SECTION 28: INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY REGULATIONS.

A. General Rules Applicable to All Students.
To be eligible to represent the school in any VHSL, Inc. sponsored interscholastic contest a student shall meet the following requirements:

28-1-1 BONA FIDE STUDENT RULE - The student shall be a regular bona fide student in good standing of the school which he/she represents.

Policy Manual 28-1-1
28-1-2 Exception: A student who through school board assignment attends a non-member public school from which he/she will graduate. Such student shall be eligible to represent the high school serving the school district in which his/her parents reside.

Policy Manual 28-1-2
28-1-3 Interpretations:
Policy Manual 28-1-3, 28-1-4
(1) A “regular” student is considered a full-time student who is in regular attendance and is carrying a schedule of subjects which, if successfully completed, will render him/her scholastically eligible for League participation the ensuing semester.
(2) Any student who is under penalty of suspension, or whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon his/her school, is not considered in good standing.
(3) Any student is permitted to take course work outside the VHSL high school building provided he/she is enrolled in the high school and is eligible in all other respects.

28-2-1 GRADE RULE - The student shall be enrolled in the last four years of high school.

28-2-2 Exceptions:
(1) Students may compete on the sub-varsity level while in the eighth grade; however, no student below the eighth grade level is eligible to participate in any VHSL interscholastic contest.
(2) Eighth-grade students who passed five 8th grade subjects the past school year (see Note following 28-4-1 (b)) and reached the age of fifteen on or before the first day of August may compete on the varsity level.

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE HANDBOOK -59-
RULES AND REGULATIONS
(3) Eighth-grade students may participate in nonathletic events for one year only while in the eighth grade. Such participation does not affect the subsequent eligibility of the student under the Semester Rule.
(4) A student may participate in VHSL sub-varsity sports for one year only prior to entering the ninth grade.

28-2-3 Interpretations-
(1) Eligibility is terminated when a student receives his/her diploma; however, a student may complete a spring season started prior to graduation.
(2) Eighth graders, regardless of where they are housed, may fall into two categories.
(a) If they are filied on an MEL and participate on a junior varsity high school team, they must comply with VHSL rules and regulations and are covered by the League’s insurance program(s) while they are considered to be representing their high school.
(b) However, if they are competing on a level below the junior varsity (i.e. junior high or middle school), they are not covered by VHSL regulations and are not covered by the League’s insurance program(s) unless such insurance has been purchased by the school or system to cover these students specifically. The grade levels of competition, eligibility rules and regulations, etc., under these non-high school circumstances are up to the local school divisions.

28-3-1 ENROLLMENT RULE - The student shall have been regularly enrolled in the school which he/she represents not later than the fifteenth school day of the semester.

28-3-2 Exceptions:
(l) Any transfer student who was regularly enrolled within the required 15-day period in
the school from which he/she transferred. (This exception refers only to transfer students
who transferred with a corresponding move on the part of their parents or who meet Exception
28-6-2 (4) of the Transfer Rule. For other situations involving transfer students, see the
Transfer Rule.)
(2) Any student for whom waiver of the provisions of this rule has been granted by the
District Committee to avert an obvious injustice, when enrollment within the required 15-day
period was not accomplished because of circumstances beyond the control of the student. In
each such case the waiver shall be requested in writing by the appropriate principal, giving
all pertinent details. Each such case will be judged on its merits; however, no waiver will be
granted unless it is clearly shown that the student was prevented by circumstances beyond
his/her control from meeting the requirements of this rule.
(3) Any foreign exchange student, regardless of when he/she enrolls in the member school
and regardless of the number of days he/she will be a student in the member school.
(4) Eighth or ninth grade students otherwise eligible but enrolled in a member school’s
feeder school.

