

## MIAA RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS FOR 2005-2007

The following reflects Rule Change Proposals that have been submitted as permitted in the Procedure for Requesting A Rule Change, Rule 86, page 80 of the current MIAA Handbook. **Please note: Rule Change Proposals list Current Rule (as in handbook now), Proposal, and Rationale.** All responding groups should review the proposals and forward their recommendations, using the attached form, to MIAA Assistant Director, Dick Baker. Although changes should not be made on the original proposals, any group may make amendments, which will be included in the report passed on to the next group in the process.

The MSSADA and all MIAA Administrative Committees are welcome to act on each rule change proposal. In the section on Sport Specific Rules (rule change proposals 23-38 within this packet) MIAA sport committees and coaches associations act on general rules (rules 1-22 and 39-40) and rules for their own sport only.

Each of the below named groups, when reviewing a rule change proposal may take one of the following actions:

1. Provide an affirmative recommendation.
2. Provide a negative recommendation.
3. Propose an amendment.

### **REVIEWING BODY ACTIONS MUST REFLECT THE ACTUAL VOTE**

1. MIAA Sport Committees, MIAA Administrative Committees, and Presidents of MIAA recognized State Sport Coaches' Associations recommendations must be returned to the MIAA Assistant Director by December 1, 2004.
2. The Massachusetts Secondary School Athletic Directors Association and the MIAA District Athletic Committees must forward their recommendations to the MIAA by March 1, 2005
3. The MIAA Board of Directors will act upon proposals by May 15, 2005.
4. The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Council will act upon all proposals by June 1, 2005.

1. **Page 25**  
**Part III, Section 32.4**

**By Dick Baker**

**Current Rule:**

32.4 Postponed contests should be immediately re-scheduled on the first day that the teams do not have a scheduled competition.

**Proposal:**

Rewrite the entire rule:

Postponed contests must be rescheduled on the first available school day for both schools providing officials are available. Four in a row or five in a week must be mutually agreed upon. In team sports, no team is required to play three in a row or four in one week. No school is required to go back to back in track meets.

**Rationale:**

Eliminates schedule manipulations.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	0-15	Rejected
Basketball Committee:	0-18-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	7-2	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	3-6	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	2-5	Rejected
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	5-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	1-5	Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	0-5-1	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	5-7-2	Rejected
Soccer Committee	0-12-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-11-0	Rejected
Tennis Committee	3-2-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
TMC	1-8-0	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	2-12	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

2. **Page 26**  
**Part III, Add new sub-section:**

**By MIAA Board of Directors**

**Proposal:**

32.13 Schools are required to complete their schedules prior to the MIAA tournament cut-off date, or forfeit their next tournament eligibility in that sport, should that team qualify within the next two years.

**Rationale:**

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	0-15	Rejected
Basketball Committee:	0-18-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-10	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	1-8	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Football Committee	0-14	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	3-1-1	Approved
Golf Committee	0-7	Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	0-6	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	0-13-0	Rejected
Soccer Committee	0-12-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-11-0	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	4-0-1	Approved
Wrestling Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
TMC	1-8-0	Rejected
District C		Rejected
District F	1-3-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	0-14	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

3. **Page 26**  
**Part III, Section 33**

**By Brian Halloran, Assistant Director MIAA, MIAA Board of Directors, & MSSADA**

**Current Rule:**

**33 Coaches' Education**

All coaches first serving as an interscholastic athletic coach after August 1, 1998 must complete an MIAA sponsored or approved coaches' education course within one year in order to coach for a second year. Certified teachers as well as those who began their coaching prior to August 1, 1998 are not bound by this requirement.

**Proposal:**

All coaches first serving as an interscholastic coach after July 1, 2005 must complete an MIAA sponsored or approved coaches' education course of study. The approved course will consist of

the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) Coaches' Principles Course (must be passed prior to coaching a second year) and the NFHS Sports First Aid\* course (must be passed prior to coaching a third year).

