b>	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton	S. T. - L.A. White, Minot
Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	<b>1932</b>	Earl Abrahamson, Mohall
V. P. - C. L. Love, Mandan	Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	J.J. Roberts, Hettinger
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton	V. P. - J. C. Gould, Mandan	<b>1942</b>
<b>1922</b>	S. T. - L. A. White, Minot	Pres. - B.C.B. Tighe, Fargo
Pres. - B. C. B. Tighe, Fargo	Leo Dominick, Wahpeton	V. P. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton
V. P. - C. L. Love, Mandan	C. L. Robertson, Jamestown	S. T. - L.A. White, Minot
S. T. - Nelson Sauvain, Casselton		Earl Abrahamson, Mohall
		J.J. Roberts, Hettinger

**1943**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - Earl Abrahamson, Mohall  
 S. T. - L.A. White, Minot  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           J.J. Roberts, Hettinger

**1944**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - Earl Abrahamson, Mohall  
 S. T. - L.A. White, Minot  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           J.J. Roberts, Hettinger

**1945**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - John J. Roberts, Hettinger  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Belfield  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           F.H. Gilliland, Devils Lake

**1946**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - John J. Roberts, Hettinger  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Belfield  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           F. H. Gilliland, Devils Lake

**1947**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - John J. Roberts, Hettinger  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Belfield  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           F.H. Gilliland, Devils Lake  
           E.C. Johnson, Kenmare

**1948**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - John J. Roberts, Hettinger  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Belfield  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           E. C. Johnson, Kenmare  
           F.H. Gilliland, Devils Lake

**1949**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman,  
           Wahpeton  
 V. P. - John J. Roberts, Hettinger  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson,  
           Valley City  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           F. H. Gilliland, Devils Lake  
           E.C. Johnson, Kenmare

**1950**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - John J. Roberts, Hettinger  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson,  
           Valley City  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           F. H. Gilliland, Devils Lake  
           E.C. Johnson, Kenmare  
           Alf Flaten, Alexander  
           K.L. Zenner, Ryder

**1951**  
 Pres. - M.B. Zimmerman, Wahpeton  
 V. P. - E.C. Johnson, Kenmare  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson,  
           Valley City  
           A.C. Van Wyk, Bismarck  
           F.H. Gilliland, Devils Lake  
           John J. Roberts, Hettinger  
           Al Flaten, Alexander  
           K.L. Zenner, Arthur

**1952**  
 Pres. - John J Roberts, Hettinger  
 V. P. - E. C. Johnson, Kenmare  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           Alf Flaten, Alexander  
           K.L. Zenner, Arthur  
           F.H. Gilliland, Devils Lake  
           John Walters, Park River  
           Wm. Gussner, Jamestown

**1953**  
 Pres. - F.H. Gilliland, Devils Lake  
 V. P. - K.L. Zenner, Arthur  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           \* John Walters, Park River  
           Wm. Gussner, Jamestown  
           Alf Flaten, Alexander  
           C. J. Gludt, Killdeer  
           E. S. Killie, Fessenden  
           \* Resigned June 1953,  
           L.T.Havig, Williston,  
           appointed to fill vacancy

**1954**  
 Pres. - K. L. Zenner, Arthur  
 V. P. - Wm. Gussner, Jamestown  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           L. T. Havig, Williston  
           C. J. Gludt, Killdeer  
           E. S. Killie, Fessenden  
           J. E. Slatta, Gackle  
           \* H. B. Ensrud, Grafton  
           \* Left state before taking office.  
           Principal L. N. Hanson, Grand  
           Forks, filled office until  
           League meeting in October

**1955**  
 Pres. - Wm. Gussner, Jamestown  
 V. P. - E.S. Killie, Fessenden  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           K. L. Zenner, Arthur  
           L. T. Havig, Williston  
           J. E. Slatta, Sheldon  
           R. G. Arveson, Leeds  
           K. L. Rue, Cavalier

**1956**  
 Pres. - Wm. Gussner, Jamestown  
 V. P. - E. S. Killie, Fessenden  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           K. L. Zenner, Arthur  
           L. T. Havig, Williston  
           J. E. Slatta, Sheldon  
           R. G. Arveson, Leeds  
           K. L. Rue, Cavalier

**1957**  
 Pres. - Wm. Gussner, Jamestown  
 V. P. - E. S. Killie, Fessenden  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           L.T. Havig, Williston  
           \* K.L. Rue, Cavalier  
           \*\* R.G. Arveson, Leeds  
           \*\*\* J. E. Slatta, Sheldon  
           Don Cameron, Gardner  
           \*\*\*\* M. F. Peterson, Bismarck, Ex.  
           Officio  
           \* Left state, Barton Thompson,  
           Elgin, filled vacancy  
           \*\* Left state, M. C. Olson, Lisbon,  
           filled vacancy

\*\*\* Left state, Rex Robinson,  
 Alamo, filled vacancy  
 \*\*\*\* Supt. Public Instruction named  
 to Board by Constitutional  
 amendment passed January  
 1957

**1958**  
 Pres. - E. S. Killie, Fessenden  
 V. P. - L. T. Havig, Williston  
 S.T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           M. C. Olson, Lisbon  
           Barton Thompson, Lisbon  
           Rex Robinson, McGregor  
           F. U. Smith, Park River  
           M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
           Ex Officio

**1959**  
 Pres. - L. T. Havig, Williston  
 V. P. - M. C. Olson, Lisbon  
 S.T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           F. U. Smith, Park River  
           Barton Thompson, Elgin  
           Rex Robinson, McGregor  
           B. M. Hanson, Harvey  
           \* Don Cameron, Bowdon  
           M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
           Ex Officio

\*\* Don Whiting, Max, School  
 Officers Assoc.  
 \* No longer in Class C School,  
 Warren Pederson, Tower City,  
 to fill vacancy Feb. 1, 1960.  
 \*\* Representative of School  
 Officers Ass'n by  
 Constitutional amendment  
 passed May, 1959.