-60-

28-3-3 Interpretations:
(l) “Paper” enrollment is not considered as meeting the requirements of this rule.
(2) Enrollment is defined as official registration and attendance in classes for at least
three school days thereafter. Home instruction does not constitute enrollment in a public
school. Home schooling is a process through which Virginia Code compulsory education
requirements may be met, as is private schooling. Home schooling is the equivalent of school
enrollment for purposes of future eligibility requirements such as establishing residence for
Transfer Rule purposes, and determining whether the student has met Scholarship Rule requirements
of having passed five academic subjects recognized by the Virginia Department
of Education in the most recent prior semester.
(3) Engaging in a contest, regardless of whether or not said student has officially registered
in the school or attended classes, shall be evidence that the student is enrolled in the
school.

28-4-1 SCHOLARSHIP RULE- The student shall:
(a) For the first semester be currently enrolled in not fewer than five subjects, or their
equivalent, offered for credit and which may be used for graduation and have passed five
subjects, or their equivalent, offered for credit and which may be used for graduation the
immediately preceding year or the immediately preceding semester for schools that certify
credit on a semester basis; and
(b) For the second semester be currently enrolled in not fewer than five subjects, or
their equivalent, offered for credit and which may be used for graduation and have passed
five subjects, or their equivalent, offered for credit and which may be used for graduation the
immediately preceding semester.

Policy Manual 28-4-1
Note: Credit for courses must be recognized by the State Department of Education.
Such credit is to be awarded for the semester in which the work is scheduled to
be completed. Credit for summer school work must be applied on the immediately
preceding semester or year.

28-4-2 Exceptions:
(1) Any student who is enrolled in the first semester of the ninth grade for the first
time.

Policy Manual 28-4-2 (1)
(2) Any student who is enrolled in the first semester of the eighth grade for the first
time.

Policy Manual 28-4-2 (2)
written statement from the attending physician stating that the illness on the part of the student was of such a nature and duration as to make it impossible for him/her to earn credit for a semester's work. If the forced withdrawal was because no formal education was reasonably available, a statement verifying the conditions shall accompany the request. In making application for such exemption the principal shall indicate the grades of the student at the time of his/her withdrawal from school. These shall be taken into consideration by the District Committee in each such case. This exemption shall be available only to a student who has been forced to withdraw from school for one of the reasons set forth in the first sentence of this exception. The District Committee has the authority to waive this rule when a student has an extended number of absences during a semester resulting from unusual circumstances such as death in the family, chronic illness, etc.

4) A special education student who is working toward a special diploma must make standard progress in those courses taken as determined by the student's IEP.

Policy Manual 28-4-2 (4)

(5) A special education student who is working toward a standard diploma must take and pass the equivalent of five subjects in accordance with any IEP modifications. If the IEP Committee determines that a special education student working toward a standard diploma should take fewer than five subjects, he/she must pass those subjects mandated by the IEP.

(6) Students who are required by directives contained in the Standards of Quality to participate in two periods of remedial instruction will be required to take and pass the equivalent of four subjects in addition to participating in the remedial classes. Those students who take only one remedial class must still meet the five subject requirement.

(7) A student who transfers from a school on a 4X4 block schedule to a school on a traditional schedule too late in the semester to earn credit in an added fifth course may qualify under the Scholarship Rule's five-course requirement for the current semester at the receiving school if he/she was passing at least three credits on the block plan at the sending school at the time of the transfer. If that student receives a passing final semester grade at the receiving school in at least three courses taken on the block plan at the sending school, and takes at least five credit courses the next semester, that will meet the scholarship requirement for that next semester.

(8) A student who transfers from a school on a traditional schedule to a school on a 4X4 block schedule too late in the semester to catch up and earn a passing grade in the block courses may qualify under the Scholarship Rule for the next semester if he/she is enrolled in at least three credit block courses and was passing at least five traditional courses at the sending school at the time of the transfer.

-62-

28-4-3 Interpretations:

(1) "Immediately preceding" semester is the last regular school semester prior to the semester in which the student desires to compete.

Policy Manual 28-4-3 (1)

(2) "Immediately preceding" year is the last regular school year prior to the semester in which the student desires to compete.