All coaches first serving as an interscholastic coach after July 1, 2007 must complete the NFHS Coaches' Principles Course, the NFHS Sports First Aid course and the NFHS Sport Specific Technical and Tactical Skills Course in the sport they are coaching (must be completed prior to coaching a third year). Note: The sport-specific requirement will begin on July 1, 2007 or when the particular sport-specific course becomes available, if after this date.

The NFHS Coaching Principles Course requirement must be met through attending an MIAA sponsored Coaching Principles Clinic.

The NFHS Sports First Aid and Sport Specific requirement may be met by completing long distance on-line courses.

The MIAA Board of Directors and the MSSADA Executive Board voted to support the rule change proposal that would replace the current coaching education program with the Bronze Level Coaches' Education curriculum developed through the National Federation.

**Rationale:**

The intent of the rule proposal is to initiate a professional course of study for all coaches working in MIAA member High Schools. The requirements listed above will bring MIAA coaches into compliance with the Bronze Level Standard as approved by the NFHS.

\*To earn a NFHS Bronze Level certificate the first aid course must be the NFHS Sport First Aid course. The MIAA may initiate a MIAA Bronze Level Certificate, which may recognize other first aid courses. The MIAA certificate would be valid only in Massachusetts but may be recognized by other states.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee		
Basketball Committee:	10-7-1	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	10-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	5-2	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	3-3-1	
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	1-2-2	Rejected
Golf Committee	6-1	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	6-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	0-12-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	5-6-0	Rejected
Tennis Committee	5-0-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	6-1-1	Approved
Wrestling Committee	4-3-0	Approved
TMC	8-0-1	Approved
District C		Approved

District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	1-7	Rejected
MSSADA	11-5	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	10-3	Approved
MIAC	13-2	Approved

4. **Page 28**  
**Part III, Section 35.1**

**By MIAA Soccer Committee**

**Current Rule:**

35.1 Fall practice may begin for all teams as early as the second Thursday preceding Labor Day (i.e., August 26, 2004; August 25, 2005). No team may have more than ten single practice sessions (i.e., "double sessions" count as two single practice sessions) through and including the Friday prior to Labor Day. Football teams must precede their initial contact practice day with an additional three days of single non-contact sessions. The Fall season must end with completion of the regular season varsity schedule except for the varsity team or individual students completing their participation in the MIAA tournament.

**Proposal:**

Fall practice for soccer may begin as early as the second Monday preceding Labor Day (i.e., August 22, 2005; August 21, 2006; August 20, 2007)

**Rationale:**

1. Standards that require a more concerned look at the safety of "two a day" sessions in the heat of August. By keeping the same restrictions on the number of calendar days before the first game, we would eliminate this unhealthy practice of double workouts in the pre-season heat.
2. Would allow all schools to begin games immediately after Labor Day, as long as school is in session, and thus create less three-game week schedules and thus, decreasing the health risks associated with those three-game weeks, especially in the first weeks of the season.
3. This allows the Soccer cut-off date to be moved back by 1-2 days and thus allow the Tournament Committee to more closely follow the institutional standards of the regular season weekly game limit. (Example: the east has played 5 tournament games in 8 days).
4. The change must also be accompanied by the policy of not playing a game until school is in session.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee		
Basketball Committee:	0-17-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-10	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	3-6-0	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	3-3-0	
Soccer Committee	11-0-1	Approved
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected

Volleyball Committee	0-8-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	4-3-0	Approved
TMC	0-7-2	Rejected
District C		Rejected
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	2-6	Rejected
MSSADA	0-16	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

5. **Page 28**  
**Part III, Section 35.2**

**By MIAA Wrestling Committee**

**Current Rule:**

35.2 The Winter season must not begin before the first Monday after Thanksgiving. Winter sports include skiing, basketball, ice hockey, gymnastics, swimming (see Rule 35.1.1), indoor track, and wrestling. The Winter season must end with completion of the regular varsity season schedule, except for the varsity team or individual students completing their participation in the MIAA tournament. Exception: The nordic ski season must end by the Saturday preceding the third Monday in March.