**1960**  
 Pres. - L. T. Havig, Williston  
 V. P. - M. C. Olson, Lisbon  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           F. U. Smith, Park River  
           Barton Thompson, Elgin  
           Warren Pederson, Tower City  
           Rex Robinson, McGregor  
           B. M. Hanson, Harvey  
           M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
           Ex Officio  
           D. B. Whiting, Max, School  
           Boards Assoc.

**1961**  
 Pres. - M. C. Olson, Lisbon  
 V. P. - F. U. Smith, Park River  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           Joel A. Davy, Minot  
           Warren Pederson, Maddock  
           Ell Kay Larson, Munich  
           Rex Robinson, McGregor  
           Barton Thompson, Elgin  
           M. F. Peterson, Bismarck.  
           Ex Officio  
           D. B. Whiting, Max, School  
           Boards Assoc.

**1962**  
 Pres. - M. C. Olson, Lisbon  
 V. P. - F. U. Smith, Park River  
 S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
           Joel A. Davy, Minot  
           Rex Robinson, McGregor  
           Ell Kay Larson, Munich  
           Willard Solberg, Bowman

G. A. Tooley, Rolla  
M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Ex Officio  
D. B. Whiting, Max, School  
Boards Assoc.

**1963**

Pres. - Willard Solberg, Bowman  
V. P. - Joel A Davy, Minot  
S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
\* F.U. Smith, Valley City  
G. A. Tooley, Rolla  
\*\* T. E. Simle, Bismarck  
N. W. Cummings, Oakes  
Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Ex Officio  
D. B. Whiting, Max, School  
Boards Assoc.  
\* Resigned 3-9-63, appointed  
assistant secretary July 1.  
James Maxwell of Grafton  
appointed to Board position.  
\*\* Deceased-August L. Spiss,  
Mandan filled vacancy.

**1964**

Pres. - Willard Solberg, Bowman  
V. P. - Joel A Davy, Minot  
S. T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
Assoc. Sec. -F.U. Smith, Valley City  
G. A. Tooley, Rolla  
N. W. Cummings, Oakes  
Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
James Maxwell, Grafton  
August L. Spiss, Mandan  
M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Ex Officio  
D. B. Whiting, Max, School  
Boards Assoc.

**1965**

Pres. - Willard Solberg, Bowman  
\*V. P. - Joel A. Davy, Minot  
\*\*S.T. - Earl Abrahamson, Valley City  
Assoc. Sec. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
\*\*\*Asst. Sec. - S.R. Grande, Valley City  
G. A. Tooley, Rolla  
N. W. Cummings, Oakes  
Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
James Maxwell, Grafton  
August L. Spiss, Mandan  
M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Ex Officio  
D. B. Whiting, Max, School  
Boards Assoc.  
\* Resigned – Minard McCrea,  
Valley City filled vacancy  
\*\* Retired July 1 - F. U. Smith  
filled vacancy  
\*\*\* Appointed July 1

**1966**

Pres. - James Maxwell, Grafton  
V. P. - Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
\*Asst. Sec. - S.R. Grande, Valley City  
\*\* Willard Solberg, Bowman  
N. W. Cummings, Oakes  
August L. Spiss, Mandan  
Minard McCrea, Valley City  
Ell Kay Larson, Munich  
M. F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Ex Officio

Lewis Johnston, Forest River,  
School Boards Assoc.

\* Resigned July 1 - R.D.  
Schindler filled vacancy  
\*\* Resigned August 1 – James  
Brotton, New England filled  
vacancy

**1967**

Pres. - James Maxwell, Grafton  
V. P. - Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
Asst.Sec. - R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
N. W. Cummings, Oakes  
August Spiss, Mandan  
Minard McCrea, Valley City  
Ell Kay Larson, Munich  
James Broton, New England  
M.F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Ex Officio  
\* Lewis Johnston, Forest River,  
School Boards Assoc.  
\* Resigned July 1 – Warner  
Quale, Bismarck filled  
vacancy

**1968**

Pres. - James Maxwell, Grafton  
V. P. - Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
Asst.Sec. - R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
N. W. Cummings, Oakes  
August Spiss, Mandan  
\* Minard McCrea, Valley City  
Ell Kay Larson, Munich  
James Broton, New England  
M.F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Ex Officio  
Warner Quale, Bismarck  
School Boards Assoc.  
\* Resigned 2-1-68. Harry  
Salisbury, Valley City, filled  
vacancy. Salisbury  
resigned 7-1-68 and G. F.  
Muckenhirn, Larimore,  
appointed to fill vacancy.

