



BC School Sports AGM May 6, 2017

2017 BC SCHOOL SPORTS NOTICES OF MOTION

All notices of motions are to replace the current policy with the proposed, except where otherwise noted.

PROCEDURAL AND PROGRAMING NOTICES

Moved by:
David
Thompson
(Lopez)
Seconded by:
Riverside
(Colombo)

Notice #1: Legal Contingency Fund
Current:

N/A

Proposed:

Note: The proposed is not to replace Section II B1.2 but to allow the application of the legal levy with the 2017-2018 Membership Fees.

A one-time fee of \$30.00 be collected from each Member School, with the 2017 – 2018 membership fees to maintain the legal contingency fund.

Rationale:

- Section II B1.2 Legal Contingency Fund states that the Legal Contingency Fund be maintained around \$50,000 to protect the membership from the unexpected costs of litigation.
- The last legal levy was in May 2015 (\$50.00)
- Litigation against BCSS this past year was the cause of the reserve being paid down.

Moved by:
South Delta
(Sweeney)
Seconded by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

Notice #2: Replace Restricted and Unrestricted Competition
Current:

Proposed:

To replace the terms restricted and unrestricted competition throughout the handbook with [BCSS activity](#).

Rationale:

- Previously restricted and unrestricted competition was used in the rule that restricted the amount of games a student-athlete could play up to a team. The playing up rule was removed a number of years ago but the language still exists. The BCSS rules apply to all interschool competition whether exhibition, tournament, league, playoff, zone or provincials. This change simply removes the old language with “BCSS activity” to remove confusion and increase understanding.



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COMPETITIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS NOTICES

Moved by: Notice #3: Member’s Compliance with the Rules: Section II A2, pg. 17
MEI

(Thiessen)
Seconded by: No current policy exists
Riverside

(Colombo)
Proposed:

Insert:

A2.2 Member’s Compliance with the Rules of BCSS

All member schools of BCSS must comply with the rules as stipulated in the BCSS Constitution, By-laws, and Operating Policies and Procedures and the Competitive Rules and Regulations relating to interscholastic programs. Failure to adhere to the Rules and Regulations of the Association are grounds sanction at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The rules shall not be waived by agreement or otherwise.

2.2.1 When a school becomes a member of BCSS, all of its activities which come under BCSS jurisdiction must be included in that membership.

2.2.2. Each member school has a responsibility to educate its student-athletes, coaches, and other appropriate persons on BCSS rules, regulations and policies that could affect them. Further, the member school should monitor its compliance with such BCSS information.

2.2.3 Member schools must maintain appropriate crowd control at all interscholastic contests and events.

NOTE: Schools that operate sport “academies” are not precluded from membership on the basis of that academy, provided that the academy registrants do not compete as a team outside of BCSS.

Rationale:

- This policy is aimed at protecting the integrity of BC School Sports by placing a restriction on the ability of a school to compete in school sport leagues as well as other types of competition. This is a proactive step with the recent rise in popularity of “prep” schools, with the aim of having a school choose to be a member of BCSS or not. If a school chooses to go the prep school model, they are welcome to do so, but none of their teams will be able to compete against any BCSS member school in any of our recognized activities. If a school does decide to become a BCSS school, then any teams they have in one of our recognized sports, must compete under the BCSS rules.
- This policy is modeled after a similar policy in Washington State and policies of similar intent are not uncommon in other jurisdictions
- Ontario has had no such policy and now finds themselves in a real tough situation with schools playing multiple teams in both Prep Leagues and School leagues with some athletes playing both

Notice #4: Remuneration of BC School Sports Board: Section II B5, pg. 19
Current:

Moved by:
Vancouver
Technical
(Allina)
Seconded by:
South Delta
(Sweeney)

B5: Remuneration of BC School Sports Board

BC School Sports Directors shall receive an annual honorarium of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450) for their time and energy while performing the duties of the board.

Proposed:
Remove:



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Section II B5: Remuneration of BC School Sports Board as per BCSS Bylaws.

Rationale:

- The accompanying section in the By-laws was removed at the Extraordinary meeting on November 23, 2016. This removes the section from the Handbook to ensure BCSS remains eligible for gaming funding.
- The current board declined all remuneration this year, despite the policy being passed at the AGM in 2016 without a full understanding of the impact.

Moved by: David Thompson (Lopez)

Notice #5: Sport Participation: Section II C, pg. 20
Current:

Seconded by: Riverside (Colombo)

Section II C1: Requirements for Team Participation

C1.1 Sport Registration:

By October 3, 2016, member schools must submit an online Team Registration indicating the sports in which they will organize teams from grade eight (8) to grade twelve (12). All sports approved by BC School Sports will be listed on the Team Registration.

Member schools need to register all teams that they know will be participating for the entire school year by October 3, 2016. Member schools will be able to add teams to their STARS portal by the following deadlines:

- Fall Sports- October 3, 2016
- Winter- November 28, 2016
- Spring- March 6, 2017

C1.2 Online Student – Athlete Registration:

Grade eight (8), grade nine (9), Junior and Senior teams must also be submitted online (see Section III C2.2.1 for deadlines).

Section II C2 Participation Lists

Sport commissions and athletic associations will be able to access sport participation reports in STARS for each sport, in all tiers or levels (whichever is applicable). Sport commissions use this information to determine berthing structure for playoffs and zone qualifying events.

Proposed:

Remove Section II C from the BCSS Handbook

Rationale:

- The information is listed twice in the handbook. The section proposed for removal will remain in Section III C of the BCSS Handbook.

Moved by: MEI (Thiessen)
Seconded by: Earl Marriott (Misiak)

Notice #6: Publications: Section II D, pg. 20
Current:

Section II D1: BC School Sports Handbook

The annual publication of the BCSS operations, Competitive Rules and Regulations, and championship information.



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Section II D2: Athletic Director's E- Newsletter

A newsletter for athletic directors, distributed two (2) to four (4) times per year.

Section II D3: BC School Sports Provincial Championship Event Management Guidelines

An event management manual for provincial championships published and distributed to all sport commissions.

Proposed:

Remove Section II D: Publications

Rationale:

- The tools listed are operational tools, and not required as Policies. In an effort to continue to clean up our policies, the suggestion is for removal. BCSS will continue to publish all of the above as standard operating procedure.

Notice #7: Athletic Associations: Section II D4, pg. 20

Current:

Current policy does not exist

Proposed:

Insert:

Local Athletic Associations

BC School Sports recognizes the importance of local athletic associations to support and enhance the student-athlete experience throughout the province. Local athletic associations play an integral role in the coordination and delivery of school sport activities at the district and local levels. For local athletic associations to be affiliated with BCSS they must:

- Have stated purposes that are aligned with the purposes of BCSS;
- Adopt the competitive policies of BCSS, for activities sanctioned by both BCSS and the local athletic association;
- Require membership in BCSS for all local athletic association member schools.
- Be recognized by the school district(s) located within the geographic boundaries of the local athletic association as the organizing body of school sports and athletics;
- Have a committee responsible for discipline, with defined processes and procedures;
- Have a President who is not on a personal leave of absence from a school district or an independent member school for more than five (5) months of the term to be served and who is:
 - A teacher or administrative officer assigned to a public member school; or
 - Be a non-instructional teacher or school district administrator paid by a school district; or
 - Be a teacher or Administrator at an Independent member school; and

Scope of the Responsibility

Local athletic associations are responsible for the following:

- Applying the policies, procedures and competitive rules and regulations of BCSS within its geographic region;
- Organizing league competitions within its geographic region;
- Supporting the goals and programs of BCSS within its geographic region;
- Promoting the purposes and values of BCSS within its geographic region; and
- Being represented on the BCSS Council of School Athletic Association Presidents.

Moved by:
South Delta
(Sweeney)

Seconded by:
Vancouver
Technical
(Allina)



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Disaffiliation

A local athletic association may be disaffiliated by the BCSS Board of Directors.

Rationale:

- Athletic Associations were removed from the BCSS Bylaws at the extraordinary meeting on November 23, 2016 with the intention of being added to the BCSS Operating Policies.

Moved by: Notice #8: Eligibility Appeals Committee Meetings: Section II E6.2, pg. 25

MEI

(Thiessen)

Seconded by: E6.2 Meetings:

Earl Marriott

(Misiak)

The BC School Sports Eligibility Appeals Committee will meet as required up to a maximum of six (6) meetings per year. The Eligibility Appeals Committee may meet by conference call or video conferencing if warranted by time and expense. The manner in which the Eligibility Appeals Committee will meet is the decision of the chairperson of the Eligibility Appeals Committee.

Proposed:

E6.2 Meetings:

The BC School Sports Eligibility Appeals Committee will meet as approved by the BCSS Board of Directors but no more than nine (9) times per academic year. The Eligibility Appeals Committee may meet by conference call or video conferencing if warranted by time and expense. The manner in which the Eligibility Appeals Committee will meet is the decision of the chairperson of the Eligibility Appeals Committee. Eligibility Appeals Committee dates and submission deadlines will be published in the handbook, calendar, and on the website annually.

Rationale:

- The EAC is often required to meet more than 6 times a year. This change gives the board the ability to approve the dates. All relevant dates will still be published in the BCSS Handbook, on the BCSS calendar, and online.

Moved by: Notice #9: BC School Sports Activity: Section III A2, pg. 36

Riverside

(Colombo)

Seconded by: No current policy

South Delta

(Sweeney)

Proposed:

Insert:

Section III A2: BC School Sports Activity

BC School Sports officially recognizes and therefore governs the following as BCSS interschool activities:

Team Sports	Individual Sports
Badminton	Aquatics
Basketball (boys/girls)	Cross Country
Curling	Gymnastics
Field Hockey (girls)	Mountain Biking
Football	Skiing
Golf	Snowboarding
Rugby (boys)	Track & Field



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Soccer (boys/girls)	Wrestling
Tennis	
Volleyball (boys/girls)	

Rationale:

- There is no current policy indicating what sports BCSS considers a sanctioned activity for which the organization governs, nor what is deemed a Team Sport or Individual Sport, which is referenced in other places throughout policy.

Moved by:
Vancouver
Technical
(Allina)

Seconded by:
David
Thompson
(Lopez)

Notice #10: Team Eligibility and Tiering Classifications: Section III C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, & C7, pg. 45

Current:

See Current 2016-2017 BCSS Handbook (Section III C1, C2, C3, C4, C5 & C7)

Proposed:

C1 General

A member school team is defined as any one (1) student-athlete or group of student-athletes who are representing the member school in interschool sport activity, and are supervised by a school district approved coach/sponsor and under the authority of the school administrator. All member school sport teams must be properly registered in STARS by the published deadline dates in order to compete in BCSS competition. Individual student-athletes must be registered and approved in STARS as part of their eligibility requirements. Additionally, student-athletes must be registered on the appropriate STARS team roster.

C1.1 School Membership in BCSS

The school that is being represented by a team must be a member school of BCSS as per Section II A.

C1.2 A member school team is prohibited to compete against non-member school teams, club teams and community teams in BCSS activity.