**Proposal:**

35.2 Add Exception #2: Sub-varsity competition in wrestling will be allowed to continue until the conclusion of the MIAA Wrestling Tournament Season.

**Rationale:**

- Sub-varsity wrestlers are needed as practice partners for varsity wrestlers continuing in post-season tournaments.
- Sub-varsity wrestlers have limited opportunities for competition during the regular season because of weight class requirements.
- In wrestling there is not an extensive sub-varsity schedule as in other major sports.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee		
Basketball Committee:	3-13-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	10-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	9-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	6-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	15-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	12-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	10-0-1	Approved
Tennis Committee	5-0-0	Approved

Volleyball Committee	did not vote
Wrestling Committee	7-0-0    Approved
TMC	0-7-1    Rejected
District C	split vote
District F	4-0-0    Approved
District H	6-2      Approved
MSSADA	2-14     Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13     Rejected
MIAC	0-15     Rejected

6. **Page 28**  
**Part III, Section 35.1, 35.2, 35.3**

**By Dick Baker**

**Current Rule:**

- 35.1 Fall practice may begin for all teams as early as the second Thursday preceding Labor Day (i.e., August 21, 2003, August 26, 2004; August 25, 2005). No team may have more than ten single practice sessions (i.e., "double sessions" count as two single practice sessions) through and including the Friday prior to Labor Day. Football teams must precede their initial contact practice day with an additional three days of single non-contact sessions. The Fall season must end with completion of the regular season varsity schedule except for the varsity team or individual students completing their participation in the MIAA tournament.
- 35.2 The Winter season must not begin before the first Monday after Thanksgiving. Winter sports include skiing, basketball, ice hockey, gymnastics, swimming (see Rule 35.1.1), indoor track, and wrestling. The Winter season must end with completion of the regular varsity season schedule, except for the varsity team or individual students completing their participation in the MIAA tournament. Exception: The nordic ski season must end by the Saturday preceding the third Monday in March.
- 35.3 The Spring season must not begin before the third Monday in March. Spring sports include baseball, golf (See Rule 35.1.1), lacrosse, softball, tennis, boys' volleyball, and track and field. The Spring season must end with the completion of the regular varsity season or, for qualified varsity teams or individuals, upon completion of their participation in MIAA tournaments.

**Proposal:**

Add the following to the end of 35.1, 35.2, 35.3:

Sub-varsity teams or individual athletes may participate after the completion of the regular season varsity schedule to complete their season schedule (maximum of two weeks beyond varsity schedule completion) or to practice with the varsity team providing it has qualified for the MIAA tournament.

- Rationale:**
1. Allows leagues scheduling flexibility
  2. Allows varsity coaches to move up sub-varsity players for practice if qualified for MIAA Tournament.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	9-5-1	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	10-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	8-1	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	2-2-2	
Golf Committee	7-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	6-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	7-4-1	Approved
Softball Committee	1-10-0	Rejected
Swim Committee	6-0-0	Approved
Tennis Committee	1-4-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	7-0-0	Approved
TMC	3-7-0	Rejected
District C		Approved
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	14-2	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	12-1	Approved
MIAC	15-0	Approved

7. **Page 28**  
**Part III, Section 35.4**

**By MIAA Soccer Committee**

**Current Rule:**

35.4.1 The first team competition may not occur before the 11<sup>th</sup> calendar day after and including the first day of practice except golf, which may not occur until after seven calendar days of practice.

