

SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

2012 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSALS

OFFICIAL AMENDMENT BALLOT

PROPOSED AMENDMENT #1 (Proposed Via Petition)

Chapter II – Bylaws for Athletics, Part I, Further Eligibility Requirements For Athletic Contests, Section 1, Subsection N, pages 11-12:

Current Sub-Section N:

N. TRANSFER OF ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY FOR SDHSAA OPEN ENROLLMENT STUDENTS. Any student who transfers from a member high school to another member high school shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics provided such student has met the standards for SDHSAA athletic open enrollment as defined in the following paragraph:

1. **SDHSAA athletic open enrollment students transferring from one high school to another must have the school (s)he leaves file a transcript of credits with the principal of the school to which (s)he is transferring. Until such transcript is filed the student is ineligible.**

In order for SDHSAA athletic open enrollment students to be eligible immediately for participation in interscholastic athletics of the SDHSAA, the student must have been enrolled on the first day of the school year at the school they are open enrolling to. Member schools must have the necessary athletic open enrollment papers filed with the SDHSAA office prior to allowing athletic open enrollment students the opportunity to play. Until such athletic open enrollment paperwork is filed, the student is ineligible.

For students not enrolled on the first day of the school year at the school they are open enrolling to:

2. **SDHSAA athletic open enrollment students enrolled in a SDHSAA member school which operates a five (5) day week shall become eligible on the forty-sixth (46th) scheduled day of school provided all other SDHSAA regulations are met. Member schools must have the necessary athletic open enrollment papers filed with the SDHSAA office prior to allowing athletic open enrollment students the opportunity to play. Until such athletic open enrollment paperwork is filed, the student is ineligible.**
3. **SDHSAA athletic open enrollment students enrolled in an SDHSAA member school which operates a four (4) day week shall become eligible on the thirty-seventh (37th) scheduled day of school provided all other SDHSAA regulations are met. Revised 2005 Member schools must have the necessary athletic open enrollment papers filed with the SDHSAA office prior to allowing athletic open enrollment students the opportunity to play. Until such athletic open enrollment paperwork is filed, the student is ineligible.**
4. **In addition, all such students must meet all other eligibility requirements.**

5. For purposes of this Bylaw “standards for open enrollment” shall mean such standards authorized by a public school board as required by SDCL 13-28-40 through and including SDCL 13-28-47. In the case of a non-public school, such comparable standards and time-lines, as set forth in SDCL 13-28-40 through and including SDCL 13-28-47 would be applicable to such school.
6. In such cases, eligibility is applicable to the initial SDHSAA athletic open enrollment transfer only. Any subsequent SDHSAA athletic open enrollment transfer to another high school shall render the student ineligible for one year with one exception.

The exception: In the event a student returns to:

1. his/her former school; or
2. where his/her parents reside,

the student will not be eligible until the beginning of the following school year.

NOTE: The open enrollment statutes SDCL 13-28-40 through 13-18-47 do not change the By-Laws of the SDHSAA. Thus Chapter II, Part I, Section 1, Sub-Sections (a) and (f) apply to sports eligibility for all open enrollment students.

- **Once enrolled in a nonresident district or non-assigned school, the student may remain enrolled and is not required to resubmit annual applications.**
- **Students who open enroll from one school in a cooperative to the other school(s) in the same cooperative will not have to sit out the 45 school day waiting period providing all school (s) in the cooperative coop in all athletic activities in the same gender. Minutes-November 25, 2002**

NOTE: See State Statutes section of Athletic Handbook for Open Enrollment Options between North Dakota and Minnesota.

Re-write as follows:

N. TRANSFER OF ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY FOR OPEN ENROLLMENT STUDENTS. Any student, who transfers from a member high school to another member high school or from a non-member high school to a member high school, shall be ineligible to participate at the varsity level in interscholastic athletics for a period of one (1) year. Students would be eligible to participate in all sub-varsity interscholastic athletics during the one (1) year period of varsity ineligibility. The one year of ineligibility shall commence the day the student enrolls and attends classes at the school they are open enrolling to. SDHSAA athletic open enrollment students transferring from one high school to another must have the school (s)he leaves file a transcript of credits with the principal of the school to which (s)he is transferring. Until such transcript is filed the student is ineligible.