C2: Registration Requirements

C2.1 Team Registration Deadline: In each season of play, member schools are required to register their teams by meeting the minimum numbers of student-athletes (Section III C3) in the age levels of competition in which they wish to participate.

Member schools will not be penalized for registering a team and then choosing not to participate. Team Registration must be completed in STARS by:

- Fall - October 4, 2017
- Winter – December 20, 2017
- Spring – April 4, 2018

C2.2 Penalties for Registration after Team Registration Deadlines

C2.2.1 In the event a team is not registered in STARS after the Team Registration Deadline (Team and Minimum Numbers) and 21 days or more prior to the start of Provincial Championships (inclusive of the first (1st) day of Provincials), the member school will be assessed an automatic fine of \$50 per team. There is a maximum fine of \$300/member school per season of play.

C2.2.2 In the event a team is not registered in STARS after the Team Registration Deadline and between 20 to 11 days (inclusive) prior to the start of Provincial Championships (inclusive of the first (1st) day of Provincials), the member school will be assessed an automatic fine of \$150 per team (the season maximum does not apply).



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C2.2.3 In the event a team is not registered in STARS after the Team Registration Deadline and 10 days or less prior to the start of Provincial Championships (inclusive of the first (1st) day of Provincials), the member school will be assessed an automatic fine of \$250 per team (the season maximum does not apply).

Missed Team Registration Deadline (Team & Minimum Numbers) <i>*Maximum only applies to 21 days or more prior to Provincial Competition.</i>	Days Until Provincials	Fine Amount
	21 Days or more	\$50 per team <i>*\$300 maximum per season of play</i>
	From 20-11 Days	\$150 per team
	10 Days or less	\$250 per team
The first (1 st) day of a provincial championship is counted as day one (1)		

C2.3 Roster Registration Deadline: In each season of play, member schools may add any additional student-athletes to complete their rosters by the Roster Registration Deadline. This includes, eligible student-athletes who are new to the member school or who are joining the team after the Team Registration Deadline (these student-athletes must not have participated in any competition(s) prior to being registered with BCSS). Roster Registration must be completed in STARS by:

- Fall – October 18, 2017
- Winter – January 17, 2018
- Spring – April 18, 2018

C2.4 Penalties for Registration after the Roster Registration Deadline

C2.4.1 In the event an individual student-athlete is not registered on the STARS team roster after the Roster Registration Deadline and 21 days or more prior to the start of Provincial Championships (inclusive of the first (1st) day of Provincials) and is deemed eligible to play by BCSS, the member school will be assessed an automatic fine of \$25.

C2.4.2 In the event an individual student-athlete is not registered on the STARS team roster after the Roster Registration Deadline and between 20 to 11 days (inclusive) prior to the start of Provincial Championships (inclusive of the first (1st) day of Provincials) and is deemed eligible to play by BCSS, the member school will be assessed an automatic fine of \$100.

C2.4.3 In the event an individual student-athlete is not registered on the STARS team roster after the Roster Registration Deadline and 10 days or less prior to the start of Provincial Championships (inclusive of the first (1st) day of Provincials) and is deemed eligible to play by BCSS, the member school will be assessed an automatic fine of \$250.

Missed Roster Registration Deadline	Days Until Provincials	Fine Amount
	21 Days or more	\$25 per student-athlete
	From 20-11 Days	\$100 per student-athlete
	10 Days or less	\$250 per student-athlete
The first (1 st) day of a provincial championship is counted as day one (1)		

In extraordinary circumstances, the BCSS Executive Director may in his or her sole discretion, reduce or waive a fine for registration after the roster deadline. The request must be in writing, state the extraordinary circumstances on the late registration and be received within five (5) days of notice of the fine. The request shall be e-mailed to the BCSS office. The decision of the Executive Director is final and binding on all parties.

C3: Minimum Numbers for BC School Sports Rosters

C3.1 Member schools are required to register a minimum number of students on the STARS team rosters as per Section III C2.1 Team Registration Deadlines. Minimum roster numbers are:



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Fall	
Aquatics - 1	Cross Country – 1
Field Hockey – 11	Football – 19
Soccer (Boys) - 11	Volleyball – 6
Winter	
Basketball - 7	Curling - 4
Gymnastics – 1	Snowboard – 1
Ski – 1	Wrestling - 1
Spring	
Badminton - 5	Golf - 4
Mountain Biking - 1	Rugby - 18
Soccer (Girls) - 11	Tennis – 5
Track & Field - 1	

Section III C4: Procedures for Dealing with Violations of the Registration Policies

C4.1 THE OFFENDING SCHOOL SELF-REPORTS:

A violation of Registration Policies occurs when a student-athlete who otherwise would be eligible competes in interschool athletics in a BCSS activity without being properly registered on STARS.

C4.1.1 BCSS Investigation by the Executive Director:

- a. Verbal confirmation of the violation with the responding member school; and
- b. The additional information will be added administratively to STARS.

C4.1.2 Penalties: As per Section III C2:

- a. Fines will be assessed in accordance with the approved fine schedule in Section III C2;
- b. The member school has ten (10) school days to pay the fine (all fines are payable to BCSS); and
- c. If the fine is not paid within ten (10) school days, the team will not be eligible to compete in any BCSS activity until the fine payment is received.

C4.2 REGISTRATION VIOLATION DISCOVERED WITHOUT SELF-REPORTING:

C4.2.1 BCSS Investigation by the Executive Director:

- a. Verbal confirmation of the violation with the responding member school;
- b. Written “cease and desist” notification stating that the student-athlete and / or team is ineligible and the fine (cc: athletic association & sport commission); and
- c. The student-athlete and / or team is not eligible to compete in any BCSS activity until all student-athletes are properly registered by BCSS staff in STARS.

C4.2.2 Penalties: As per Section III C2:

- a. Fines will be assessed in accordance with the approved fine schedule in Section III C2;
- b. The member school has ten (10) school days to pay the fine (all fines are payable to BCSS); and
- c. If the fine is not paid within ten (10) school days, the team will not be eligible to compete in any BCSS activity until the fine payment is received.

Section III C5: Violations of Eligibility Policies

C5.1 THE OFFENDING SCHOOL SELF-REPORTS:

A violation of eligibility policies occurs when a student-athlete who is not eligible to compete in interschool athletics in a BCSS activity competes in an activity. It is considered an eligibility infraction if the athlete has competed before being deemed eligible, or in the case of a member school neglecting to initiate the eligibility application process, after the fact is deemed ineligible.



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C5.1.1 BCSS Investigation by the Executive Director:

- a. Verbal confirmation of the violation with the member school;
- b. Written "cease and desist" notification stating the circumstances of ineligibility and the fine (cc: athletic association & sport commission); and
- c. The student-athlete(s) is not eligible unless an Eligibility Application is filed with BCSS and accepted by the Eligibility Officer.

C5.1.2 Penalties: as per Section III D:

- a. Forfeiture of any competition in a BCSS activity in which the ineligible student-athlete(s) has participated;
- b. A \$50 fine per instance, to a maximum of \$200; this is separate from registration fines, should they be necessary.
- c. The member school has ten (10) school days to pay the fine (all fines are payable to BCSS); and
- d. If the fine is not paid within ten (10) school days, the team will not be eligible to compete in any BCSS activity until the fine payment is received.

C5.2 REGISTRATION VIOLATION DISCOVERED WITHOUT SELF-REPORTING:

C5.2.1 BCSS Investigation by the Executive Director:

- a. Verbal confirmation of the violation with the responding member school;
- b. Written "cease and desist" notification stating the circumstances of ineligibility and the fine (cc: athletic association & sport commission); and
- c. The student-athlete(s) is not eligible unless an Eligibility Application is filed with BCSS and accepted by the Eligibility Officer.

C5.2.2 Penalties: as per Section III D:

- a. Forfeiture of any competition in a BCSS activity in which the ineligible student-athlete(s) has participated;
- b. A \$50 fine per instance, to a maximum of \$500; this is separate from registration fines, should they be necessary.
- c. The member school has ten (10) school days to pay the fine (all fines are payable to BCSS); and
- d. If the fine is not paid within ten (10) school days, the team will not be eligible to compete in any BCSS activity until the fine payment is received.

Rationale:

- Minimum numbers which previously were not included in policy, although referenced policy, have been added.
- Includes addition to clarify that school teams are prohibited from playing club teams, or non-member schools which has long been an operating premise of BCSS and its members, but is not explicitly stated in policy.
- Change registration deadlines application to be based on number of days prior to provincials to allow for a more fair and consistent application of the rules.
- Moving from 3, to now only 2 deadlines. Eliminating the current first registration (Team Declaration) so now the two deadlines are: Team Registration, where a team must have a coach and minimum numbers; and the Roster Deadline, the last day for adding players to rosters. The current Team Declaration Deadline is very seldom used, was a holdover from many years ago when schools had to submit teams in hardcopy. The proposed date is for the new Team Registration Deadline is one week later than the current Team Declaration deadline. This change should lead to less fines and more complete information in STARS.
- Fines are now relative to days prior to a provincial championship. It currently is very difficult to know exactly where each different association and zone is in their various sports relative to championships, and can lead to 2 schools missing the same deadline and registering an athlete on the same day, but being charged two different fines. This will provide clear and measurable way to consistently apply the rules and the proposed number of "days prior" for the various fine levels are intended to estimate a similar application as the current policy.
- Move Rugby's Minimum Number from 15 to 18 as per the request of the Commissioner.



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Moved by:
South Delta
(Sweeney)

Seconded by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

Notice #11: Number Calculation for All Tier Classifications: Section III C7.1, pg.51

Current:

C7.1 Number Calculation for All Tier Classifications:

Member school population numbers will be determined using the previous year’s September 30 numbers as submitted in the 1701 Form. There will be an appeal process for one (1) year to the next for member schools requesting to have their numbers reviewed due to substantial discrepancy with numbers from the previous years. For senior girls volleyball, the membership population numbers will be determined using the current year’s 1701 grade eleven (11) or twelve (12) school population numbers.

Proposed:

C7.1 Number Calculation for All Tier Classifications

Member school population numbers will be determined using the previous year’s grade ten (10), grade eleven (11), and Secondary Ungraded (SU) numbers as submitted September 30th to the Ministry of Education on the 1701 report. Tiering appeals can be submitted to BCSS until October 1st of the current school year. Accepted appeals will determine the member schools tiering numbers for all sports for a one (1) year period. Tiering appeals will not be accepted for Boys Basketball in the second (2nd) year of their two (2) year tiering cycle.

Appeals can be submitted for the following:

- a. Addition or deletion of grades in a member school;
- b. School/District Re-organization; or
- c. Changes in enrollment in excess of five percent (5%) of the current year’s grade eleven (11) and twelve (12) (senior grades) students in a member school compared to the previous year’s 1701.

Appeals will not be accepted for the following:

- a. Changes or reclassification of secondary ungraded students in a member school; or
- b. Generalized fluctuation of less than five (5%) percent of the current year’s grade eleven (11) and twelve (12) (senior grades) students in a member school.

C7.1.1 Girls Volleyball will use the current school year’s September 30th grade eleven (11), grade twelve (12), and secondary ungraded numbers as submitted to the Ministry of Education on the 1701 form.