(3) For the purpose of this rule the student’s eligibility or ineligibility shall be determined on the first day of the school year and on the first calendar day following the end of the first semester according to the school board adopted calendar.

Policy Manual 28-4-3 (3)

(4) A student scholastically eligible or ineligible at the beginning of a semester shall be considered eligible or ineligible under this rule throughout that semester; however, throughout any semester during which the student wishes to maintain his/her eligibility, he/she must be continuously enrolled in five subjects that, if successfully completed, will render him/her scholastically eligible for League participation the ensuing semester. (Exceptions: (a) a student who receives an incomplete in a subject which causes him/her not to meet minimum scholastic requirements is ineligible until the work is satisfactorily made up and credit for that course is awarded, at which time his/her eligibility is restored and (b) a student whose original failing grade in a subject becomes a passing grade through successful completion of SOL testing in accordance with local school division policies.)

(5) "Equivalent" means that a course granting annual credit of less than one unit equals one subject and a course granting annual credit of more than one unit equals two subjects, etc.

(6) A student who is suspended or expelled from school and, as a result of this, does
not finish a semester is ineligible throughout the following semester, since his/her record is “incomplete.”

(7) The scholastic eligibility of a student who attended another school during the preceding semester may be established only by an official certificate or transcript from that school.

(8) Grade school subjects may not be counted in determining eligibility under this rule.

College courses, or others taken outside the high school, may be counted provided they are accepted for credit by the high school at which the student desires to compete.

(9) A subject for which credit has previously been granted may not, if repeated, be used by any student to satisfy the requirements of this rule.

(10) If a student receives credit for a semester's work he/she is considered to have passed the work within the intent of this rule, regardless of whether his/her grades at the end of that semester were of passing quality.

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE HANDBOOK
-63-

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Note: This interpretation is not to be considered in conflict with interpretation 8 above.

Interpretation 4 is only to be considered to provide cases when students making passing grades in the fall on a subject and do not pass in the spring, but it is the policy of the school for all students to average the year's work. In such cases, when the student is given credit for the year’s work—including the spring semester in that subject—he/she is considered to have passed the work within the intent of this rule. On the other hand, where passing grades are made at the end of the spring semester and no credit is allowed for the year’s work due to failing work at the end of the fall semester on a subject, he/she is considered not to have passed the work within the intent of this rule.

28-5-1 AGE RULE. The student shall not have reached the age of 19 on or before the first day of August of the school year in which he/she wishes to compete.

28-5-2 Interpretation: A student born on or before August 1, 1992, shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition in the school year 2011-12.

Notes:
(1) In case of doubt as to age, the following evidence may be accepted as proof thereof: Birth certificate from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, affidavit of the physician attending at birth, and documentary evidence such as the family record of birth in the Bible, official school record, and the affidavit of parent or guardian. Documentary proof of age other than a birth certificate will be accepted in cases of doubt only when the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state of birth reports that no record exists.

(2) If there is a discrepancy in the age recorded on the Master Eligibility Lists filed in the League office by member schools, the earliest listed date of birth shall be considered correct until proof otherwise has been submitted and accepted.

28-6-1 TRANSFER RULE. The student shall not have enrolled in one high school and subsequently transferred to and enrolled in another high school without a corresponding change in the residence of his/her parents, parent, or guardian. Home instruction does not constitute enrollment in a public school. Home schooling is a process through which Virginia Code compulsory education requirements may be met, as is private schooling. Home schooling is the equivalent of school enrollment for Transfer Rule purposes, and determining whether the student has met Scholarship Rule requirements of having passed five academic subjects recognized by the Virginia Department of Education in the most recent prior semester.

Policy Manual 28-6-1 (1) and (2)

Note: The provisions of the Transfer Rule apply to students transferring from one school to another, including transfers from a private school to a public school as well as transfers from one public school to another. For the purposes of this rule only, the phrase “high school” is defined as a school providing instruction at the ninth or tenth or eleventh or twelfth grade level(s).

