

CHSAA BYLAWS – PARENT & STUDENT INFORMATION

Per Bylaw 1720.1, parents and participants must be informed, understand, and acknowledge basic CHSAA eligibility rules and they must acknowledge the risk of participation. This acknowledgement must be kept on file with the school.

A student's participation in high school activities is dependent on his/her eligibility. Protect that eligibility. Read the following summary of Colorado High School Activities Association rules that govern a student's participation. Students and parents alike need to review these rules and ask questions of their coaches/directors, athletic director and school administrators. If a student has any questions, he/she should seek the answers before participating by going first to the coach or athletic director.

****Please review the following information and acknowledge your understanding of the CHSAA Bylaws by signing at the end and submitting to your School's Athletic Director. Click the blue underlined links to read more information!**

The CHSAA

The Colorado High School Activities Association has been the governing body of high school athletics and activities (speech, student council and music) in our state since 1921. [Our Code of Ethics is integral to our Mission and Vision](#). The student's school is a voluntary member of the CHSAA and has agreed to follow its rules. Both your school and the Association believe in equal competition among schools and the close relationship between academics and activities.

I. [Discrimination](#)

A student-participant will not participate in or condone unfair discriminatory practices against a fellow participant due to age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or disability, nor shall the student be discriminated against under the same criteria.

II. [Hazing & Bullying](#)

As a student-participant, I will not be the organizer of, or participant in an activity constituting hazing. Hazing is defined as any conduct or method of initiation, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include but is not limited to whipping, beating, branding, forced behaviors involving, food, alcohol, drugs or other substances, destruction of property, and/or brutal treatment or forced physical/sexual activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student or any other person.

The CHSAA Rules of Participation

1. [Academic](#)

A school must select one of three options for determining the eligibility of all its students, and schools have the right to impose stricter standards.

2. [Make-up Work](#)

Each student must be academically eligible in accordance with the above section at the time of participation and during the previous semester. Make up work shall not be permitted after the close of the semester for the purpose of becoming eligible. (Cases involving special circumstances should be referred to your principal.)

If eligibility has been lost from a previous semester, students may regain their athletic eligibility for Fall 2013 on October 10 and for Spring 2014 on March 7 by meeting the respective eligibility requirements above.

Summer school credits accepted by the school may be used to replace credits in subjects failed during previous semesters.

Dropping a class may make you ineligible. If you play while ineligible, you may cause your team to forfeit any contests in which you played.

3. [Citizenship](#)

The school principal must approve the student to be a representative of the school's standards of citizenship, conduct and sportsmanship.

4. [Conduct – Ejections](#)

If a student is ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, he/she will be ineligible for the next scheduled match or contest played at that level including qualifying and state contests. The student may not participate in any contests at any other level during this period. For the season, the student will be permitted to compete in one fewer contest than the maximum allowed each participant in the sport.

A second ejection during the season shall result in a 2 contest suspension. A third ejection will result in a review of the student's future eligibility by the CHSAA Commissioner.

If a student is ejected in the final contest of a season, he/she is ineligible for the first contest of the next sport in which he/she competes and completes the season. Players leaving the bench during a fight shall be ejected and ineligible for the next contest.

5. Outside Competition

As a member of any high school team, a student may practice or compete in that sport during that sport season in a non-school event with prior written permission of the principal.

Members of high school teams may compete in non-school events in that sport without written permission on the day following the completion of the season for the level (freshman, sophomore, junior varsity, varsity) of the team on which they are competing. NOTE: A student becomes subject to the outside competition rule on or after the first date of formal practice, when he or she reports out for practice and is in contention for a berth on the team.

6. Undergraduate

A student may not be a graduate of any high school and participate in high school athletics.

7. Recruiting

Any recruiting based on athletic ability or interest is prohibited.

8. Age

A student's 19th birthday must fall on or after August 1 of the current school year. Exceptions to this rule, based on educational handicaps, may be requested, provided the student's original class has not graduated.

9. Semesters

Upon entering high school, a student's eligibility will continue only until his/her original class graduates. Once entering ninth grade, a student has eight consecutive semesters of eligibility. NOTE: If a student drops out of school or misses competition due to an injury, he/she will not receive additional eligibility.

10. Seasons

A student is allowed a maximum of 4 seasons in any sport.