Rationale:

- Currently there is explicit policy on SU students in Membership counts for billing purposes, but not in tiering. This policy provides clarity on the proper counting of Secondary Ungraded students for tiering.
- Provides a more measurable objective on what grounds a Member School may file a tiering appeal, and removes the undefinable “substantial discrepancy” term from the rule.

Moved by:
West Point
Grey
Academy
(Read)

Seconded by:
Vancouver
Technical
(Hildebrand)

Notice #12: Aquatics Sport Tier Classifications: Section III C7.2, pg. 52

Current:

Aquatics currently does not have tiering.

Proposed:

Insert:

Tiering numbers are as follows:



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AAA - 421 or more students in Grades 11 and 12

AA – 126 – 420 students in Grades 11 and 12

A - 125 or fewer students in Grades 11 and 12

Rationale:

- To give all schools a chance to compete against like-sized schools for a championship
- The Tiering for Aquatics would be done on the population of BOTH males and females in grades 11, 12 and SU based on the previous year's 1701's as is done with most sports.
- Aquatics Championships will award banners based on school size, and gender. There would be no more combined gender score or banners. There will be banners for A Girls, AA Girls, AAA Girls, and A Boys, AA Boys and AAA Boys championships.
- Tiering classification would be based on numbers of students in Grade 11, 12 and SU students, (or the highest two grades of a school, where appropriate)

Notice #13: Basketball – Boys Sport Tier Classifications: Section III C7.2, pg. 52

Current:

Moved by:
RC Palmer
(Eberhardt)

Seconded by:
St. John's
(Kinman)

Basketball - Boys

AAAA - 267 or more boys in Grades 11 and 12

AAA - 174 – 266 boys in Grades 11 and 12

AA - 70 – 173 boys in Grades 11 and 12

A – 69 or fewer boys in Grades 11 and 12

Proposed:

For the 2017 – 2018 and 2018 – 2019 seasons boys basketball will use the following numbers for tier breaks based on the September 2016 - 1701 numbers.

Basketball - Boys

AAAA - 271 or more boys in Grades 11 and 12

AAA - 178 – 270 boys in Grades 11 and 12

AA - 75 – 177 boys in Grades 11 and 12

A – 74 or fewer boys in Grades 11 and 12

Rationale:

- The two guiding principles of adding a fourth tier to BCHSBBA were to:
 - Make sure that all four tiers were as equally balanced as possible and
 - That teams would be committed to these tiers for a two year period to help with consistency and scheduling.

Notice #14: Soccer – Boys & Girls Sport Tier Classifications: Section III C7.2, pg. 52

Current:

Moved by:
Carihi
(Jepson)

Seconded by:
Stelly's
(Cunningham)

Currently Boys & Girls Soccer each have three tiers.

AAA - 226 or more boys (girls) in grades 11 & 12

AA - 81-225 boys (girls) in grades 11 & 12

A - 80 or fewer boys (girls) in grades 11 & 12



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Proposed:

Boys & Girls Soccer will each offer four tiers and four BCSS Championships.

AAAA: 251 or more boys (girls) in grades 11 & 12

AAA: 161 – 250 boys (girls) in grades 11 & 12

AA: 66 – 160 boys (girls) in grades 11 & 12

A: 65 or fewer boys (girls) in grades 11 & 12

Rationale:

- The sport of soccer continues to grow and has the required number of member schools to develop a 4 tiered system.
- Provide more schools with a chance to celebrate and have the opportunity of reaching a Provincial Championship berth.
- This would be introduced in the Fall of 2017 for Boys and the Spring of 2018 for Girls.
- In keeping with BC School Sports regulations Tiers will be based on the 1701 numbers of the previous school year. Tiering numbers will be based on the number of grade 11, 12 and SU (senior ungraded) students in the school.

Moved by:
Mt. Sentinel
(Moreira)

Seconded by:
Little Flower
Academy
(Ballard)

Notice #15: Volleyball – Girls Sport Tier Classifications: Section III C7.2, pg. 52

Current:

Currently Girls Volleyball has the following Tier breakdown:

AAAA - 266 or more girls in grades 11 and 12

AAA – 161-265 girls in grades 11 and 12

AA – 71-160 girls in grades 11 and 12

A – 70 or fewer girls in grades 11 and 12

Proposed:

To change the Girls Volleyball Tier breakdown to the following:

AAAA – 251 or more girls in grades 11 and 12

AAA – 161-250 girls in grades 11 and 12

AA – 66-160 girls in grades 11 and 12

A – 65 or fewer girls in grades 11 and 12

Rationale:

- Where we had a ratio of 1/1/1/1 (teams: tier) when we expanded to 4 tiers that is no longer the case
- Intent is to provide a more equitable competitive opportunity in each of our 4 tiers
- This is merely a tweak that creates an equal distribution of teams per tier.

Moved by:
David
Thompson
(Lopez)

Seconded by:
MEI
(Thiessen)

Notice #16: Student-Athlete Eligibility: Section III D1

Current:

Section III D: Student-Athlete Eligibility

BCSS recognizes the right of all student-athletes to choose which school they attend and which subjects they study. BCSS, however, is charged with the responsibility of drafting, implementing and enforcing rules on eligibility for those student-athletes who seek the privilege of participating in interschool competition. The overriding purpose of these rules is to ensure fair and equitable competition for all student-athletes participating in BCSS activity.



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Section III D1: Student-Athlete Eligibility

Individual student-athletes must meet the applicable eligibility requirements of BCSS and any applicable sport commission gender-based equity rule to participate in BCSS activity, and be listed on the appropriate STARS roster to be eligible for competition.

D1.1 Participation of an ineligible student-athlete in restricted and unrestricted competition will result in the following penalties (see Section III C5 for reporting procedure and appeal procedure):

D1.1.1 The member school forfeits all restricted competition in which the ineligible student-athlete has participated; and

D1.1.2 The member school must pay a \$50 fine per student-athlete, per restricted competition, to a maximum of \$200.

D1.2 The student-athlete may be ineligible because:

D1.2.1 They are ineligible under Section III D of these rules; or

D1.2.2 The student-athlete may not be properly registered with the school team as per Section III C2.2 of the rules.

Proposed:

Section III D: Student-Athlete Eligibility

BCSS recognizes the right of all student-athletes to choose which school they attend and which subjects they study. BCSS, however, is charged with the responsibility of drafting, implementing and enforcing rules on eligibility for those student-athletes who seek the privilege of participating in interschool competition. The overriding purpose of these rules is to ensure fair and equitable competition for all student-athletes participating in BCSS activity. Individual student-athletes must meet the applicable eligibility requirements of BCSS and any applicable sport commission gender-based equity rule to participate in BCSS activity, and be listed on the appropriate STARS roster to be eligible for competition.

Section III D1: Registration of Eligible Student-Athletes

D1.1 Prior to participating in competition of a BCSS activity, the member school is responsible for ensuring that any:

D1.1.1 Student-athletes are eligible as per the entirety of the Competitive Rules and Regulations;

D1.1.2 Student-athletes are registered on the applicable STARS roster by published deadlines; and

D1.1.3 Student-athletes have not competed in more than one (1) interscholastic season of play per sport each year as defined by BCSS.

Rationale:

- To allow for a more linear and understandable handbook. The proposed policy is removing Section IIIC4, and moving it to Section III D1, as it pertains to Eligibility more so, than registration.
- Removal of Sections D1.1 and D1.2 as they are covered in Section C under registration rules.
- The word “interscholastic” has been added to subsection c. as a way to allow for interpretation by Eligibility Officers and EAC Appeals committees surrounding participation in prep schools and other similar educational related establishments.

Notice #17: Student- Athletes Registered at More than One (1) Member School: Section III D2.1.2, pg. 55

Current:

D2.1.2 Student-Athletes Registered at More than One (1) Member School:

- a. If a student-athlete is registered at two (2) schools, the student-athlete may only participate in BCSS activities for the member school at which the student-athlete has the largest percentage of the credit load.

Moved by:
Vancouver
Technical
(Allina)
Seconded by:
Riverside
(Colombo)



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- b. This member school would be considered their 'home school' if the credit load at the two (2) member schools is equal. The student-athlete is then eligible to participate for the member school at which the student-athletes first registered for a BCSS activity.
- c. If, at any time during the student-athlete's second (2nd), third (3rd), fourth (4th), and fifth (5th) year of eligibility, the member school at which the student-athlete has the majority of his/her credit load changes, the school must establish eligibility at this member school be either filing an eligibility application or meeting the conditions outlined in Section III D9.

Proposed:

D2.1.2 Student-Athletes Registered at More than One (1) Member School:

- a. If a student-athlete is registered at two (2) schools, the student-athlete may only participate in BCSS activities for the member school at which the student-athlete has the largest percentage of the credit load.
- b. If the credit load at the two (2) member schools is equal, the school at which the student-athlete was first registered at in a BCSS activity would be considered their home school.
- c. If, at any time after the student-athlete's home school has been established, the member school at which the student-athlete is enrolled in the majority of his/her credit load changes, the school which now has the majority of course load, must establish eligibility by meeting the conditions outlined in Section III D9.

Rationale:

- No change in intent. Adding clarification to points B and C for understanding. Previous policy didn't have clarity surrounding a 50-50 split in course load.

Moved by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

Seconded by:
South Delta
(Sweeney)

Notice #18: Full Time Student-Athlete Status: Section III D2.2, pg. 55

Current:

A student-athlete must be full-time as judged by the school administrator based on a full-time course load of seventy-five percent (75%) or more within a school year with courses taken in the season of play in which the student-athlete competes.

Proposed:

D2.2 A student athlete must be enrolled in and attending a minimum of a sixty-two and a half percent (62.5%) course load. A one hundred percent (100%) course load is defined as thirty two (32) credits or eight (8) standard courses.

D2.2.1 Student-athletes must be enrolled in and attending a minimum of five (5) full time courses (20 credits) within the school year to be considered eligible and they must be enrolled in and attending a minimum of two (2) full time courses (8 credits) in each semester, if in a semester system school.

D2.2.2 Any student-athlete who completes his/her school graduation requirements mid-year (January) and does not continue to enroll in courses, is not eligible for the following season of play (spring). The student-athlete may complete the season of play they are currently in (winter).

D2.2.3 Student-athletes who complete graduation requirements during the current school year and continue to take courses, will remain eligible, should they continue to meet all other eligibility requirements.

Rationale:



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- Given the changing landscape of education and the new provincial requirements for graduation, it is increasingly common for Grade 12 athletes to have multiple 'spare' blocks in the timetable. It is felt that reducing the credit requirement by one course is more appropriate to the current landscape but still demands that student-athletes are engaged in their school communities.
- This change provides clarity to what is a full time student, and how many credits are required by a student-athlete to be eligible.
- Some student-athletes graduate in January and there was no clarity previously regarding their eligibility within policy.