-64-

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE HANDBOOK

28-6-2 Exceptions:

(1) A student shall become eligible for interscholastic competition after he/she has been enrolled in the school for 365 consecutive calendar days. Exception: If a student transfers during the summer and remains ineligible for the entire subsequent school year, he/she would
become eligible beginning with the fall season of the following academic year. 
(2) A student transferring from a school closed by executive or administrative order to the school serving the district in which his/her parent, parents or guardian reside. 
(3) A student transferring to the high school serving the district in which his/her parents reside upon completion of the highest grade level offered by the intermediate school, middle school, junior high school or nonpublic high school from which he/she transfers. 
(4) The first time a student transfers from a non-member high school to a member school of the attendance area of the student’s parents or guardians, he/she shall be eligible immediately provided that he/she has been enrolled in the non-member school a minimum of one full year, or has never been enrolled at a member school or is returning to the member school where he/she had been enrolled and has been eligible immediately prior to his/her transfer to the non-member school and that he/she has not participated at the school from which he/she transferred in the sport, during a different season, in which he/she wishes to participate during the current school year at the member school to which he/she transfers. 

For the purpose of this exception only, the student must have been a ward of the guardian for at least one semester prior to his/her transfer. If the transfer occurs during a sports season, Contest Limitation Rule (54-8-1) guidelines would be binding. 
(5) A student entering the eighth grade for the first time becomes immediately eligible in the high school in which he/she enrolls regardless of his or her residence status. A student entering the ninth grade for the first time becomes immediately eligible in the high school in which he/she enrolls regardless of his or her residence status. 
(6) A foreign exchange student may become immediately eligible in the high school in which he/she is placed regardless of his/her residence status by meeting the conditions of this exception; however, all other eligibility requirements shall be met. A bona fide foreign exchange student with a J-1 visa may be immediately eligible the first year in residence and is limited to eligibility only during that first year in residence, and only while the student remains enrolled in an established foreign exchange program accepted for listing by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). The foreign exchange program must comply with all applicable CSIET and federal regulations and there must be no evidence of athletic recruitment resulting in the student’s attendance at the school either by school personnel or other outside parties. Once the student no longer is a participant in a foreign exchange program or subsequent to his/her first year of enrollment in such program, he/she must meet all normal requirements of the Transfer Rule and would have to meet 28-6-2 (1), discounting any period while enrolled in the foreign exchange program, at the high school in which the student wishes to be eligible. 

Policy Manual 28-6-2 (6) 
-65-
RULES AND REGULATIONS 
(7) A school board or division superintendent may transfer a student, by name, within the school division without affecting that student’s eligibility by specifically granting a waiver of the Transfer Rule (28-6-1). Such waivers should be considered for the welfare of the student and/or school system and not for athletic and/or activity purposes. The Master Eligibility List of all teams which have students who have been so waived shall reference the specific school board minutes or written documentation granting the waiver. 
(8) When a local school board requires students within a geographical area, or those who fall within any other category as distinguished from individuals by name, to attend a high school other than the one the students have been attending, such students shall become eligible in the high school to which they are required to transfer at the time the transfer becomes effective. 
(9) In the case of a school reorganization or consolidation which results in the discontinuance of one or more high schools in which students had been or would be eligible under this rule, these students become eligible in the school designated by the school board to receive pupils from the discontinued school at the time set for the reorganization or consolidation and only in the high school so designated. 
(10) If the city or county school board redistricts the city or county for high school purposes, students who by this action are required to transfer to another high school are immediately eligible at the school to which they are reassigned. 
(11) A student under the care and guidance of any department of welfare, any department of corrections or an orphanage who is required to change residence by court order, unless that order was sought to enable the student to participate in extracurricular activities, or who is legally adopted, is eligible to participate in League activities in the school district in which he/she is placed.
(12) In cases of court-ordered custody, a copy of the appropriate legal custody document, signed by the presiding judge of the appropriate jurisdiction, shall be submitted to the Executive Director for review and approval. Approval is contingent upon the receiving school's principal attesting that there is no evidence that the transfer was for athletic and/or activity purposes. A student, 18 years of age or older, who would be subject to a transfer of custody if he/she were less than 18 years of age may petition the Executive Director through the student's principal for eligibility, and the Executive Director may grant such eligibility immediately. In cases of changes in court ordered custody that involve transfers within a school division or between contiguous school divisions, the lesser of a one semester or 90 day penalty of ineligibility will be in effect from the date of the transfer.