**Proposal:**

35.4.1 Add sentence to rule: No competition may occur until school is in session.

**Rationale:**

This change is an integral part of the soccer committee's rule change proposal (#2) for an earlier fall practice starting date. For obvious reasons, including but not limited to jurisdiction and liability, no interscholastic contest should be held prior to the starting date of any school year.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	0-14-1	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-10	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-9	Rejected

Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Football Committee	0-14	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	2-3-2	Rejected
Golf Committee	0-7	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	3-10	Rejected
Soccer Committee	5-7-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-10-0	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-8-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
TMC	0-10-0	Rejected
District C		Rejected
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	0-16	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

8. **Page 30**  
**Part III, Section 37.4.1**

**By MIAA Board of Directors**

**Current Rule:**

37.4.1 Site of the competition must be less than 300 miles from the MIAA member school(s). *(With the recommendation of the Assembly at the 4/1/04 Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors voted to suspend this rule for one year through the Spring of 2005.)*

**Proposal:**

Eliminate 37.4.1

**Rationale:**

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	12-1	Approved
Basketball Committee:	0-14-1	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	10-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	9-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	7-0	Approved
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	6-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	11-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	12-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	10-0	Approved
Swim Committee	6-0-1	Approved
Tennis Committee	5-0-0	Approved

Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	6-0-1	Approved
TMC	9-0-0	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	14-2	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	13-0	Approved
MIAC	15-0	Approved

9. **Page 30**  
**Part III, Section 37.4.3**

**By MIAA Board of Directors**

**Current Rule:**

37.4.3 Competition is among participants from no more than six states. *(With the recommendation of the Assembly at the 4/1/04 Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors voted to suspend this rule for one year through the Spring of 2005.)*

**Proposal:**

Eliminate 37.4.3

**Rationale:**

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	13-0	Approved
Basketball Committee:	14-0-1	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	10-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	9-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	7-0	Approved
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	6-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	10-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	12-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	10-0	Approved
Swim Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Tennis Committee	5-0-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	7-0-0	Approved
TMC	9-0-0	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	16-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	13-0	Approved
MIAC	15-0	Approved

10. **Page 31**  
**Part III, Section 40.1**

**By: Jerry Knight, Athletic Director, Somerville High School**

**Current Rule:**

*40.1* Unless otherwise permitted in this rule, between seasons a coach may conduct a meeting(s) with team candidates only to elect captains, collect equipment, issue equipment, to provide for physical examinations, to conduct legitimate fund-raising events, or to offer wellness workshops or activities.

**Proposal:**

Addition: to organize voluntary out of season play and to be able to attend as a spectator, offering no coaching or advice to players.

**Rationale:**

The GBL agrees with the intent of the rule, but we also feel it may be unintentionally discriminatory and detrimental to our urban membership. These are difficult times for teenagers. Who better that a coach can notice things that are unsettling? Who can a student talk to about issues and peer pressures offering alternatives to AAU type programs which may not be in the best interest of the student athlete as far as cost, travel and commitment are concerned.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	3-9	Rejected
Basketball Committee:	0-14-1	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-10	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-9	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	4-2-1	Approved
Football Committee	0-14	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	1-5-0	Rejected
Golf Committee	3-4	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	8-5-1	Approved
Soccer Committee	12-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	7-3-1	Approved
Swim Committee	5-0-1	Approved
Tennis Committee	5-0-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	0-8-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	0-6-1	Rejected
TMC	1-6-0	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	1-7	Rejected
MSSADA	7-9	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	7-7	
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

11. **Page 32**  
**Part III, Section 40.5.2**

**By: Jerry Knight, President, Greater Boston League**

**Current Rule:**

40.5.2 School funds are not used.

**Proposal:**

Funds raised by Booster Clubs may be used to fund entrance registration fees for out of season leagues that do not require separate organized practice times (i.e. recreational league).