Moved by:
Vancouver
Technical

(Allina)

Seconded by:

David
Thompson
(Lopez)

Notice #19: Grade Seven (7) Student-Athlete Participation: Section III D3.5.3, pg. 56

Current:

D3.5.3 Grade seven (7) student-athletes who play on a grade eight (8) or bantam team will declare that member school as their home school

Proposed:

Remove Section III D3.5.3: Grade seven (7) student-athletes who play on a grade eight (8) or bantam team will declare that member school as their home school

Rationale:

- This policy wasn't changed last year to reflect the changes in home school establishment moving to Grade 9. The update for this rule is updated and outlined in the home school rule. (Notice #25)

Moved by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

Seconded by:

Riverside
(Colombo)

Notice #20: Student-Athlete Move/Play Ups: Section III D3.6, 3.7 & 3.8, pg. 57

Current:

D3.6 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT-ATHLETES PLAYING UP TO A MORE SENIOR SCHOOL'S TEAM:

Middle / Junior member school athletes can "play up" to the senior member school that they would normally attend if, by the registration date (see Section III C2.2 and C2.3), they have approval of both member schools' administrators, both member schools' coaches, and parents(s) or legal guardian(s). The local athletic association, the district superintendent, and BCSS must be notified by using the Middle / Junior school, who is a member in good standing. Senior member schools must not be registering these student-athletes in STARS as part of their school. BCSS will place the middle / junior school student-athletes on the senior member schools STARS team roster when the form is received and approved. Any student-athletes not properly registered will be deemed ineligible (see Section III Definitions for Playing up and Moving Up).

D3.6.1 Limits to Playing / Moving Up: Student-athletes attending a middle school or junior secondary school cannot play or move up in the sports of aquatics, cross country, gymnastics, mountain biking, skiing / snowboarding, track & field, or wrestling as the minimum number to form a school team in these sports are one (1) athlete.

D3.6.2 The exemption to this rule is football whereby student-athletes registered on a lower level team may play for the higher level team at the same time without restriction during playoffs

D3.7 MOVEMENT BETWEEN TEAMS

A registered student-athlete may play up to a more senior team during league play without restriction on the number of days. Once the player has participated in playoffs: any restricted competition following the conclusion of the regular season. The player must stay up with the more senior team and a Moving a Player to a Higher Age-Group Team form must be completed. Once approved, the student will be registered with the more senior team for the remainder of that season. If a school registers two (2) or more teams in the same age group in the same sport, there will not be any movement between those two (2) teams for restricted competition.



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D3.7.1 Football is exempt from D3.7. Any registered student-athlete within the Football Commission may play up to a more senior team during playoffs without restriction-including playing for both teams during the playoffs, provided that the student-athlete playing up on the more senior team is registered on a lower level team. No student-athlete registered on a senior team with BCSS may play down at a lower level.

D3.8 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT-ATHLETES MOVING UP AT THE END OF THEIR AGE GROUP SEASON

A student-athlete who is otherwise eligible and is registered on one (1) of the school teams in the same sport, or is registered on one (1) of the direct feeder school teams in the same sport, is eligible to join the more senior team in that sport after the completion of the lower age level team's restricted competition and playoff schedule. The student-athlete must be added to the appropriate STARS roster for the more senior team before competing. The addition of the student-athlete is made by notification on writing to the BCSS office of the student-athlete's name, name of the team on which they were originally registered, and the signature of the coach and athletic director (use the moving student-athlete to a higher age-group team form).

Proposed:

D3.6 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT-ATHLETES PLAYING UP TO A MORE SENIOR SCHOOL'S TEAM:

Middle / Junior member school student-athletes can "play up" to the senior member school that they would normally attend if, by the registration date (see Section III C), they have approval of both member schools' administrators, both member schools' coaches, and parents(s) or legal guardian(s). The local athletic association, the district superintendent, and BCSS must be notified by using the Middle / Junior school playing up form. Senior member schools must not be registering these student-athletes in STARS as part of their school. BCSS will place the middle / junior school student-athletes on the senior member schools STARS team roster when the form is received and approved. Any student-athletes not properly registered will be deemed ineligible (see Section III Definitions for Playing up and Moving Up).

D3.6.1 Limits to Playing / Moving Up: Student-athletes attending a middle school or junior secondary school cannot play or move up in the sports of aquatics, cross country, gymnastics, mountain biking, skiing / snowboarding, track & field, or wrestling as the minimum number to form a school team in these sports are one (1) athlete.

D3.6.2 The exemption to this rule is football whereby student-athletes registered on a lower level team may play for the higher level team at the same time without restriction during playoffs.

D3.7 MOVEMENT BETWEEN TEAMS

A registered student-athlete may play up to a more senior team during league play without restriction on the number of days. Student-athletes must wait a minimum of eighteen (18) hours after the completion of their last lower level competition before they are eligible to compete with the higher age level team. Prior to the player participating in playoffs: any competition following the conclusion of the regular season; the player must be moved up to the more senior team and a Move Up must be completed in STARS. Once approved, the student will be registered with the more senior team for the remainder of that season. If a school registers two (2) or more teams in the same age group in the same sport, there will not be any movement between those two (2) teams for restricted competition.

D3.7.1 Any registered student-athlete on a STARS football roster may play up to a more senior team during playoffs without restriction; including playing for both teams during the playoffs, provided that the student-athlete playing up on the more senior team is registered on a lower level team. No student-athlete registered on a senior football team with BCSS may play down at a lower level. The eighteen (18) hour rule in D3.7 does apply for football.

D3.8 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT-ATHLETES MOVING UP AT THE END OF THEIR AGE GROUP SEASON

A student-athlete who is otherwise eligible and is registered on one (1) of the school teams in the same sport, or is registered on one (1) of the direct feeder school teams in the same sport, is eligible to join the more senior team in that sport after the completion of the lower age level team's competition. Student-athletes must wait a minimum of eighteen (18) hours after the completion their last lower level competition before they are eligible to compete with the higher age level team. The student-athlete must be added to the appropriate STARS roster for the more senior team before competing. The addition of the student-athlete is made through the Move Up function in STARS.



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Rationale:

- This is recommended with the safety of our student-athletes in mind. The removal of a cap on juniors playing up has shown some unintended consequences of some athletes playing almost 2 full seasons, and often in very short windows or condensed time periods, despite not being in the best interest of the student-athlete.
- This policy offers some protection to those student athletes, while still allowing the movement back and forth without restriction on the number of contests they can compete in.
- There are many instances where an athlete is playing in a contest, and then being moved up to play another contest immediately following, and continues to jump back and forth between teams. This does not limit that, except for when the start of the second game is less 18 hours prior to the beginning of the next game. Ensuring there is an a rest period between contests.

Notice #21: Number of Years of Eligibility: Section III D4, pg. 58

Current:

Moved by:

Riverside
(Colombo)

Seconded by:

Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

D4.1.3 Request for Extension of Five (5) Years of Eligibility Due to Lost School for Medical Reasons: If a significant portion of a school year is lost due to illness or accident, the member school may appeal on the student-athlete’s behalf to have up to one (1) year of eligibility restored. Medical documentation must show that the loss of an academic year due to medical reasons resulted in the student-athlete having to repeat a grade and prevented the normal five (5) year progression through school. The eligibility time restored will not include any seasons of play in which the student-athlete had been enrolled in school during the academic school year in question. The appeal must include medical documentation, academic records and absentee records for the school(s). No student-athlete will be granted a sixth (6th) year of eligibility in any sport he/she has already participated in for part or all of five (5) seasons. Nor will that student-athlete be granted a sixth (6th) year of eligibility if they have participated in any part of both a fourth (4th) and fifth (5th) year of eligibility.

Proposed:

D4.1.3 Request for Extension of Five (5) Years of Eligibility Due to Lost School for Medical Reasons: If a significant portion of a school year is lost due to illness or accident, the member school may submit an eligibility application on the student-athlete’s behalf to have up to one (1) year of eligibility restored (See Section III D10). Medical documentation must show that the loss of an academic year due to medical reasons resulted in the student-athlete having to repeat a grade and prevented the standard five (5) year progression through school. The eligibility time restored will not include any seasons of play in which the student-athlete had been enrolled in school during the academic school year in question. The eligibility application must include medical documentation, academic records and absentee records for the school(s). No student-athlete will be granted a sixth (6th) year of eligibility in any sport he/she has already participated in for part or all of five (5) seasons. Nor will that student-athlete be granted a sixth (6th) year of eligibility if they have participated in any part of both a fourth (4th) and fifth (5th) year of eligibility.

Rationale:

- Simply changes the word “appeal” to the correct language of “application.” Intent and application remains consistent with current policy.

Notice #22: Jointly Sponsored Teams: Section III D6, pg. 59

Current:

Moved by:

MEI
(Thiessen)

Seconded by:

South Delta
(Sweeney)



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D6.1 There is merit in allowing student-athletes to participate in sports programs that are not offered at their home school due to insufficient numbers

D6.2 Two (2) or more member schools may make an application to the Eligibility Officer to sponsor a joint team which will involve the participation of student-athletes from more than one (1) member school.

D6.3 Each application must:

D6.3.1 Be made for team sports only;

D6.3.2 Be made with regard to member schools that are located in the same local association;

D6.3.3 Be for a minimum period of one (1) year; and

D6.3.4 Acknowledgement and support from the member schools' administration and local association president of the conditions of the application (see Section III D6.5).

D6.4 In deciding whether or not to grant an application for a joint team the Eligibility Officer shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:

D6.4.1 The goal of allowing joint teams is to increase the number of student-athletes that participate in activities by making activities available for student-athletes that would not otherwise be available if joint teams were not accepted;

D6.4.2 It is preferable to combine smaller schools rather than having a small school combine with a larger school; and

D6.4.3 Improving the quality of a team (i.e. better win / loss record) shall not be a criterion in deciding whether approval will be granted.

D6.5 An approved joint team application may have restricted access to sanctioned events:

D6.5.1 Rural or isolated (see Section III Definitions) member schools, who are approved for a joint team will not have any restricted access to sanctioned events;

D6.5.2 With the exception of Section III D6.5.1, joint teams may have conditions of play placed as agreed to in Section III D6.3.4 which may include but not restricted to;

D6.5.3 Access to local leagues, access to Tier II leagues, or access to local championships or other restrictions agreed to by the member schools' administrations and local association president in Section III D6.3.4; however,

D6.5.4 No joint team that did not qualify under Section III D6.5.1 will be able to participate in any post season play beyond a local or Tier II championship.

D6.6 When an application is granted, the tiering classification of the joint team will be determined by the combined population of the two (2) schools forming the joint team.

D6.7 The Eligibility Officer may terminate a joint team before the expiry of the one (1) year period in the following cases:

D6.7.1 Closure of one (1) of the participating schools;

D6.7.2 Serious breach of the Bylaws, Policies or Rules and Regulations of BCSS of any of the participants; or

D6.7.3 When, in the opinion of the Eligibility Officer, it is in the best interests of the student athletes of one (1) or more schools.

D6.8 The Eligibility Officer's decision is final and conclusive and shall not be appealed or reviewed in any manner.

Proposed:

BCSS believes there is merit in allowing student-athletes to participate in sports programs that are not offered at their home school due to low student enrollments and insufficient numbers. The goal of allowing joint teams is to increase the number of student-athletes that participate in activities.



