

**NORTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**  
**Box 817, Valley City, North Dakota 58072**

**APPLICATION FOR COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF AN ACTIVITY**

Cooperative sponsorship of any activity by two or more member schools will be considered under the following conditions:

1. Schools are to be located in the same geographical area.
2. 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 any 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: Wrestling & Cross Country)
3. Cooperative sponsorship agreements will be enforced for a minimum of three years.
4. The school boards of the participating member schools must jointly make the application to the NDHSAA Board of Directors.
5. A resolution from each school board stating the purpose for sponsoring a joint team or activity must be submitted to the NDHSAA office.
6. Requests for cooperative agreements **between schools with existing programs** must be submitted prior to the end of the preceding season in that sport. The Board does have the latitude to act on applications submitted after these times if they are considered emergencies, but there will be a \$500 late fee for each co-op.
7. Schools must select and list the "co-op name" under which their teams will participate.
8. Schools in the coop should address differences in school eligibility policies and sportsmanship plans. **Reminder:** To be eligible for a state tournament sportsmanship banner, each school in the coop must have an approved sportsmanship plan.
9. Co-ops must be posted at [WWW.NDHSAA.com](http://WWW.NDHSAA.com) for two weeks prior to Board action and to be posted, **applications from all schools must be completed.**



**PHILOSOPHY**

The philosophy that will guide the NDHSAA Board of Directors in reviewing and approving applications for cooperative sponsorship of activities is as follows:

1. The Board will attempt to increase the number of students that are participating in activities by making activities available for the students that would not be available in their school if joint sponsorship did not occur.
2. The Board would prefer to see projects that combine smaller schools for sponsorship of an activity rather than a small school combining with a larger school when the smaller school cannot support the activity alone.
3. Improving the quality of a team (i.e. better win-loss record) will not be valid criteria in deciding whether approval should be granted.

Agreements are for a three-year period, but may be terminated by the Board of Directors under the following conditions:

1. Closing of one of the schools.
2. Mutual consent of involved schools