**Rationale:**

The assistance would be specified for team registration in said and not for individual scholarships. Many students are unable to participate in said leagues due to financial burden of activity. While others have the means to fund their participation there is an advantage to the more affluent communities.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	2-11	Rejected
Basketball Committee:	3-10-1	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-10	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	1-8	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Football Committee	0-14	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	1-4-1	Rejected
Golf Committee	0-6-1	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	0-15	Rejected
Soccer Committee	0-9-3	Rejected
Softball Committee	2-8-1	Rejected
Swim Committee	1-4-1	Rejected
Tennis Committee	1-4-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-8-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	0-6-1	Rejected
TMC	1-7-1	Rejected
District C		Rejected
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	1-15	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	2-11	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

12. **Page 32**  
**Part III - Section 40 Out-of Season Coach-Athlete Contact Limitations**

**By Dick Baker**

**Proposal: Section 40.8 (new sub-section)**

Add a new section: 40.8: This rule is effective throughout the year, except between July 1<sup>st</sup> and August 10<sup>th</sup>, when the issue becomes a matter for local policy. No MIAA violations can occur during this time.

**Rationale:**

- \* Many State Associations have adopted a similar rule and it works.
- \* Policing this rule is difficult for all Principals and Athletic Directors.
- \* The argument of who is best to run summer programs would no longer be a concern.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	7-4	Amendment of dates: from end of last tournament date in Spring to first day of practice in Fall. Vote: 9-2	Approved
Basketball Committee:	0-13-1		Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	10-1		Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	1-8		Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-6-1		Rejected
Football Committee	0-14		Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	0-6-0		Rejected
Golf Committee	0-7		Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	0-4-2		Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	7-6		Approved
MBCA(Basketball Coaches)	9-6		Approved
Soccer Committee	6-5-1		Approved
Softball Committee	2-9		Rejected
Swim Committee	0-7		Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-5-0		Rejected
Volleyball Committee	5-3-0		Approved
Wrestling Committee	0-7-0		Rejected
TMC	4-5-0		Rejected
District C			split vote
District F	0-4-0		Rejected
District H	0-8		Rejected
MSSADA	6-9		Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	6-8		Rejected
to be effective as of 7/1/06: Vote:	8-7		Approved
MIAA	3-11-1		Rejected
to be effective as of 7/1/06: Vote:	4-10-1		Rejected

Amendment of dates:

Amendment of dates:

13. **Page 32**  
**Part III, Section 41**

**By: Jerry Knight, President, Greater Boston League**

**Current Rule:**

- 41. Subsidizing Out-of-Season Activities:** A school or a member of that school's coaching staff may not subsidize or support students who might attend any sports-related activity outside of the authorized seasonal limits for that sport. In addition, a coach may not provide transportation for candidates of his/her team to an out-of-season athletic activity/camp. Student participation in out-of season activities may not be funded in any way by booster clubs or organizations. Schools may issue equipment (but not uniforms) during the out-of-season period, but school districts should review any liability issues that could arise from such issuance. Students may not wear school uniforms, or be identified as a school team, out of season and/or during non-school events.

**Proposal:**

Delete rule or change to: In some instances student athletes may be transported to attend out of season activities, as they have no other means of transportation.

**Rationale:**

Out of city leagues such as recreation programs are located away from bus lines or there is no available ride. Activity is a positive nighttime or early afternoon event. Knowing as a parent, where my child is, keeping him off the streets, driving with a responsible person is a plus. All activities must be voluntary.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	0-11-3	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-11	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	1-8	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	3-1-2	Approved
Golf Committee	0-7	Rejected
Soccer Committee	1-7-4	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-10-1	Rejected
Swim Committee	0-7	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	1-6-0	Rejected
TMC	0-8-0-	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	0-16	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

14. **Page 36**  
**Part III, Section 44**

**By: Roger Dowd, Esq.**

**Proposal:**     **New Rule Sub-Section:**  
 44.4     Self-recruitment by a student in an attempt to enhance athletic development or for increased exposure, shall be deemed to be recruitment.