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D6.1 Two (2) or more member schools may make an application for a Joint Team. If approved student-athletes from those member schools will be able to participate together on the joint team.

D6.2 Each Application must be made only for team sports and be submitted to the BCSS Office. The application shall:

D6.2.1 Be made with regard to member schools that are located in the same local association;

D6.2.2 Indicate which specific team sport and identified time period; a minimum period of one (1) year, up to a maximum of three (3) consecutive years; and

D6.2.3 Include acknowledgement and support from the member schools' administration and local association president.

D6.3 To maintain the competitive balance and ensure a fair field of play, a joint school team may be approved but the ability for the team to compete in playoffs, zones and championships may be restricted based on the following:

D.6.3.1 Member schools who join together and have a combined "category" total of 11 or higher as found in Membership Fees (Section II B1.1) are eligible to compete in all competition in a BCSS activity (playoffs, zones and provincials)

D6.3.2 Member schools who join together and have a combined "category" total of 10 or lower in the Membership Fees Categories (Section II B1.1) are not eligible to compete in any post season competition beyond a local or Tier II championship in BCSS activity.

D6.4 The tiering classification of the joint team will be determined by combining the appropriate tiering numbers of the two (2) or more schools forming the joint team.

D6.4 A joint team may be terminated by written request, before the expiry of the requested time period in the following cases:

D6.4.1 Closure of one (1) of the participating schools;

D6.4.2 Serious breach of the Bylaws, Policies or Rules and Regulations of BCSS of any of the participants; or

D6.4.3 When, it is in the best interests of the student athletes of one (1) or more schools.

D6.5 The decision is final and conclusive and shall not be appealed or reviewed in any manner.

Rationale:

- Currently the policy relies on distinguishing between rural and urban, and references a website no longer supported by the government. The change establishes an objective standard that is easily measurable and removes current ambiguity and grey area around rural and urban designations.
 - Intent remains same; however, now the application can be handled through the office as it's simply an objective measure rather than requiring interpretation of ambiguous policy.
 - The numbers chosen, are meant to allow a similar standard of teams to combine and still be eligible to compete at BCSS Provincial Championships as currently exists.
 - Add clarity around how long a Joint Team can exist before having to reapply
-



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Moved by:
Riverside
(Colombo)

Seconded by:
David
Thompson
(Lopez)

Notice #23: Home Study, Distributed Learning, and Alternate School Student-Athletes: Section III D8, pg. 61

Current:

D8.1 Home study, distributed learning and alternate school student-athletes may compete in BCSS competition provided that:

D8.1.1 The student-athlete competes for the last school they were registered as a full-time student; or

D8.1.2 If the student-athlete has not been previously registered at a member school, they must compete for the school in whose catchment area they reside.

Proposed:

D8.1 Home study and alternate school student-athletes may compete in BCSS competition provided that:

D8.1.1 Individual Sports:

The student-athlete competes for the school they currently attend (home study or alternate school) in individual sports.

D8.1.2 Team Sports:

- a. The student-athlete competes for the last member school they were registered as a full-time student; or
- b. If the student-athlete has not been previously registered at a member school, they must compete for the school in whose catchment area they reside.

D8.2 Distributed learning school student-athletes may compete in BCSS competition provided that:

- a. The student-athlete competes for the last school they were registered as a full-time student; or
- b. If the student-athlete has not been previously registered at a member school, they must compete for the school in whose catchment area they reside.

NOTE: A student enrolled at a Home Study, Distributed Learning or Alternate school is not eligible to compete in a relay event within an individual sport, (i.e. track, swimming) for any school other than the school in which they are formally registered as a student with the Ministry of Education.

Rationale:

- There has been inconsistencies going back numerous years about the handling of these student-athletes in relation to participation on relays in individual sports. This provides clarity surrounding options available to them to compete in both individual and team sports, depending on whether in a DL, Home Study or Alternate School.

Moved by:
David
Thompson
(Lopez)

Seconded by:
Riverside
(Colombo)

Notice #24: Advanced Ruling: Section III D9.1, pg. 61

Current:

D9.1 ADVANCE RULING ON ELIGIBILITY:

A member school may apply in writing to the Eligibility Officer through the BCSS office for an advance ruling on a student-athlete's eligibility to participate in restricted competition at the school for one (1) or more sports.

D9.1.1 An application for the current school year may be brought at any time; but

D9.1.2 An application for the following school year may only be brought after the BCSS AGM for the current school year.

D9.2 An application under Section III D9.1 shall contain a completed and signed BCSS Eligibility Advance Ruling Form.

D9.3 The Eligibility Officer may request further information from the applicant school, and may decline to issue a ruling if he or she considers that the applicant school has not provided sufficient information.



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D9.4 Subject to Section III D9.3, the Eligibility Officer shall issue a written ruling to the applicant school stating that the student-athlete is eligible or ineligible for restricted competition in one (1) or more sports for the current or following year based on the facts submitted by the applicant school.

D9.5 Where a student-athlete is ruled ineligible, the student-athlete is deemed to be ineligible for the purposes of Section III C5 and D1 for the year and sport(s) referred to in the ruling.

D9.6 Where a student-athlete is ruled eligible, the student-athlete is deemed to be eligible for the purposes of Section III C5 and D1 for the year and sport(s) referred to in the ruling, provided, however, that:

D9.6.1 The facts submitted by the applicant school are correct;

D9.6.2 The student-athlete:

- a. Is not ineligible for restricted competition on the basis of facts not contained in the application; and
- b. Does not become ineligible after the ruling is issued.

Proposed:

Remove section III D9.6: Advanced Rulings in its entirety.

Rationale:

- We receive a very low number of Advanced Ruling Applications
- Currently they are reviewed by the Eligibility Officer, but it is simply a review of the high level details against policy, and only a guideline is given on whether to submit an Eligibility Application or not due to the amount of information required in an Advanced Ruling is much less. This makes it difficult for the Eligibility Officer to make a ruling. Currently, rulings are suggestions and non-binding which defeats the purpose.
- The office staff receive many calls about how policies are applied and do a wonderful job of explaining to the interested party how their situation fits within the different policies. They also explain whether it would be Compliance, School Dec or whether it would have to be an Eligibility Application. This for all intents and purposes serves as the same process, and sometimes we can provide even more guidance.
- This removes an unnecessary complication in our process that leads to more confusion than clarity.

Notice #25: Statement Regarding the Student-Athletes Home School: Section III D9.7, pg. 62

Current:

D9.7 STATEMENT REGARDING THE STUDENT-ATHLETE'S HOME SCHOOL:

The school at which the student-athlete is registered on the first (1st) day of their first (1st) year of eligibility is the student-athlete's home school and is the school at which the student-athlete has athletic eligibility. The exception would be where a local district policy has prejudiced the student-athlete's ability to attend their new school on the first (1st) day of the new school year. A student-athlete's first (1st) year of eligibility is counted from the September of grade eight (8) entry, and starts on the first (1st) day of school in the applicable school year.

D9.8 TRANSFERS:

Subject to Section III D10, a student-athlete who transfers from his / her home school after the first day of his / her second (2nd) year of eligibility (grade 9) is ineligible for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of transfer (or if the transfer is in September, the start of the next school year), to participate in restricted and unrestricted competition in any school sport(s) in which he/ she was registered for a member school in the twelve (12) months prior to the date of transfer unless one (1) of the conditions in Section III D9.8.1 - D9.8.13 is met.

In addition to completion of the transfer form in STARS, a Compliance and Authorization Form must be submitted and be signed by the administrators and athletic directors of both the leaving and receiving schools, and by the student-athlete's parent or legal guardian.

Moved by:
MEI
(Thiessen)

Seconded by:
Vancouver
Technical
(Allina)



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Note: For middle school and junior secondary students who will feed into a more senior school, that school will be deemed their home school as the student advances into the more senior grades.

At the time of online registration of a transferred student-athlete as an eligible student-athlete in the school, there must be a confirmation as to why the student-athlete is eligible. This is done through STARS. Please read the conditions below carefully to determine if additional confirmation is required (see Section III D9.8.1 - D9.8.13)

Proposed:

D9.7 FIVE YEARS OF ELIGIBILITY

A student-athlete has five (5) consecutive years of athletic eligibility that begins on their first (1st) day of Grade 8.

D9.8 ESTABLISHING A STUDENT-ATHLETE'S HOME SCHOOL:

A student athlete's eligibility is tied to their home school. Any subsequent school transfers after it is established are subject to the transfer rules established by BCSS. The student-athlete's home school will be established at the member school at which:

- a. a student-athlete plays up to a Senior School (Section III D3.6) and is listed on a grade nine, junior or senior team roster OR;
- b. the student-athlete registers on the first (1st) day of their second year of eligibility (grade 9).

NOTE: If a student-athlete participates on or plays up to a senior school and is registered only on a Grade 8 roster, this does NOT establish a home school.

NOTE: If a student-athlete has already established their home school (after the first day of Grade 9), has participated in BCSS activities in Grade 8, and transfers, the student-athlete IS subject to all transfer rules for those sports they competed during their Grade 8 year, even if the student-athlete has not competed in that sport as a Grade 9.

D9.9 TRANSFERS

Subject to Section III D10, a student athlete who transfers from his/her home school after the first day of his/her second (2nd) year of eligibility (Grade 9) is ineligible for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of transfer. Student-athletes are ineligible to participate in any competition in a BCSS activity in which he/she was registered at for the previous twelve (12) months prior to the date of transfer unless one (1) of the conditions in Section III D9.8.1 – D9.8.13 is satisfied.

A compliance and authorization form must be signed and submitted by the principals and athletic directors of both the leaving and receiving schools, and the student-athletes parent(s) or legal guardian(s) for the transfer to be completed.

Note: For middle school and junior secondary students who will feed into a more senior school, that school will be deemed their home school as the student advances into the more senior grades.

Rationale:

- No real change in intent from previous policy
 - Add clarity around difference between Eligibility (5 years, beginning in Grade 8) and the establishment of a Home School for athletic eligibility purposes (First day of Grade 9, or playing up to a Grade 9 team) that was caused by change to Home School rule at 2016 AGM.
 - Also adds clarity that a home school is established if a student-athlete plays up to Grade 9/Jr/Sr teams. Currently it's unclear.
-



BC School Sports AGM May 6, 2017

Moved by:
South Delta
(Sweeney)

Seconded by:
David
Thompson
(Lopez)

Notice #26: Change of Principal Residence: Section III D9.8.3 & D9.8.4, pg. 63

Current:

D9.8.3 Change of Principal Residence: The student-athlete and his / her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) have changed their principal residence in the previous twelve (12) months. The change of residence must not be for the purpose of making the student-athlete eligible for restricted competition at a member school. The student-athlete does not become eligible under this category until the member school submits to BCSS a School Declaration Form by the parent or legal guardian in a form acceptable to the Eligibility Officer which attests to the details and reason for the change of residence (please also refer to Section III D5).