**1969**

Pres. - James Maxwell, Grafton  
V. P. - Ell Kay Larson, Munich  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
Asst.Sec. - R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
\*Asst. Sec.-Rex Robinson, Valley City  
August Spiss, Mandan  
James Broton, New England  
G. F. Muckenhirn, Larimore  
H. L. McLain, Hatton  
A. A. Engelhardt, New Salem  
Del Easton, Williston,  
Sec.Prin. Assoc.  
M. F. Peterson, Bismarck, Ex Officio  
Warner Quale, Bismarck  
School Boards Assoc.  
\* Appointed 7-1-69

**1970**

Pres - Ell Kay Larson, Munich  
V. P. - August Spiss, Mandan  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
Asst.Sec. - R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
Asst. Sec. - Rex Robinson, Valley City  
James Broton, New England  
G. F. Muckenhirn, Larimore  
H. L. McLain, Hatton

\* A. A. Engelhardt, New Salem  
Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
Del Easton, Williston,  
Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
Warner Quale, Bismarck  
School Boards Assoc.

M.F. Peterson, Bismarck  
Supt. of Public Instruction,  
Ex Officio  
\* Resigned 8-21-70, Casper  
Kourajian, Medina appointed  
to temporarily fill vacancy

**1971**

Pres. - August Spiss, Mandan  
\*V. P. - Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
Asst.Sec.- R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
Asst. Sec. - Rex Robinson, Valley City  
James Broton, New England  
G. F. Muckenhirn, Larimore  
H. L. McLain, Hatton  
Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
Norman Batterberry, Max  
Del Easton, Williston  
Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
Warner Quale, Bismarck  
School Boards Assoc.  
M.F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Supt. of Public Instruction,  
Ex Officio  
\* Elected to complete term of  
A.A. Engelhardt 1-15-71

**1972**

Pres. - Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
V. P. - G. F. Muckenhirn, Larimore  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
Asst.Sec. - R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
Asst. Sec. - Rex Robinson, Valley City  
James Broton, New England  
H. L. McLain, Hatton  
Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
Norman Batterberry, Max  
John Sunderland, Cavalier  
Del Easton, Williston,  
Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
Warner Quale, Bismarck,  
School Boards Assoc.  
M.F. Peterson, Bismarck  
Supt. of Public Instruction,  
Ex Officio

**1973**

Pres. - Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
V. P. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
Asst.Sec. - R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
Asst. Sec. - Rex Robinson, Valley City  
\*Asst. to the Sec. - Mary K. Anderson,  
Valley City  
James Broton, New England  
Norman Batterberry, Max  
H. L. McLain, Hatton  
John Sunderland, Cavalier  
G. A. Tooley, Lisbon  
Del Easton, Williston,  
Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
Warner Quale, Bismarck  
School Boards Assoc.  
M.F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
Supt. of Public Instruction,  
Ex Officio

\* Appointed 8-15-73  
**1974**  
 Pres. - Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
 V. P. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Rex Robinson, Valley City  
 Asst. to the Sec. – Mary K. Anderson,  
 Valley City  
 Norman Batterberry, Max  
 H. L. McLain, Hatton  
 John Sunderland, Cavalier  
 \* G. A. Tooley, Lisbon  
 G. F. Muckenhirn, Larimore  
 Del Easton, Williston  
 Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
 \*\* Warner Quale, Bismarck  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 M. F. Peterson, Bismarck  
 Supt. of Public Instruction,  
 Ex Officio  
 \* Resigned 1-1-75, Frank  
 Fischer appointed to fill  
 vacancy

**1975**  
 Pres. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 V. P. - G. F. Muckenhirn, Larimore  
 S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec.- R.D.Schindler, City  
 Asst. to the Sec. – Mary K. Anderson,  
 Valley City  
 Frank Fischer, Jamestown  
 Norman Batterberry, Max  
 John Sunderland, Cavalier  
 Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
 D. Allen Halley, Cando  
 Del Easton, Williston  
 Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
 Dean Bard, Bismarck  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 M.F. Peterson, Bismarck  
 Supt. of Public Instruction,  
 Ex Officio

**1976**  
 Pres. - G. F. Muckenhirn, Larimore  
 V. P. - Norman Batterberry, Max  
 S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec.- R.D.Schindler, Valley City  
 Asst. to the Sec. – Mary K. Anderson,  
 Valley City  
 John Sunderland, Cavalier  
 Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
 D. Allen Halley, Cando  
 Frank Fischer, Jamestown  
 Donovan Benzie, Dickinson  
 Clair Bergene, Kindred,  
 Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
 Dean Bard, Bismarck,  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 \* M.F. Peterson, Bismarck,  
 Supt. of Public Instruction, Ex  
 Officio  
 \* Resigned 1-1-77  
 Howard Snortland elected to  
 fill vacancy.