11. Physical Exam

A student may not practice or compete (music, student council and speech participants are exempt) without a physical exam that is:

- Signed by an MD, DO, chiropractor who is school physical certified (DC, SPC), nurse practitioner or physician's assistant licensed by the State of Colorado.

- Current within the last 12 months.
- On file with principal or athletic director prior to first practice.

12. Practice

A total of 5 different days of practice is required before participating in any interscholastic game or scrimmage (except football which needs 9 days). OTHER EXCEPTIONS: (A) Golf, skiing, softball and tennis players. (B) Participants in state playoff games completed on or after the first day of formal practice.

No contact between a coach and player is allowed on Sundays during the school year unless it is for a social, academic or service related activity that is strictly voluntary. A student cannot be required to practice or compete outside of the season as a condition of making the team.

13. Transfer Rule

A student who participates in a formal practice at the beginning of the school year and then transfers without a parental move will be ineligible for varsity competition for the remainder of that sports season.

- Athletic Transfer

Any transfer substantially motivated by athletic considerations will cause the student to be ineligible for varsity competition for one calendar year from the date of the transfer in any sport(s) they participated in during the twelve months prior to the transfer.

- Summer Transfer

A transfer from one high school to another during the summer without a permanent change of domicile by the student and his/her family to the attendance area of the new school will render the student ineligible for varsity competition for the first half of the season in any sport in which the student competed during the previous 12 months. The student may practice with the team and play at the sub-varsity level during this period of restricted participation.

- Mid-year Transfer

A student who transfers after the start of the school year without an accompanying family move shall:

- Have restricted (sub-varsity) eligibility for the remainder of that school year in sports played in the last 12 months.
- In the next school year, the student will have only sub-varsity eligibility for the first 50% of the season in those sports played 12 months prior to the move



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- Transfer with Club Coach or Previous Coach

A student transferring, moving or for any reason to a new school where the student’s non-school coach is also a coach of the school team, is considered to be attending for athletic purposes. The student, as a result of this transfer, will be ineligible for varsity competition for one calendar year from the date of the transfer in any sport(s) they participated in during the twelve months prior to the transfer. If a student transfers to a school where his/her previous coach is a coach of the current school team, that move will be deemed motivated by athletic consideration.

As used in this Rule, the coach may be a former school coach or non-school coach and the term “coach” includes any person who coaches, volunteers (regardless of compensation) or assists in any capacity with the coaching or training of the school or non-school team.

- General Transfer Information

It is the student’s responsibility to know the CHSAA Transfer Rule and how it affects that student’s eligibility. The CHSAA Commissioner may grant exceptions to this rule in unusual cases. Only schools may submit a waiver. If a waiver of the transfer rule is requested, the student is not eligible until the waiver is approved by the CHSAA Commissioner. Transfer cases involving separation and/or divorce proceedings should be reviewed with the school administration.

15. Awards

Individuals participating in any interscholastic athletic/activity sponsored and/or approved by the Association shall not accept cash or merchandise awards. Awards must be symbolic in nature with no functional or intrinsic value with a cost of no more than \$50.00.

16. Amateur

If a student participates in a CHSAA approved sport, in other than CHSAA competition, his/her amateur status is determined by the rules of the amateur governing body of that sport.

Amateur status of Colorado high school athletes applies only to sports sanctioned by the CHSAA.

After reviewing the above information, if you still have questions, please contact your school’s athletic director. This list is by no means inclusive; however, it is intended to outline the most common questions and bylaws. For more information, please visit our website at www.chsaa.org.

Checklist for Student Eligibility

If a student cannot check all 10 items, he/she needs to contact the athletic director or principal.

- At least 5 full credit classes.
- Option A (Failing no more than one class)
- Option B (Passing a minimum of 5 full-credit classes)
- Option C (Approved alternate academic program)
- Complied with first two items last semester.
- Physical exam within the last calendar year.
- Parent permit form on file at the school.
- Have not changed schools during the current school year without a corresponding move by parents.
- Will not or have not turned 19 before August 1.
- Have never dropped out of school.
- Will not play more than 4 seasons in any sport.
- Will not compete or practice in any non-school events in my sport once reporting out for the team, without the permission of my principal.

I have read and understand the CHSAA Eligibility Rules as documented here as well as specifically read in the CHSAA Bylaws. I understand and acknowledge the inherent risks of participating in Athletics.

Signed: _____ (Parent) _____ (Participant)

_____ (School) _____ (Date)