- a. **Move within the Same Public School District:** If the new principal residence is within the boundaries of the same school district, the student-athlete can remain eligible by not changing schools, or will be immediately eligible at the public school into whose catchment boundaries the family has moved.
- b. **Move into a Different Public School District:** If the parents' or legal guardians' new principal residence is in a different public school district, the student-athlete will be eligible at any public school in the new district in accordance with school district policy concerning student-athlete placements, or will be eligible at any non-public school whose main school building is located within the geographical boundaries of the new public school district.

D9.8.4 Parent to Parent Move: The student-athlete transfers from one (1) school to another school in order to reside with the parent with whom he / she has not been living. Only two (2) transfers for the purpose of moving from parent to parent are allowed after the first (1st) day of the student-athlete's first (1st) year of eligibility. The move must not be for the purpose of making the student-athlete eligible for restricted or unrestricted competition at a member school. If the move is within the same school district, the eligible transfer must be to the school within whose catchment area the receiving parent lives, and must be a transfer into the same kind of school (i.e. public to public, regional secondary to regional secondary, non-public to non-public). If the move is from within the boundaries of one (1) school district into another, the student-athlete will be eligible at any public or non-public school within the geographical boundaries of the new school district.

- a. **Move to Legal Guardian:** The rules in Section III D9.8.4 apply with necessary changes where a student-athlete moves from any living circumstance to live with a legal guardian. The student-athlete does not become eligible under this category until the member school submits to BCSS a School Declaration Form to the Eligibility Officer which attests to the details and reason for the change of residence. Eligibility will only be granted for the secondary school in whose catchment area the guardian resides (public school to public school transfer) or the nearest non-public school (non-public school to non-public school transfer). If the student-athlete transfers to any other school that receiving school must submit an Eligibility Application. The legal guardian must also have supported or maintained the child for the previous twelve (12) months.

Proposed:

D9.8.3 Change of Principal Residence: The student-athlete has moved with his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), who have changed their principal residence within the previous twelve (12) months. The change of residence must be bona fide. In order for change of residence to be considered bona fide, the following facts must exist:

- a. The change in residence must not be for the purpose of making the student-athlete eligible for competition in a BCSS activity at a member school;
- b. The original residence must be abandoned as a residence; (i.e. sold, rented or disposed of as a residence, and must not be used as a residence by another member of the family)
- c. The entire family must make the change and take with them household goods and furniture appropriate to the circumstances;
- d. The change must be made with the intent that it is permanent;
- e. The student is ineligible to compete for the receiving school until the actual change of residence has occurred.



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If the new principal residence is:

- a. Within the same public school district the student-athlete may:
 - i. Remain eligible by not transferring schools; or
 - ii. Become eligible at the public school into whose catchment boundaries the family has moved.
- b. In a different public school district the student-athlete may:
 - i. Become eligible at the public school into whose catchment boundaries the family has moved; or
 - ii. Become eligible at the nearest independent school to the new residence.

NOTE: Although a school district may allow out-of-catchment registration for a new-to-district student, this does NOT satisfy the criteria to be deemed athletically eligible.

The student-athlete does not become eligible under this category until the member school submits a School Declaration Form by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in a form acceptable to the Eligibility Officer which attests to the details and reason for the change of residence.

NOTE: The member school may be requested to provide evidence/documentation that the family is residing in a new principal residence and that they have completely moved from the former residence.

D9.8.4 Parent to Parent Move: The student-athlete moves to reside with the parent with whom they have not been living and is required as a result of the move, to transfer schools. Only two (2) transfers for the purpose of moving from parent to parent are allowed after the first (1st) day of the student-athlete's first (1st) year of eligibility. The move must not be for the purpose of making the student-athlete eligible for competition in a BCSS activity at a member school. The residence of the student shall be that of the parent to whom custody has been awarded by a court of competent jurisdiction. If no custody order has been entered, the residence shall be that of the parent who has custody immediately upon separation.

If the move is to a parent:

- a. Within the same school district the student-athlete may:
 - i. Remain eligible if the transfer is to the school within the catchment area the receiving parent resides, and the transfer must be to the same kind of school (i.e. independent to independent, public to public, etc.)
- b. In a different school district the student-athlete may:
 - i. Be eligible at the public or independent school into whose catchment boundaries the family has moved.

NOTE: Although a school district may allow out-of-catchment registration for a new-to-district student, this does NOT satisfy the criteria to be deemed athletically eligible.

D9.8.5 Move to a Legal Guardian: The student-athlete moves to reside with a legal guardian(s), and as a result is required to transfer schools. Only two (2) transfers for the purpose of moving to a legal guardian(s) are allowed after the first (1st) day of the student-athlete's first (1st) year of eligibility. Legal guardianship must be in place for twelve (12) months prior to when eligibility is sought.

Eligibility will only be granted for the member school whose catchment area (public school) the guardian(s) resides or the nearest independent school.

**If the student transfers to any other school, the receiving (new) school must submit an Eligibility Application.*

The student-athlete does not become eligible under this category until the member school submits a BCSS School Declaration Form which is satisfactory to the Eligibility Officer which attests to the details and reason for change of residence.

Rationale:

- Add clarity to what constitutes a change in principal residence for better consistency in applying the policy
- Change in "move to new school district" section of policy, restricting choice of schools when moving to new school district, which is one of the most commonly abused policies when an athlete transfers and it appears to be athletically motivated.



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Moved by: Notice #27: District Academic Program: Section III D9.8.5, pg. 64
Vancouver

Technical
(Allina)

Seconded by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

D9.8.5 District Academic Program: A student-athlete in a public school transfers to another public school in the same school district for a special, short-term academic program that meets the conditions outlined below. The student-athlete is only eligible to compete for their original school. The district academic program must meet all of the following conditions for the student-athlete to be eligible to compete at their original school during attendance at the district academic program:

- a. The district academic program is no more than one (1) school year in length;
- b. The student-athlete will be returning to their original school immediately upon the conclusion of the district academic program;
- c. The program is a district academic program housed at the particular receiving school;
- d. The district academic program is a coherent program, not just a series of courses; and
- e. The program is not a career preparation program.

If the student-athlete wishes to participate in restricted or unrestricted competition for the school housing the special district academic program, the school must file an Eligibility Application in accordance with Section III D10. If the student-athlete does participate for the receiving school in either restricted or unrestricted competition, they will not be eligible at their original school upon return after the conclusion of the district academic program (see Section III D9.8.9).

Proposed:

D9.8.5 District Academic Program: A student-athlete who is enrolled in a recognized district academic program as offered by their school district will be eligible to compete in BCSS activity if they meet all BCSS eligibility requirements and will be able to compete as per Section III D2.1.2. The district academic program must meet the following conditions:

- a. The district academic program is a coherent program, not just a series of courses; and
- b. The program is not a work experience program.

D9.8.5.1 Student-athletes who are enrolled in the district academic program, TREK, for a period of one (1) school year and are returning to their original home school immediately upon the conclusion of the program will remain eligible to compete for their home school.

- a. If the student-athlete wishes to participate in competition in BCSS activity for the school hosting the TREK program, the school must file an Eligibility Application in accordance with Section III D10. If the student-athlete is approved and participates for the host school in a BCSS activity, they will not be eligible at their original school upon return after the conclusion of the district academic program and will be subject to the transfer rules in Section III D9.8.

Rationale:

- The current policy was originally intended for TREK program students; however, over the years it has been used for other District Academic Programs (DAP) as they have gained popularity. Some programs wouldn't qualify due to some of the restrictions in the current policy. This establishes a clearer and equal policy for all DAP's, but still allows the exception for the unique nature of the TREK program.



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Moved by:
South Delta
(Sweeney)

Seconded by:
Vancouver
Technical
(Allina)

Notice #28: International Students: Section III D9.8.9, D9.8.10, & D9.8.11, pg. 65 & 66

Current:

D9.8.9 Incoming Exchange Student-Athlete: A student-athlete who transfers into a BCSS member school as an incoming exchange student-athlete is eligible to compete for the receiving school if they meet all of the following conditions:

- a) The student-athlete transfers into the member school from outside of British Columbia and is not a resident of British Columbia;
- b) The Exchange Program is an established and recognized program by either provincial or federal governments;
- c) The student-athlete has been accepted on the basis of academic sustainability;
- d) The incoming student-athlete will be enrolled at the receiving school for at least a consecutive five (5) months or one (1) semester period;
- e) The school Administrator or District Office shall verify in writing that:
 - i. The acceptance of the student-athlete is based solely on academic criteria;
 - ii. That a student-athlete's possible participation in extracurricular athletics was not a factor in acceptance to the school; and
 - iii. The student-athlete is not receiving a scholarship, bursary, or financial award resulting from or relating to student-athlete participation.
 - iv. This verification will be submitted to the BCSS office prior to any participation in any BCSS-approved sports.
- f) The student-athlete is eligible as per all other BCSS eligibility policies, including age and the eligibility calendar

D9.8.10 Incoming International Student-Athlete: A student-athlete who transfers into a BCSS member school as an incoming international student-athlete is eligible to compete for the receiving school if they meet all of the following conditions:

- a) The student-athlete transfers into the member school from outside of Canada;
- b) The student-athlete is registered in a member school as an international student and pays tuition to that school district according to the published international student policy and fee schedule;
- c) The student-athlete has been accepted on the basis of academic suitability;
- d) The incoming student-athlete will be enrolled at the receiving school for at least a consecutive five (5) months or one (1) semester period;
- e) The school administrator or District Office shall verify in writing that:
 - i. The acceptance of the student-athlete is based solely on academic criteria;
 - ii. That a student-athlete's possible participation in extracurricular athletics was not a factor in acceptance to the school; and
 - iii. The student-athlete is not receiving a scholarship, bursary or financial award resulting from or relating to student-athlete participation.
 - iv. This verification will be submitted to the BCSS office prior to any participation in any BCSS-approved sports.
- f) The student-athlete is placed in a school dormitory or with a family home stay; and
- g) The student-athlete is eligible as per all other BCSS eligibility policies, including age and the eligibility calendar.

D9.8.11 Incoming Boarding School Student-Athlete: A student-athlete who transfers into a BCSS member school as an incoming boarding school student-athlete is eligible to compete for the receiving school if they meet all of the following conditions:

- a) The student-athlete transfers into the member school from:
 - i. Outside of Canada: Participate in any BCSS approved sports; or
 - ii. Inside of Canada: Ineligible for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of transfer to participate in restricted and unrestricted competition in any school sport(s) in which he / she was registered for their previous school in the twelve (12) months prior to the date of transfer.
- b) The student-athlete is registered in a member school as a boarding student and pays tuition according to a published boarding student policy and fee schedule;
- c) The student-athlete has been accepted on the basis of academic suitability;
- d) The incoming student-athlete will be enrolled at the receiving school for at least a consecutive five months or one semester period;
- e) The school administrator or district office shall verify in writing that:
 - i. The acceptance of the student-athlete is based solely on academic criteria;
 - ii. That a student-athlete's possible participation in extracurricular athletics was not a factor in acceptance to the school; and



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- iii. The student-athlete is not receiving a scholarship, bursary or financial award resulting from or relating to student-athlete participation.
- iv. This verification will be submitted to the BCSS office prior to any participation in any BCSS-approved sports.
- f) The student-athlete is placed in a school dormitory.