(13) If the District Committee of the district in which the student wishes to participate approves such eligibility, a student may, for the first time only, transfer from one school to another as a result of a move from one parent to another parent or from a guardian to a parent, when the parents are residing in different school attendance zones, and become eligible immediately provided the student has not participated during a different season of the current school year at the school from which he/she transferred in the sport in which he/she wishes to participate at the school to which he/she transfers. Contest Limitation Rule (27-11-1) guidelines are binding.

(14) The eligibility of students transferring to a Governor's School or a magnet school shall be determined by the policies approved by the respective Governor's School or magnet school's Board of Directors. The eligibility of students transferring from a Governor's School or magnet school back to the home school of the student shall be approved by the home school division superintendent.

(15) Students who qualify under the McKinney Vento Homeless Education Act are eligible provided the school has on file all required documentation substantiating the student's status and provided the student is eligible in all other respects.

(16) If a student transfers into a school to live with a relative or guardian due to the fact the parent(s) or legal guardian is deployed overseas and/or to a combat assignment by orders of the United States Military, or temporarily assigned in excess of 90 days, the student will be granted immediate eligibility. Student must meet all other eligibility requirements. A copy of the Special Power of Attorney stating the guardian, residence of guardian, and school to be enrolled must be provided to the school the student is transferring into. A copy of Military Orders of Deployment must be provided to the school the student is transferring into. Student must not have any other parent (with custody) or legal court ordered guardian available.

28-6-3 Interpretations:

(1) Enrollment is defined as official registration and attendance in classes for at least three consecutive school days thereafter.

(2) Engaging in a contest, regardless of whether or not said student has officially registered in the school or attended classes, shall be evidence that the student is enrolled in the school.

(3) Once a student becomes eligible in a school, he/she may complete his/her eligibility at that school even though his/her parents or guardians may change address, as long as he/she remains continuously enrolled there. However, if a student remains enrolled in that school beyond the third day of the fall semester after the parents' or guardians' move, he/she forfeits the right to transfer to the school serving the district to which his/her parents or guardians have moved without first meeting 28-6-2 (1).

(4) A student who attends a school other than the one serving the school district in which his/her parents reside must comply with one of the exceptions in 28-6-2 to establish his/her eligibility. Also, a student who has established his/her eligibility at a school other than the one serving the school district in which his/her parents reside must comply with one of the exceptions in 28-6-2 to establish his/her eligibility if he/she returns to the school serving the school district in which his/her parents reside.

(5) The appointment of a legal guardian will not render a student immediately eligible in the school to which he/she transfers except in the case of the death of his/her parents, parent or guardian, and then only if the new guardianship is made legally and without delay. A student who has neither parents nor legal guardian must meet 28-6-2 (1) in the school to which he/she transfers, unless the family with whom he/she lives has been given custody ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction in which case he/she becomes eligible immediately.