1. SDHSAA athletic open enrollment students transferring from one high school to another must have the school (s)he leaves file a transcript of credits with the principal of the school to which (s)he is transferring. Until such transcript is filed the student is ineligible. (Revised 2005) Member schools must have the necessary athletic open enrollment papers filed with the SDHSAA office prior to allowing athletic open enrollment students the opportunity to play. Until such athletic open enrollment paperwork is filed, the student is ineligible.
2. In addition, all such students must meet all other eligibility requirements.

3. For purposes of this Bylaw “standards for open enrollment” shall mean such standards authorized by a public school board as required by SDCL 13-28-40 through and including SDCL 13-28-47 and SDCL 13-28A-1 through 13-28A-7. In the case of a non-public school, such comparable standards and time-lines, as set forth in SDCL 13-28-40 through and including SDCL 13-28-47 would be applicable to such school.
4. In such cases, eligibility is applicable to the initial open enrollment transfer only. Any subsequent open enrollment transfer to another high school shall render the student ineligible for one year with one exception.

The exception: In the event a student returns to:

- A. his/her former school; or
- B. where his/her parents reside,

The student will not be eligible until the beginning of the following school year.

NOTE: The open enrollment statutes SDCL 13-28-40 through 13-18-47 do not change the Bylaws of the SDHSAA. Thus Chapter II, Part I, Section 1, Sub-Sections (a) and (f) apply to sports eligibility for all open enrollment students.

- Once enrolled in a nonresident district or non-assigned school, the student may remain enrolled and is not required to resubmit annual applications.
- Students who open enroll from one school in a cooperative to the other school(s) in the same cooperative will not have to sit out the one year waiting period providing all school (s) in the cooperative coop in all athletic activities in the same gender. Minutes- November 25, 2002

NOTE: See State Statutes section of Athletic Handbook for Open Enrollment Options between North Dakota and Minnesota.

Rationale:

- 1) Transferring greatly affects parity. Schools are classified by enrollment, yet someone could grab the best athletes from other towns and compete in the class their school falls under according to enrollment. Right now there is absolutely no deterrent from stopping people from "loading up" and essentially creating all star teams that would in essence be competing against teams that have been built in more traditional manners, or worse yet, have been depleted because solid athletes have left to join these "assembled" teams.
- 2) We are just tipping the iceberg with the detriments of full fledged open enrollment with no obstacles in place for transferring. The practice of recruiting, whether it is by a coach, parent, booster, or team members in a summer league or traveling team must be curtailed to keep the competitive balance and protect the integrity of school teams. Other states have discovered this as well and have taken similar steps to accomplish those goals.
- 3) Help keep teams stable.
- 4) Keep threats to leave under control. The way it is now, if an athlete doesn't like something or was disciplined and the parent does not agree the parent holds the trump card by saying if you do not change something, we will open enroll to another school.
- 5) Make students and parents deal with problems instead of running from them.
- 6) The original intent of the open enrollment statute was to provide academic opportunities for students who may not have been afforded those opportunities in their home school district. It does not appear that this is the case anymore. Open enrollment must be considered much more carefully or we will have a continued decline in the very things we should be teaching our students in co-curricular activities. Things like loyalty to your

school, teammates, coaches, and community. We are facilitating the “ME FIRST” society and the attitude of “I’ll do what is best for me”—we should not. I question whether we are teaching students the correct things by letting them go to where things are set up better for them to win a state title—that should not be what we are all about.

Sponsoring Schools:

Aberdeen Central	Chester	McCook Central
Armour	Clark	Milbank
Baltic	Colman-Egan	Mitchell
Belle Fourche	Deubrook	Oldham-Ramona
Beresford	Flandreau	Parker
Bon Homme	Freeman	Pierre
Brookings	Garretson	Todd County
Canistota	Harrisburg	Viborg
Canton	Lennox	Watertown
Chamberlain	Madison	West Central
		Yankton

SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

2012 OFFICIAL AMENDMENT BALLOT

This ballot is to be returned in the self-addressed envelope. The deadline for the return of this ballot is **May 29, 2012**. In order to pass, a proposal must receive a 60% plurality. Please refer to the accompanying document for the text of the amendment and the rationale that was given at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors.

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Yes

No

Name of Member School

Date

Signature (Superintendent or Principal)

Signature (School Board President)

Unless there are TWO signatures, this ballot will be unacceptable and declared void.

BALLOTS DUE: MAY 29, 2012