Proposed:

International Students

For International Students (Boarding, Exchange, and International) to become eligible to participate in a BCSS activity, the school Principal or District Office shall verify in writing and submit to the BCSS office that:

- a) The acceptance of the student-athlete is based solely on academic criteria;
- b) The student-athlete is enrolled at the receiving school for at least five (5) consecutive months or one (1) semester;
- c) That a student-athlete's participation in extracurricular athletics was not a factor in acceptance to the school;
- d) The student-athlete is not receiving a scholarship, bursary, or financial awards resulting from or relating to student-athlete participation.
- e) The student-athlete is eligible as per all other BCSS eligibility policies, including age and the eligibility calendar

In addition to the above, International Students must meet the criteria in one of following International Student Designations to be deemed eligible for BCSS activity.

Designations

Exchange Student-Athlete:

- a) The Exchange Program is an established and recognized program by either the federal or provincial government;
- b) The student-athlete transfers into the member school from outside British Columbia and is not a resident of British Columbia;

Boarding Student Athlete:

- c) The student-athlete is registered at a member school as a boarding student and pays tuition according to the published boarding student policy and fee schedule;
- d) The student-athlete resides in a school dormitory;
- e) The student-athlete transfers into the BCSS member school from:
 - i. Outside of Canada: The student-athlete can compete in any BCSS activity; or
 - ii. Inside of Canada: The student-athlete is ineligible for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of transfer to compete in any BCSS activity in any school sport in which he/she was registered for at their previous school in the twelve (12) months prior to the date of transfer. This student-athlete does not become eligible under this category until the member school submits a compliance and authorization form to the Eligibility Officer for review.

International Student Athlete:

- a) The student-athlete is registered at a member school as an international student and pays tuition to that school district according to the published international student policy and fee schedule;
- b) The student-athlete is placed with a home stay family;
- c) The student-athlete transfers into the member school from outside of Canada

Rationale:

- A clean up the language and structure of the policy to add clarity surrounding all international/boarding students to ensure consistency. No change to intent of policy.



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Moved by: Notice #29: Transfer Appeals: Section III D9.9

Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

Seconded by: No current policy
MEI
(Thiessen)

Proposed:

D9.9 Should a member school apply for the waiver of the one-year ineligibility period under the Transfer Policy (Section III D9.8) through the use of a Compliance and Authorization, Home Study, School Declaration, or an International Student Form and the form is denied by the Eligibility Officer(s); the member school may appeal the decision directly to the Eligibility Appeals Committee as per section D10.11.

Rationale:

- There currently is no ability for a member school to appeal a denied transfer request (under Section D9.8) and this leaves the organization exposed to potential litigation.
- While the C&A, School Declaration, Home Study and International Student Forms are meant to be more procedural, and are approved at a rate of roughly 96%, it provides a clear path for those who are denied.

Moved by: Notice #30: Eligibility Applications: Section III D10, pg. 67

Vancouver
Technical
(Allina)

Seconded by: David
Thompson

Current:

Section III D10: Eligibility Applications

D10.1 Where a student-athlete is ineligible for BCSS competition pursuant to the Competitive Rules and Regulations, the member school may apply for an exemption for the student-athlete in accordance with this section.

D10.2 An application under Section III D10.1 shall be submitted to the Eligibility Officer through the BCSS office.

D10.3 THE APPLICATION SHALL CONTAIN:

- A completed and signed BCSS Eligibility Application;
- Disclosure of the eligibility application to the leaving school including reference to the eligibility rule upon which the application is based;
- A copy of the student-athlete's personal record card (public schools), or report cards and transcripts (non-public schools);
- A list of the student-athlete's current courses;
- A copy of a primary source document showing the student-athlete's date of birth (e.g. birth certificate, passport, baptismal certificate, permanent resident card, provincial identification card);
- A letter from the student-athlete's parent or legal guardian supporting the application;
- Copies of relevant medical documentation where the application is based on medical grounds; and,
- Any other information or material the school wants the Eligibility Officer to consider.

D10.4 The applicant school shall submit a \$50 application fee with each application.

D10.5 The Eligibility Officer may request further information from the applicant school.

D10.6 There is no right to a teleconference or oral hearing before the Eligibility Officer.

D10.7 The Eligibility Officer may allow or deny the application, having regard to the following principles:



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- a. The primary purpose of the eligibility criteria in the Competitive Rules and Regulations is to promote fair and equitable competition for all student-athletes participating in BCSS competition;
- b. In the case of school transfers, although there are many bona fide reasons why a student-athlete might change schools, an exemption should almost invariably not be granted in respect of a transfer for the purpose of playing a sport still offered by the student-athlete's former school; and
- c. An exemption shall be granted where the Eligibility Officer is satisfied that:
 - i. The student-athlete has transferred schools for a bona fide academic reason;
 - ii. The student-athlete has transferred schools because of financial hardship; or
 - iii. In any other case, the exemption would not unduly prejudice the BCSS goal of fair and equitable competition.

D10.8 The Eligibility Officer shall issue a written ruling to the applicant school (to the attention of the administrator and the athletic director) either allowing or denying the application, and containing a brief summary of the reasons for the decision.

D10.9 Subject to Section III D10.21, if the Eligibility Officer allows the application, the student athlete becomes eligible for competition on the date the decision is issued, provided, however, that the student-athlete's eligibility remains otherwise subject to the Competitive Rules and Regulations.

D10.10 It is the responsibility of the applicant school to notify the student-athlete and the student-athlete's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the decision of the Eligibility Officer and of any requests or other communications from the Eligibility Officer

D10.11 A member school may appeal a decision under Section III D10.8 denying an exemption application, in accordance with this section.

D10.12 An appeal under Section III D10.11 shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the BCSS office for forwarding to the Eligibility Appeals Committee (EAC) at least eight (8) school days before the next scheduled meeting of the EAC.

D10.13 THE APPEAL SHALL CONTAIN:

- A completed and signed BCSS Eligibility Application;
- Copies of all of the materials submitted to the Eligibility Officer;
- A cheque for \$200 which is refundable if the appeal is allowed; and
- New information or material that the member school wants the EAC to consider.

D10.14 The EAC may request further information from the applicant school.

D10.15 There is no right to a teleconference or oral hearing before the EAC.

D10.16 The EAC may allow or dismiss the appeal, having regard to the principles set out in Section III D10.7.

D10.17 The EAC may substitute its views for that of the Eligibility Officer.

D10.18 The EAC shall issue a written ruling to the applicant school (to the attention of the administrator and the athletic director) either allowing or dismissing the appeal, and containing a brief summary of the reasons for the decision.

D10.19 Subject to Section III D10.21, if the EAC allows the appeal, the student-athlete becomes eligible for competition on the date the decision is issued, provided, however, that the student-athlete's eligibility remains otherwise subject to the Competitive Rules and Regulations.

D10.20 It is the responsibility of the applicant school to notify the student-athlete and the student-athlete's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the decision of the EAC and of any requests or other communications from the EAC

D10.21 Where an exemption is granted by the Eligibility Officer or by the EAC on the basis of a transfer for an academic reason, the exemption shall cease to have effect if the student-athlete withdraws from the program, group of courses or other



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academic offering underlying the exemption, unless and until the Eligibility Officer, on written application by the school, confirms the exemption.

D10.22 The decisions of the EAC under Section III D10.18 and the Eligibility Officer under Section III D10.8 are final and binding and shall not be questioned or reviewed in any court or tribunal, and no order shall be made or process entered or proceeding taken in any court or tribunal whether by way of injunction, declaration, prohibition or otherwise to question, review, prohibit or restrain the proceedings.

The Eligibility Appeals Committee will meet for the school year in 2016-2017 as noted below:

Deadlines for Submission (Wednesdays)	Meetings (Saturdays)
September 14, 2016	September 24, 2016
October 12, 2016	October 22, 2016
November 23, 2016	December 3, 2016
January 4, 2017	January 14, 2017
March 1, 2017	March 11, 2017
May 24, 2017	June 3, 2017

Proposed:

Section III D10: Eligibility Applications

- D10.1** Where a student-athlete is ineligible for BCSS competition pursuant to the Competitive Rules and Regulations, the member school may apply for an exemption for the student-athlete in accordance with this section.
- D10.2** An application under Section III D10.1 shall be submitted to the Eligibility Officer through the BCSS office.
- D10.3** The Eligibility Application shall contain:
- A completed and signed BCSS Eligibility Application;
 - Disclosure of the eligibility application to the leaving school including reference to the eligibility rule upon which the application is based;
 - A copy of the student-athlete’s personal record card (public schools), or report cards and transcripts (independent schools);
 - A list of the student-athlete’s current courses;
 - A copy of a primary source document showing the student-athlete’s date of birth (e.g. birth certificate, passport, baptismal certificate, permanent resident card, provincial identification card);
 - A letter from the student-athlete’s parent or legal guardian supporting the application;
 - Copies of relevant medical documentation where the application is based on medical grounds; and,
 - Any other information or material the school wants the Eligibility Officer to consider.
- D10.4** The applicant school shall submit a \$50 application fee with each application.
- D10.5** The Eligibility Officer may request further information from the applicant school.
- D10.6** The Eligibility Officer may use information as available to them in their capacity as the Eligibility Officer of BC School Sports, or otherwise publically available to assist in the rendering of a decision.
- D10.7** The Eligibility Officer may request further information from other parties deemed relevant by the EO. Any information received for consideration under D10.7 will be disclosed to the applying member school, with an invitation for response from the applying school, prior to rendering a decision.
- D10.6** There is no right to a teleconference or oral hearing before the Eligibility Officer.



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D10.7 The Eligibility Officer(s) shall thoroughly evaluate the submissions for completeness and veracity. He/She shall then consider the information in the application against the Bylaws, Operating Policies and Procedures and Competitive Rules and Regulations as approved by the membership of BCSS.

The Eligibility Officer(s) does not have the authority to grant exemptions beyond what is outlined in Section III D.10.

The Eligibility Officer shall allow or deny the application, having regard to the following principles:

- a. The primary purpose of the eligibility criteria in the Competitive Rules and Regulations is to promote fair and equitable competition for all student-athletes participating in BCSS competition;
- b. If a student-athlete transfers due to a member school not offering a sport, this is **not** grounds for the one-year ineligibility period to be waived by the Eligibility Officer
- ~~c. In the case of school transfers, although there are many bona fide reasons why a student-athlete might change schools, an exemption should almost invariably not be granted in respect of a transfer for the purpose of playing a sport still offered by the student-athlete's former school; and~~
- d. An exemption shall be granted where the Eligibility Officer is satisfied that:
 - i. The student-athlete has transferred schools for a bona fide academic reason;
 - ii. The student-athlete has transferred schools because of financial hardship;
 - iii. ~~In any other case, the exemption would not unduly prejudice the BCSS goal of fair play and equitable competition~~

For the purposes of Section III D10.7 d:

- i. "bonafide academic reason" is defined as a minimum of 3 courses in a 'related program of study' not available to the student-athlete at their prior school;
- ii. "financial hardship" is defined as a when a student-athlete or their family is willing but unable to meet their obligations because of unexpected events or unforeseen changes that impacts their financial viability (i.e. Changes in income or expenditure. Changes in employment status, such as losing a job or having hours reduced).