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE HANDBOOK

(6) If the parents of a student who has previously enrolled in the high school grades
move from a district served by one high school into a district served by another high school
and the student enters a high school other than the one serving the district into which his/her
parents move, he/she is not eligible in the high school of his/her choice until after meeting
28-6-2 (1) in that school.
(7) Residence is defined as the domicile of an individual, meaning that the individual lives
in a locality with the intent to make it a fixed and permanent home. Domicile requires more
than bodily presence as an inhabitant in a given place; it requires bodily presence and an
intention to make such a place a fixed and permanent home. Other indicia of domicile include
automobile registration, voter registration and the reporting of a mailing address change to
the appropriate agencies, such as the post office, utility companies, creditors and employers.
Under no circumstances can a family or student participant have two residences for
eligibility purposes. It is the obligation of the school to know the complete residence status
of each student participant and to see that all comply with these requirements. Any change
in residence must be bona fide. Determination of what constitutes a bona fide change of
residence depends upon the facts of each case, but in order for a change of residence to
be considered bona fide at least the following facts must exist: (1) The original residence
must be abandoned as a residence; that is sold, rented or disposed of as a residence, and
must not be used as a residence by any member of the family, (2) The entire family must
make the change and take with them the household goods and furniture appropriate to the
circumstances, and (3) The change must be made with the intent that it is permanent.
(8) For purposes of transfer, VHSL does not recognize student emancipation by age 18
or through marriage.

Policy Manual 28-6-3 (8)

28-7-1 SEMESTER RULE: The student shall not have been enrolled in the last four
years of high school for a period of more than eight consecutive semesters, beginning with
the semester in which he/she was enrolled for the first time in the ninth grade. The eight
consecutive semesters shall be counted continuously from that point, regardless of whether
or not he/she remains continuously enrolled in school.

Policy Manual 28-7-1 (1), (2) and (3)

28-7-2 Exception: A student who interrupts his/her high school career in order to participate
in a CSIET-approved foreign study program may have his/her eligibility extended
for up to two semesters, provided the student does not participate out of country in sports
he/she wishes to play upon his/her return, subject to approval by the District Committee prior
to leaving for the foreign study.

28-7-3 Interpretation:
(l) For the purposes of this rule, the eighth semester as applied to those completing
their eighth semester at mid-year shall be defined as terminating the last day of classes of
the first semester.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
-68-
B. Regulations Governing Athletes Only.
In addition to meeting the foregoing individual eligibility requirements, a student
shall meet the following additional requirements to be eligible to represent the school
in any VHSL sponsored interscholastic athletic contest:

28-8-1 AMATEUR RULE: A student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport
shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition
solely for the physical, mental, social and pleasure benefits derived therefrom.

28-8-2 Exception: Accepting a fee for instructing, supervising or officiating in an organized
youth or recreation, playground, or camp activities program shall not jeopardize
amateur status.

28-8-3 Interpretations:
(1) An individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for interscholastic
competition in a particular sport if the individual:
(a) Uses his or her athletics skill (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that
sport;
(b) Accepts a promise of pay for participation in that sport even if such pay is to be
received following completion of interscholastic athletics participation;
(c) Signs a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics, regardless
of its legal enforceability or any consideration received, in that sport;
(d) Enters into a professional draft or an agreement with an agent or other entity to negotiate a professional contract in that sport;
(e) Accepts payment for expenses beyond actual and necessary travel, room and board expenses for practice and competition in that sport;
(f) Accepts preferential treatment, benefits or services (e.g., loans with deferred pay-back) because of the individual's athletics reputation or skill or pay-back potential as a professional athlete in that sport. An award of a country club or sports club membership is prohibited. Receipt of a benefit by student-athletes or their relatives or friends is not a violation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to students or their relatives or friends determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability;
(g) Accepts merchandise, prizes or awards having a retail value greater than that permitted by the amateur athletic governing body regulating amateur status in that sport. If that governing body has no limit, the maximum value of merchandise, prizes or awards shall be $500 per event.
(h) Received compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture and/or personal appearance, as an athlete in that sport, or provides endorsement, as an athlete in that sport, in the promotion of a commercial or profit-making event, item, plan or service;

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE HANDBOOK -69-
(i) Plays in any contest (school or nonschool) in that sport under a name other than his/her own name.
(2) Road Racing-“Road racing” is essentially the same as cross country or track competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for the purposes of this rule. Therefore, a student-athlete who accepts pay in any form for participation in such a race is ineligible for interscholastic cross country or track competition.
(3) Institutional Fund-Raising Activities involving the Athletics Ability of Student-Athletes Institutional fund-raising activities that involve the use of athletics ability by student-athletes to obtain funds (e.g., "swim-a-thons") are permitted only if:
(a) The total money is contributed to the institution; and
(b) The student-athletes receive no compensation or prizes for their participation.
(4) Scholarships to institutions of higher learning may be accepted provided the amount of the scholarship is paid by the donor(s) directly to the college/institution of choice.