**1977**  
 Pres. - Frank Fischer, Jamestown  
 V. P. - Dean Bard, Bismarck, School  
 Boards Assoc.  
 S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City

Asst. Sec. - R. D. Schindler, Valley City  
 Asst. to the Sec. – Mary K. Anderson,  
 Valley City  
 Donald Kolbo, Mohall  
 \* Donald W. Brintnell, Pembina  
 \*\* Donald Dehne, Fargo North  
 Donovan Benzie, Dickinson  
 Clair Bergene, Kindred,  
 Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
 Walter V. Hoff, Belfield  
 Duane Silseth, Dakota HS  
 (Arthur-Hunter)  
 Howard Snortland, Bismarck  
 Supt. of Public Instruction,  
 Ex Officio  
 \* Appointed to fill vacancy due  
 to resignation of D. Allen  
 Halley 6-30-77  
 \*\* Appointed to fill vacancy due  
 to resignation of John  
 Sunderland 6-30-77

**1978**  
 Pres. - Frank Fisher, Jamestown  
 V. P. - Walter V. Hoff, Belfield  
 S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec.- R.D. Schindler, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Donovan Benzie, Dickinson  
 Clair E. Bergene, Kindred,  
 Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
 Duane Silseth, Dakota HS  
 (Arthur-Hunter)  
 Donald W. Brintnell, Pembina  
 Donald E Dehne, Fargo North  
 Donald M. Strang, Des Lacs-  
 Burlington  
 Dean F. Bard, Bismarck  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 Howard J. Snortland,  
 Bismarck Supt. of Public Instr.,  
 Ex. Officio

**1979**  
 Pres. - Walter V. Hoff, Belfield  
 V. P. - Clair E. Bergene, Kindred  
 Sec. Prin. Assoc.  
 S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Duane Silseth, Dakota HS  
 (Arthur-Hunter)  
 Donald W. Brintnell, Pembina  
 Donald E. Dehne, Fargo North  
 Donald M. Strang, Des Lacs-  
 Burlington  
 Frank N. Fischer, Jamestown  
 Leon B. Olson, Williston  
 Dean F. Bard, Bismarck  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 Howard Snortland,  
 Bismarck Supt. of Public  
 Instr., Ex Officio

**1980**  
 Pres. - Clair E. Bergene, Kindred

V. P. - Duane L. Silseth, Dakota HS  
 (Arthur-Hunter)  
 \*S. T. - F. U. Smith, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Walter V. Hoff, Belfield  
 Frank N. Fischer, Jamestown  
 Donald W. Brintnell, Pembina  
 Leon B. Olson, Williston  
 Donald M. Strang, Des Lacs-  
 Burlington  
 Donald E. Dehne, Fargo North  
 \*\* Dean F. Bard, Bismarck  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 \*\*\* Howard J. Snortland, Bismarck,  
 Supt. of Public Instr.,  
 Ex Officio  
 \* Retired July 1 - Bruce M.  
 Anderson filled vacancy  
 \*\* Resigned July 1 - Richard  
 D. Ott filled vacancy  
 \*\*\* Resigned January 1, 1981 -  
 Elmer J. Huber filled vacancy  
**1981**

Pres. - Donald E. Dehne, Fargo  
 North  
 V. P. - Donald W. Brintnell, Pembina  
 S. T. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Frank N. Fischer, Jamestown  
 Walter V. Hoff, Belfield  
 Leon B. Olson, Williston  
 Clair E. Bergene, Kindred  
 Terry A. McLeod, Glenburn  
 \* Jerome R. Tjaden, Casselton  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 Elmer Huber, Bismarck  
 Dept. of Public Instruction,  
 Ex Officio  
 \* Appointed to fill vacancy due  
 to resignation of Duane  
 Silseth, 6-1-81  
**1982**

Pres. - Donald W. Brintnell, Pembina  
 V. P. - Leon B. Olson, Williston  
 S. T. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Donald E. Dehne, Fargo  
 North  
 Walter V. Hoff, Belfield  
 Richard W. Kunkel, Devils  
 Lake  
 Terry A. McLeod, Glenburn  
 Dwight F. Moose, Rugby  
 Jerome R. Tjaden, Casselton  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck  
 School Boards Assoc.  
 Elmer J. Huber,

Bismarck Dept. of Public Instruction  
**1983**  
 Pres. - Leon B. Olson, Williston  
 V. P. - Jerome R. Tjaden, Casselton  
 S. T. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Donald W. Brintnell, Pembina  
 Donald E. Dehne, Fargo  
 North  
 Richard W. Kunkel, Devils Lake  
 Terry A. McLeod, Glenburn  
 Dwight F. Moose, Rugby  
 Calvin L. Sailer, South Heart  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Boards Assoc.  
 Elmer J. Huber, Bismarck Dept. of Public Instruction  
**1984**  
 Pres. - Jerome R. Tjaden, Casselton  
 V. P. - Richard W. Kunkel, Devils Lake  
 S. T. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Arlo B. Howe, Dickinson  
 Leon B. Olson, Williston  
 Melvin C. Olson, Cavalier  
 Calvin L. Sailer, South Heart  
 Mark S. Sanford, Grand Forks  
 Donald M. Strang, Des Lacs-Burlington  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Boards Assoc.  
 Elmer J. Huber, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Instruction  
**1985**  
 Pres. - Richard W. Kunkel, Devils Lake  
 V. P. - Donald Strang, Des Lacs-Burlington  
 S. T. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Arlo B. Howe, Dickinson  
 R. Edward Mundy, Minot  
 Melvin C. Olson, Cavalier  
 Calvin L. Sailer, South Heart  
 Mark S. Sanford, Grand Forks  
 Jerome R. Tjaden, Casselton  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Boards Assoc.  
 Elmer J. Huber, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Instruction  
**1986**  
 Pres. - Donald M. Strang, Des Lacs-Burlington  
 V. P. - Mark S. Sanford, Grand Forks  
 S. T. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City

Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Arlo B. Howe, Dickinson  
 Richard W. Kunkel, Devils Lake  
 R. Edward Mundy, Minot  
 Melvin C. Olson, Cavalier  
 Calvin L. Sailer, South Heart  
 Jerome R. Tjaden, Casselton  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Board Assoc.  
 Elmer J. Huber, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Instruction  
**1987**  
 Pres. - Mark S. Sanford, Grand Forks  
 V. P. - Melvin C. Olson, Cavalier  
 S. T. - Bruce Anderson, Valley City  
 Asst. Sec. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Field Representatives:  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Jerome C. Enget, Turtle Lake-Mercer  
 Arlo B. Howe, Dickinson  
 Richard W. Kunkel, Devils Lake  
 R. Edward Mundy, Minot  
 Calvin L. Sailer, South Heart  
 Jerome R. Tjaden, Casselton  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Boards Assoc.  
 Wayne G. Sanstead, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Instruction  
**1988**  
 Pres. - Melvin C. Olson, Cavalier  
 V. P. - Arlo B. Howe, Dickinson  
 S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 David Carlsrud, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Leslie E. Christian, Bottineau  
 Jerome C. Enget, Turtle Lake-Mercer  
 Dean U. Koppelman, Linton  
 R. Edward Mundy, Minot  
 Calvin L. Sailer, South Heart  
 Mark S. Sanford, Grand Forks  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Boards Assoc.  
 Wayne G. Sanstead, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Instruction  
**1989**  
 Pres. - R. Edward Mundy, Minot  
 V. P. - Jerome C. Enget, Turtle Lake-Mercer  
 S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 David Carlsrud, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 \* Leslie E. Christian, Bottineau

Gregory M. Haugland, Bismarck  
 Dale A. Hurt, New Salem  
 \*\* Dean U. Koppelman, Linton  
 Melvin C. Olson, Cavalier  
 Mark S. Sanford, Grand Forks  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Boards Assoc.  
 Wayne G. Sanstead, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Instr  
 \* Resigned 6-30-90 as Bottineau classified as Class B  
 \*\* Resigned 6-30-90 moved from region  
**1990**  
 Pres. - Jerome C. Enget, Turtle Lake-Mercer  
 V. P. - Gregory M. Haugland, Bismarck  
 S. T. Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 David Carlsrud, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 \* Kirk A. Hansen, Ellendale  
 Dale A. Hurt, New Salem  
 \*\* Robert C. Lentz, Valley City  
 R. Edward Mundy, Minot  
 David R. Schneider, Edmore  
 Daniel J. Tehle, Wahpeton  
 Richard D. Ott, Bismarck School Boards Assoc.  
 Wayne G. Sanstead, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Inst.  
 \* Appointed to fill vacancy due to resignation of Dean U. Koppelman, 6-30-90  
 \*\* Appointed to fill vacancy Christian, 6-30-90  
**1991**  
 Pres. - Gregory M. Haugland, Bismarck  
 V. P. - Dale A. Hurt, New Salem  
 S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City  
 David Carlsrud, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Kirk A. Hansen, Ellendale  
 Robert C. Lentz, Valley City  
 David S. Rust, Tioga  
 Wallace R. Schmeling, Mandan  
 David R. Schneider, Edmore  
 Daniel J. Tehle, Wahpeton  
 Nancy J. Johnson, Dickinson School Boards Assoc.  
 Wayne G. Sanstead, Bismarck, Dept. of Public Inst  
**1992**  
 Pres. - Dale A. Hurt, New Salem  
 V. P. - Wallace R. Schmeling, Mandan  
 S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Robert Hetler, Valley City

David Carlsrud, Valley City  
Board Members:

Ronald P. Bommersbach,  
Devils Lake

Kirk A. Hansen, Ellendale  
Gregory M. Haugland,  
Bismarck

\* Marvin F. Leidal, West Fargo  
David S. Rust, Tioga  
David R. Schneider, Edmore  
Nancy J. Johnson, Dickinson,  
School Boards Assoc.

Wayne G. Sanstead,  
Bismarck, Dept. of Public Inst

\* Appointed to fill vacancy due  
to retirement of Daniel J.  
Tehle, Wahpeton, 6-30-92

**1993**

Pres. - Wallace R. Schmeling,  
Mandan

V. P. - Kirk A. Hansen, Ellendale  
S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Ronald P. Bommersbach,  
Devils Lake  
Marvin F. Leidal, West Fargo  
Michael J. Ness, Center  
Michael J. Norland, Williston  
David S. Rust, Tioga  
David R. Schneider, Edmore  
Nancy J. Johnson, Dickinson  
School Boards Assoc.  
Wayne G. Sanstead,  
Bismarck, Dept. of Public  
Instruction

**1994**

Pres. - Kirk A. Hansen, Ellendale  
V. P. - Ronald P. Bommersbach,  
Devils Lake

S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:

Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Larry D. Geggelman, Towner  
Marvin F. Leidal, West Fargo  
Michael J. Ness, Center  
Michael J. Norland, Williston  
David S. Rust, Tioga  
Wallace R. Schmeling,  
Mandan  
Nancy J. Johnson, Dickinson  
School Boards Assoc.  
Wayne G. Sanstead,  
Bismarck  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**1995**

Pres. - Ronald Bommersbach,  
Devils Lake

V. P. - Michael Ness, Center  
S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Larry Geggelman, Towner  
Kirk Hansen, Ellendale  
Lowell Jensen, Bismarck  
Marvin Leidal, West Fargo  
Michael Norland, Williston  
Sherman Sylling, Watford City  
Janet Auer, Glen Ullin  
School Boards Assoc.  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**1996**

Pres. - Michael Ness, Center  
V. P. - Marvin Leidal, West Fargo  
S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Adam Boschee, Kindred  
Larry Geggelman, Towner  
Terry Hjelmstad, Minot  
Lowell Jensen, Bismarck  
Michael Norland, Williston  
Sherman Sylling, Watford City  
Robert Toso, Valley City  
Janet Auer, Glen Ullin  
School Boards Assoc.  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**1997**

Pres. - Marvin Leidal, West Fargo  
V. P. - Sherman Sylling, Watford City  
S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Adam Boschee, Kindred  
Dean Koppelman,  
Bottineau/Willow City  
Terry Hjelmstad, Minot  
Lowell Jensen, Bismarck  
Loren Scheer, Cavalier  
Robert Tollefson, Washburn  
Robert Toso, Valley City  
Janet Auer, Glen Ullin  
School Boards Assoc.  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**1998**

\*Pres. - Sherman Sylling, Watford City  
V. P. - Terry Hjelmstad, Minot  
S. T. - Robert D. King, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Julian Bjornson, Grafton  
Adam Boschee, Kindred  
Lowell Jensen, Bismarck  
Merrill Krueger,  
Rolette/Wolford  
Loren Scheer, Hazelton-M-B  
Robert Tollefson, Washburn  
Robert Toso, Valley City  
\*\* Janet Auer, Glen Ullin

School Boards Assoc.  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction  
\* Resigned, Joe Lukach,  
Des Lacs-Burlington, to fill  
term, Terry Hjelmstad moved  
to Pres., Robert Tollefson to  
V. P.

\*\* Resigned, Richard Ott,  
Bismarck, School Boards  
Assoc.,

**1999**

Pres. - Terry Hjelmstad, Minot  
V. P. - Robert Tollefson, Washburn  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Julian Bjornson, Grafton  
Adam Boschee, Kindred  
Kent Hjelmstad, Mandan  
Merrill Krueger,  
Rolette/Wolford  
Joe Lukach, Des Lacs-  
Burlington  
Loren Scheer, Hazelton-M-B  
Robert Toso, Valley City  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction  
Kari Ann Dunderland,  
Bottineau, School Boards  
Assn.

**2000**

Pres. - Robert Tollefson, Washburn  
V. P. - Kent Hjelmstad, Mandan  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

\* Julian Bjornson, Grafton  
Jon Kringen, Enderlin  
Merrill Krueger,  
Rolette/Wolford  
Joe Lukach, Des Lacs-  
Burlington  
Loren Scheer, Hazelton-M-B  
Clint Lein, Larimore  
Dean Koppelman, Valley City  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction  
Kari Ann Dunderland,  
Bottineau, School Boards  
Assn.

\* Resigned, Robert  
Bradshaw, Grafton, to fill term

**2001**

Pres. - Kent Hjelmstad, Mandan  
V. P. - Joe Lukach, Des Lacs-  
Burlington

S.T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Robert Bradshaw, Grafton

Jon Kringen, Enderlin  
Merrill Krueger,  
Rolette/Wolford  
Clint Lein, Larimore  
Dean Koppelman, Valley City  
Kevin Coles, Hillsboro  
Martin Schock, Elgin-  
New Leipzig  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction  
Kari Ann Dunderland,  
Bottineau, School Boards  
Assn.

**2002**

Pres. - Jon Kringen, Enderlin  
V. P. - Dean Koppelman, Valley City  
S.T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Ed Lockwood, Fargo  
Kent Hjelmstad, Mandan  
Ron Carlson, Minnewaukan  
Clint Lein, Larimore  
Kevin Coles, Hillsboro  
Martin Schock, Elgin-  
New Leipzig  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction  
Kari Ann Dunderland,  
Bottineau, School Boards  
Assn.