D10.8 The Eligibility Officer shall issue a written ruling to the applicant school (to the attention of the administrator and the athletic director) either approving or denying the application, and containing a brief summary of the reasons for the decision.

D10.9 Subject to Section III D10.21, if the Eligibility Officer allows the application, the student athlete becomes eligible for competition on the date the decision is issued, provided, however, that the student-athlete's eligibility remains otherwise subject to the Competitive Rules and Regulations.

D10.10 It is the responsibility of the applicant school to notify the student-athlete and the student-athlete's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the decision of the Eligibility Officer and of any requests or other communications from the Eligibility Officer

Section III D11: Eligibility Appeals

D11.1 A member school may appeal a decision under Section IIID9.8 (Transfers) or Section III D10.8 (Eligibility Application), in accordance with this section.

D11.2 An appeal under Section III D11 shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the BCSS office for forwarding to the Eligibility Appeals Committee (EAC) at least eight (8) school days before the next scheduled meeting of the EAC.

D11.3 The Appeal shall contain:

- A completed and signed BCSS Eligibility Application;
- Copies of all of the materials submitted to the Eligibility Officer;
- A cheque for \$200 which is refundable if the appeal is allowed; and
- New information or material that the member school wants the EAC to consider.

D11.4 The EAC may request further information from the applicant school.



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- D11.5** The EAC may use information as available to them in their capacity as a committee of BC School Sports, or otherwise publically available to assist in the rendering of a decision.
- D11.6** The EAC may request further information from other parties deemed relevant by the EAC. Any information received for consideration under D11.6 will be disclosed to the applying member school, with an invitation for response from the applying school, prior to rendering a decision.
- D11.7** There is no right to a teleconference or oral hearing before the EAC.
- D11.8** The Eligibility Appeals Committee (EAC) shall thoroughly evaluate the Eligibility Appeal submissions for completeness and veracity. The committee shall then consider the information in the application and shall approve or dismiss the appeal, having regard of the Purposes, Bylaws, Operating Policies and Procedures, and Competitive Rules and Regulations of BCSS.
- The EAC is granted to authority to make exemptions to the policies of BCSS, as noted above.
- D11.9** The EAC may substitute its views for that of the Eligibility Officer.
- D11.10** The EAC shall issue a written ruling to the applicant school (to the attention of the administrator and the athletic director) either approving or dismissing the appeal, and containing a brief summary of the reasons for the decision.
- D11.11** Subject to Section III D11.8, if the EAC allows the appeal, the student-athlete becomes eligible for competition on the date the decision is issued, provided, however, that the student-athlete's eligibility remains otherwise subject to the Competitive Rules and Regulations.
- D11.12** It is the responsibility of the applicant school to notify the student-athlete and the student-athlete's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the decision of the EAC and of any requests or other communications from the EAC
- D11.13** Where an exemption is granted by the Eligibility Officer or by the EAC on the basis of a transfer for an academic reason, the exemption shall cease to have effect if the student-athlete withdraws from the program, group of courses or other academic offering underlying the exemption, unless and until the Eligibility Officer, on written application by the school, confirms the exemption.
- D11.14** The decisions of the EAC under Section III D11 and the Eligibility Officer under Section III D10.8 are final and binding and shall not be questioned or reviewed in any court or tribunal, and no order shall be made or process entered or proceeding taken in any court or tribunal whether by way of injunction, declaration, prohibition or otherwise to question, review, prohibit or restrain the proceedings.

Rationale:

- Added a section about the ability for the Eligibility Officers and EAC to obtain or request information where necessary to render a decision, as well as the need to disclose any information obtained to the applying school for response.
 - Clarified the role of the EO, and clarified they are to only to approve transfer of eligibility for reasons approved in policy, and exemptions that fall outside of policy are the responsibility of the EAC.
 - Added clarity around 'bonafide academic reason' and 'financial hardship' for more consistent application.
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Moved by: Notice #31: Eligibility Application Invoicing: Section III D10.4, pg. 67

South Delta
(Sweeney)
Current:

Seconded by: **D10.4** The applicant school shall submit a \$50 application fee with each application.
David
Thompson
(Lopez)

Proposed:

D10.4 The applicant school will be invoiced a \$50 non-refundable application fee upon receipt of the application.

Rationale:

- Update policy to reflect current practice where BCSS doesn't hold an application until the payment is received, but processes immediately, and sends an invoice to the school after it has been initiated.

Moved by: Notice #32: Days Eligibility Appeals Need to be submitted before the Meeting: Section III D10.12, pg. 68

David
Thompson
(Lopez)
Current:

Seconded by: **D10.12** An appeal under Section III D10.11 shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the BCSS office for forwarding to the Eligibility Appeals Committee (EAC) at least eight (8) school days before the next scheduled meeting of the EAC.
South Delta
(Sweeney)

Proposed:

D10.12 An appeal under Section III D10.11 shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the BCSS office for forwarding to the Eligibility Appeals Committee (EAC) three (3) full days before the next scheduled meeting of the EAC.

Rationale:

- Too many applications were being caught in the extended period after the application deadline, and prior to EAC meeting. After consultation with the EAC, 3 full days is suitable for their needs. Meetings scheduled on Saturday, and the deadline will be 2:00pm on the immediately preceding Tuesday.

Moved by: Notice #33: The Eligibility Appeal Shall Contain: Section III D10.13, pg. 68

David
Thompson
(Lopez)
Current:

Seconded by: **D10.13 THE APPEAL SHALL CONTAIN**
MEI
(Thiessen)

- A completed and signed BCSS Eligibility Application;
- Copies of all materials submitted to the Eligibility Officer;
- A cheque for \$200 which is refundable if the appeal is allowed; and
- New information or material that the member school wants the EAC to consider.

Proposed:

D10.13 THE APPEAL SHALL CONTAIN

D10.13.1 A completed and signed BCSS Eligibility Application;

D10.13.2 Copies of all materials submitted to the Eligibility Officer;

D10.13.3 The member school appealing will be invoiced \$250 upon the receipt of the appeal;



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D10.13.4 \$200 of the appeal fee is refundable if the appeal is accepted;

D10.13.5 New information or material that the member school wants the EAC to consider.

Rationale:

- This is consistent with many jurisdictions and reflects the costs and time to handling the appeals. BCSS will retain \$50 per appeal, the \$200 will still be refunded to the member school applying, pending a successful decision.

Moved by:
MEI
(Thiessen)

Seconded by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

Notice #34: Eligibility Appeals Committee Dates: Section III D10, pg. 69

Current:

The Eligibility Appeals Committee will meet for the school year in 2016-2017 as noted below:

Deadlines for Submission (Wednesdays)	Meetings (Saturdays)
September 14, 2016	September 24, 2016
October 12, 2016	October 22, 2016
November 23, 2016	December 3, 2016
January 4, 2017	January 14, 2017
March 1, 2017	March 11, 2017
May 24, 2017	June 3, 2017

Proposed:

The Eligibility Appeals Committee will meet for the school year in 2017-2018 as noted below:

Deadlines for Submission (Tuesdays - 2:00pm)	Meetings (Saturdays)
September 19, 2017	September 23, 2017
October 10, 2017	October 14, 2017
October 31, 2017	November 4, 2017
November 28, 2017	December 2, 2017
December 19, 2017	December 23, 2017
January 30, 2018	February 3, 2018
March 6, 2018	March 10, 2018
April 3, 2018	April 7, 2018
May 8, 2018	May 12, 2018

Rationale:

- Update Eligibility Appeals Committee Dates for 2017-2018, and added one more appeal date per season of play
- Shortened the time between application deadline and meeting (from 10 days to 4 days), so there are less applications caught in that limbo period and unable to be reviewed. Dates and deadlines will be strictly adhered to.
- Update policy to reflect current practice where BCSS doesn't hold an application until the payment is received, but processes immediately, and sends an invoice to the school after it has been initiated.



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Moved by:
MEI
(Thiessen)
Seconded by:
Riverside
(Colombo)

Notice #35: Approved Exceptions to the Seasons of Play Dates: Section III E3, pg. 72
Current:

Currently no policy around Football in place.

Proposed:

Insert:

NOTE: THIS RULE, IF APPROVED, WILL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.

E3.2 Football:

E3.2.1 A school team may meet another team or participate in a jamboree with several school teams on one (1) occasion between the date of the last provincial championship and the end of the school year. This should be done in conjunction with spring practice.

E3.2.2 A provincial all-star team of student-athletes in Grade 12, under the direction and control of the BCSS Football Commission (BCSSFA) may compete at one (1) event with other all-star teams from outside the province of BC. This event is to occur between spring practice and the last day of school.

Rationale:

- Rule was removed unintentionally from BCSS policy at the 2016 AGM. Replacing exactly what was removed.

Moved by:
Riverside
(Colombo)
Seconded by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)

Notice #36: Touring/ Hosting Out-of-Season: Section III E5, pg. 72
Current:

E5.1 Despite Section III E2, each team at a member school:

E5.1.1 May travel on one (1) tour outside the applicable season of play; and

E5.1.2 May host one (1) out of province school team for competition outside of the applicable season of play.

E5.2 A member school touring or hosting under Section E5.1 shall comply with all sanctioning requirements in Section III I.

Proposed:

E5.1 Despite Section III E2, each team at a member school:

E5.1.1 May travel on one (1) tour outside the applicable season of play; or

E5.1.2 May host one (1) out of province school team for competition outside of the applicable season of play.

E5.2 A member school touring or hosting under Section E5.1 shall comply with all sanctioning requirements in Section III I.

Rationale:

- Competitive Standards felt that allowing a tour of multiple contests, and a hosting a game, both outside the season of play was too much competition outside the season of play, and one or the other should be sufficient.
- Note there are no restrictions on hosting teams (assuming they are from a recognized school), or playing out of province teams in Season, this only applies to out-of-season competition.



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Moved by:
Earl Marriott
(Misiak)
Seconded by:
Riverside
(Colombo)

Notice #37: Approved BCSS Invitational Competition and Events: Section III F5, pg. 83

Current:

F5.2.3 School-Organized Invitational Events: Invitational events where the approval of BCSS is desired to give status to the event (i.e. to draw an international field, provide credibility for sponsors etc.). All BCSS Competitive Rules and Regulations and applicable sport commission rules and regulations must be followed. Club entries must be clearly designated as such.

Proposed:

F5.2.3 School-Organized Invitational Events: Invitational events where the approval of BCSS is desired to give status to the event (i.e. to draw an international field, provide credibility for sponsors etc.). All BCSS Competitive Rules and Regulations and applicable sport commission rules and regulations must be followed. ~~Club entries must be clearly designated as such.~~

NOTE: Club teams are not permitted to play except in exceptional circumstances as approved by the Executive Director (i.e. an age & skill level appropriate club team from a region in Europe that doesn't have high school sport)

Rationale:

- Clubs and non-member schools are not permitted to play BCSS member schools
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