28-8-4 Penalty: A pupil who has lost his/her amateur standing through violation of this rule shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition. Such student may be reinstated as an amateur by the Executive Committee, provided his/her principal requests in writing his/her reinstatement as an amateur and certifies that the student has not during that one-year period violated this rule, and that the student is not now under contract to, or owned by, any professional athletic organization.

28-9-1 ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION/PARENTAL CONSENT/PHYSICAL EXAMINATION RULE -The student shall have submitted to the principal of his/her school, prior to becoming a member of any school athletic squad or team, League Form No. 2 (Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physical Examination Form), completely filled in and properly signed, attesting that he/she has been examined and found to be physically fit for athletic competition, and that his/her parents consent to his/her participation. (See 30-5-3.)

Policy Manual 28-9-1 (1), (2) and (3)
Notes:
(1) The physical examination shall be required before any student is accepted as a squad member or is permitted to engage in tryouts or practice. Any person licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy may conduct the physical examination and may sign the form, as can a licensed nurse practitioner or a physician assistant under the regulations of the state Boards of Medicine and Nursing and under the supervision and direction of a licensed physician.
(2) Students taking part in athletic contests should be in fit physical condition. This condition can be attained only through properly conducted and systematic training procedures. It is recommended that coaches and physical education directors insist upon strict observance of the accepted rules of training as a requisite for squad membership.
RULES AND REGULATIONS

-70-

(3) Students who have been examined once during the period of May 1 of the current
year through June 30 of the succeeding year (14 months) do not have to be
examined again during that period unless they have had a serious injury or a serious
illness. In case of a serious illness or serious injury, the medical doctor or doctor of
osteopathy treating the student may specify in his/her release of the patient that the
student is approved for athletic participation for the remainder of the school year.

28-9-2 Penalty: A student who has failed to fulfill the requirements of this rule shall be
ineligible for practice or competition until such time as the requirements have been met.
Schools failing to require strict adherence to this regulation may be subject to such disciplinary
action as the appropriate District Committee may impose.

28-10-1 AWARDS RULE: Students may accept permissible awards presented or approved
by the student’s school.

Policy Manual 28-10-1 (1), (2), (3) and (4)

28-10-2 Interpretations:
(1) It is intended by this rule that control of awards to school athletes be in the hands
of the school principal. Outside agencies or organizations which desire to present awards
or recognitions to students for achievement in some phase of the school’s activities program
must first secure the concurrence of the school principal or the Executive Director.
(2) Permissible awards include trophies, medals, plaques, certificates, cups, ribbons,
pins, letters, pictures, event T-shirts, event hats, game balls, jackets and suitably inscribed
rings or watches which are symbolic (no intrinsic value) in nature.
(3) Cash or any other type of negotiable document or other monetary compensation
are not permissible awards. Gift certificates may not be exchanged for cash, even in part.
(4) A banquet for a school team (or seniors, letter winners, etc.), sponsored by other
than the school, shall not constitute a violation if arranged with the approval of the school.

28-10-3 Penalty: A student who accepts an award in violation of this regulation shall
be ineligible in the specific sport from the date of discovery for the number of contests listed
below. Such numbers shall include all contests in which the school participates subsequent
to the date of violation. The penalty as applied to the student involved under this rule shall
be applied and shall be counted consecutively from the date of discovery. The penalty as
applied to the school under Section 30-5-1 (1) of this Handbook shall be effective from the
date of violation. The penalty may extend into the next school year, but in no case will the
penalty extend beyond one calendar year.