\* Joe Lukach, Des Lacs-  
Burlington

\* Resigned, Davd Rust, Tioga,  
to fill term

**2003**

Pres. - Dean Koppelman, Valley City  
V. P. - Martin Schock, Elgin-New  
Leipzig  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Jon Kringen, Enderlin  
Clint Lein, Larimore  
Kevin Coles, Hillsboro  
Ed Lockwood, Fargo  
Ron Carlson, Minnewaukan  
Robert Briggs, Sawyer/Surrey  
Wilfred Volesky, Beulah  
Don Schaible, Mott School  
Boards Assn.  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**2004**

Pres. - Martin Schock, Elgin-New  
Leipzig & Carson  
V.P. - Ed Lockwood, Fargo  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:  
Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Kevin Coles, Hillsboro

Ron Carlson, Minnewaukan  
Robert Briggs, Sawyer/Surrey  
Wilfred Volesky, Beulah  
Don Schaible, Mott  
School Boards Assn.  
Brian Duchscherer, Wishek  
Lorell Jungling, Mandan  
Kim Knodle, Valley City  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**2005**

Pres. - Ed Lockwood, Fargo  
V.P. - Robert Briggs, Surrey  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:

Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Ron Carlson, Minnewaukan  
Wilfred Volesky, Beulah  
Don Schaible, Mott  
School Boards Assn.  
Brian Duchscherer, Wishek  
Lorell Jungling, Mandan  
Kim Knodle, Valley City  
Royal Lyson, Center-Stanton  
Mickey Jordan, Dickinson  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**2006**

Pres. - Robert Briggs, Surrey  
V.P. - Kim Knodle, Valley City  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:

Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City

Board Members:

Wilfred Volesky, Mandan  
Don Schaible, Mott  
School Boards Assn.  
Brian Duchscherer,  
Carrington  
Lorell Jungling, Mandan  
Royal Lyson, Center-Stanton  
Mickey Jordan, Dickinson  
Jack Maus, Grafton  
Jeff Schatz, Grand Forks  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**2007**

Pres. - Kim Knodle, Valley City  
V.P. - Royal Lyson, Center-Stanton  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
Assistants to Secretary:

Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Robert Hetler, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City  
Brenda Schell, Valley City

Board Members:

Brian Duchscherer,  
Carrington  
Mickey Jordan, Dickinson  
Lorell Jungling, Mandan  
Dr. David Looysen, Minot  
Jack Maus, Grafton  
Dr. Jeff Schatz, Grand Forks  
Wayne Stanley, Stanley

Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction  
Phil Eastgate, Beulah  
School Boards Assn.

**2008**

Pres. - Royal Lyson, Center-Stanton  
V.P. - Dr. Jeff Schatz, Grand Forks  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:

Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City  
Brenda Schell, Valley City  
Brian Bubach, Valley City

Board Members:

\* Mickey Jordan, Dickinson  
Jack Maus, Grafton  
Dr. David Looysen, Minot  
\*\* Wayne Stanley, Stanley  
Phil Eastgate, Beulah  
School Boards Assn.  
Rick Jacobson, Wyndmere  
Dr. Steve Swiontek,  
Devils Lake  
Pete Moe, Washburn  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction  
\* Resigned, Kim Knodle,  
Valley City to fill term  
\*\* Resigned, Clarke Ranum to  
Fill 2008-09 year

**2009**

Pres. - Dr. Jeff Schatz, Fargo  
V.P. - Clarke Ranum, Des Lacs-  
Burlington  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:

Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
David Carlsrud, Valley City  
Brenda Schell, Valley City  
Brian Bubach, Valley City

Board Members:

Jack Maus, Grafton  
Dr. David Looysen, Minot  
Phil Eastgate, Beulah  
School Boards Assn.  
Rick Jacobson, Wyndmere  
Dr. Steve Swiontek,  
Devils Lake  
Pete Moe, Washburn  
Larry Helvik, Beach  
Scott Ulland, May-Port CG  
Wayne Sanstead, Bismarck,  
Dept. of Public Instruction

**2010**

Pres. - Clarke Ranum,  
Des Lacs-Burlington  
V.P. - Dr. Steve Swiontek,  
Devils Lake  
S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City

Assistants to Secretary:

Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
Brenda Schell, Valley City  
Brian Bubach, Valley City  
Matt Fetsch, Valley City

Board Members:

David Looysen, Minot  
\* Phil Eastgate, Beulah  
School Boards Assoc.  
\*\* Rick Jacobson, Wyndmere  
Pete Moe, Washburn

Larry Helvik, Beach  
 Scott Ulland, May-Port CG  
 Todd Olson, Grand Forks  
 Kirk Ham, Park River  
 Dr. Wayne Sanstead,  
 Bismarck, Dept. of Public  
 Instruction  
 \* Resigned, Ben Auch,  
 Mott-Regent, to fill term  
 \*\*Resigned, Jeff Fastnacht,  
 Ellendale, to fill term  
**2011**  
 Pres. - Dr. Steve Swiontek,  
 Devils Lake  
 V. P. - Scott Ulland, May-Port CG  
 S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Sheryl Solberg, Valley City  
 Brenda Schell, Valley City  
 Brian Bubach, Valley City  
 Matt Fetsch, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Pete Moe, Washburn  
 Larry Helvik, Beach  
 Todd Olson, Grand Forks  
 Kirk Ham, Park River  
 Steve Brannan, Garrison  
 \* Steve Hall, Kindred  
 Shane Martin, Belcourt  
 Dr. Wayne Sanstead,  
 Bismarck, Dept. of Public  
 Instruction  
 Ben Auch, Mott-Regent  
 School Boards Association  
 \* Steve Hall is filling the  
 remainder of Rick Jacobson's  
 term  
**2012**  
 Pres. - Scott Ulland, May-Port CG  
 V. P. - Todd Olson, Fargo  
 S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Brenda Schell, Valley City  
 Brian Bubach, Valley City  
 Matt Fetsch, Valley City  
 Justin Fletschcock, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Larry Helvik, Beach  
 Kirk Ham, Park River  
 Steve Brannan, Garrison  
 Steve Hall, Kindred  
 Shane Martin, Belcourt  
 Jim Roaldson, Jamestown  
 Jason Wiberg, Devils Lake  
 \*Dr. Wayne Sanstead,  
 Bismarck, Dept. of Public  
 Instruction (retired 12-30-12)  
 Ben Auch, Mott-Regent  
 School Boards Association  
 \*Kirsten Baesler, Bismarck  
 Dept. of Public Instruction  
**2013**  
 Pres. - Todd Olson, Fargo  
 School Boards Association

V. P. - Steve Hall, Kindred  
 S. T. - Sherman Sylling, Valley City  
 Assistants to Secretary:  
 Brenda Schell, Valley City  
 Brian Bubach, Valley City  
 Matt Fetsch, Valley City  
 Justin Fletschcock, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Dr. Todd Bertsch, Fargo  
 Kirk Ham, Park River  
 Steve Brannan, Garrison  
 Shane Martin, Belcourt  
 Brad Rinas, Washburn  
 Jim Roaldson, Jamestown  
 Jason Wiberg, Devils Lake  
 Kirsten Baesler, Bismarck  
 Dept. of Public Instruction  
 Ben Auch, Mott-Regent  
 School Boards Association  
**2014**  
 Pres.-Steve Hall, Kindred  
 V. P.-Jason Wiberg, Devils Lake  
 Exec. Dir.-Matthew J. Fetsch,  
 Valley City  
 Assoc. Dir.-Brian Bubach, Valley City  
 Asst. Directors:  
 Justin Fletschcock, Valley City  
 Kevin Morast, Valley City  
 Brenda Schell, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Dr. Todd Bertsch, Fargo South  
 Steve Brannan, Garrison  
 Andy Dahlen, Fargo North  
 Jeff Manley, Cavalier  
 Brad Rinas, Washburn  
 Jim Roaldson, Jamestown  
 Kirsten Baesler, Bismarck  
 Dept. of Public Instruction  
 \*Ben Auch, Mott-Regent  
 School Boards Association  
 \*Ben Auch resigned  
 Patti Stedman, West Fargo  
 appointed to a 4 yr. term  
**2015**  
 Pres.-Jason Wiberg, Devils Lake  
 V. P.- Brad Rinas, Washburn  
 Exec. Dir.-Matthew J. Fetsch,  
 Valley City  
 Assoc. Dir.-Brian Bubach, Valley City  
 Asst. Directors:  
 Justin Fletschcock, Valley City  
 Kevin Morast, Valley City  
 Brenda Schell, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Dr. Todd Bertsch, Fargo South  
 Andy Dahlen, Fargo North  
 Steve Hall, Kindred  
 Jeff Manley, Cavalier  
 Jim Roaldson, Jamestown  
 Ben Schafer, Ray  
 Dr. Mark Vollmer, Minot  
 Kirsten Baesler, Bismarck  
 Dept. of Public Instruction

Patti Stedman, West Fargo  
 School Boards Association  
**2016**  
 Pres.-Brad Rinas, Washburn  
 V. P. -Andy Dahlen, Fargo North  
 Exec. Dir.-Matthew J. Fetsch,  
 Valley City  
 Assoc. Dir.-Brian Bubach, Valley City  
 Asst. Directors:  
 Justin Fletschcock, Valley City  
 Kevin Morast, Valley City  
 Brenda Schell, Valley City  
 Media Specialist:  
 Tom Mix, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Dr. Todd Bertsch, Fargo South  
 Mitch Carlson, LaMoure  
 Jeff Manley, Cavalier  
 Scott Privratsky, Devils Lake  
 Ben Schafer, Ray  
 Michael Sorlie, North Sargent  
 Dr. Mark Vollmer, Minot  
 Kirsten Baesler, Bismarck  
 Dept. of Public Instruction  
 Patti Stedman, West Fargo  
 School Boards Association  
**2017**  
 Pres.-Andy Dahlen, Fargo North  
 (term expires 6-30-18)  
 V. P. -Ben Schafer, Ray  
 (term expires 6-30-19)  
 Exec. Dir.-Matthew J. Fetsch,  
 Valley City  
 Assoc. Dir.-Brian Bubach, Valley City  
 Asst. Directors:  
 Justin Fletschcock, Valley City  
 Kevin Morast, Valley City  
 Brenda Schell, Valley City  
 Media Specialist:  
 Tom Mix, Valley City  
 Board Members:  
 Mitch Carlson, Marion  
 (term expires 6-30-20)  
 Travis Jordan, Beulah  
 (term expires 6-30-21)  
 Jeff Manley, Cavalier  
 (term expires 6-30-18)  
 Scott Privratsky, Devils Lake  
 (term expires 6-30-20)  
 Michael Sorlie, Gwinner  
 (term expires 6-30-20)  
 Warren Strand, Fessenden  
 (term expires 6-30-21)  
 Dr. Mark Vollmer, Minot  
 (term expires 6-30-19)  
 Kirsten Baesler, Bismarck  
 Dept. of Public Instruction  
 Patti Stedman, West Fargo  
 School Boards Association



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