**Rationale:**

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	0-12	Rejected
Basketball Committee:	3-9-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	3-8	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-9	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Football Committee	0-14	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	5-0-0	Approved
Golf Committee	0-7	Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	2-3-1	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	0-15	Rejected
Soccer Committee	0-12-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-11-0	Rejected
Swim Committee	1-2-3	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	6-1-0	Approved
TMC	0-8-1	Rejected
District C		Rejected
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	0-16	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	2-12	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

15.     **Page 39**  
           **Part IV, Section 48**

**By:**     **MIAA Sportsmanship Committee**

**New Rule:**     **Sportsmanship: The Only Way to Win Standard**

**Proposal:**

Each member school will be required to present a year-long sportsmanship program plan: "Sportsmanship: the Only Way to Win Standard" that includes:

- A written Code of Conduct for coaches, student-athletes, and fans
- Strategies for promoting the sportsmanship plan
- Methods for evaluating the local plan
- Ratification by member school committee

**Process:**

- All MIAA member school registration materials will indicate "Sportsmanship: The Only Way to Win Program" as being a membership requirement.
- A form will be sent to each member school indicating the requirements for this program, as well as the submission deadline.
- A banner demonstrating appropriate recognition in the "Sportsmanship: The Only Way to Win Program" will be forwarded to each member school by December 1 for display in the high school gymnasiums.
- Select Sportsmanship Program plans will be compiled, utilized for presentations at certain Association events, and provided as resources for member schools.

**Rationale:**

- The goal of this proposal, sponsored by the Sportsmanship Committee, is to establish a fundamental baseline commitment by MIAA member schools, in an effort to promote the ideal of sportsmanship and its importance as a major Association initiative.
- The submission of each action plan can serve as a resource for schools and provide ideas for important sportsmanship strategies.
- It is logical that each member school that accepts the responsibility for sponsoring an interscholastic athletic program would assume the responsibility of teaching the significance of sportsmanship as a priority and establishing local standards and expectations.
- A universal acceptance of this programmatic standard will demonstrate the Association and its members are serious about sportsmanship.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	1-11	Rejected
Basketball Committee:	0-12-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	5-1	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-9	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Football Committee	0-14	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	0-6-0	Rejected
Golf Committee	0-6-1	Rejected – encourage, not must
Ice Hockey Committee	5-8	Rejected
Soccer Committee	2-9-1	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-11-0	Rejected
Swim Committee	0-6	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-4-1	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-6-1	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	0-6-1	Rejected
TMC	0-8-0	Rejected
Sportsmanship Committee	7-1	Approved
District C		Rejected
District F	0-4-0	Rejected – Encourage, not a must
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	0-16	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	1-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

16. **Page 41**  
**Part IV, Section 49.11**

## By Sportsmanship Committee

### Current Rule:

49.11 Any coach who is suspended from an MIAA interscholastic athletic contest or had three (3) athletes suspended during his/her sport season will be required to attend a Sportsmanship Compliance meeting before being eligible to coach interscholastic events the following year in that sport at any MIAA school.

### Proposal: New Rule Sub-Section:

49.11.1 Any coach who fulfills the Sportsmanship Compliance meeting requirement stated in rule 49.11 and is then suspended from another MIAA interscholastic athletic contest, either in the same sport or a different sport, will be required to officially enroll in the Coaches' Education course or a recognized MIAA certified program. The course must be completed before the start of the next season for any sport that the coach is eligible.

### Rationale:

A coach who violates this standard for a second time needs a higher level focus on the interscholastic curriculum enhanced by the Bronze level coaches education program or another recognized MIAA certified program.

### REVIEWING BODY ACTION:

Baseball Committee	14-0	Approved
Basketball Committee:	0-11-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	11-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	6-2-1	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	1-6	Rejected
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	3-1-1	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	14-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	3-8-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	11-0	Approved
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	5-2-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0	Approved
TMC	7-0-0	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	5-3	Approved
MSSADA	11-5	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	12-2	Approved
MIAC	15-0	Approved

17. **Page 44**  
**Part IV, Section 56.1**  
**By Michael Deary, A.D., Longmeadow High School**

**Current Rule:**

56.1 All students must pass a physical examination within **13 months** of athletic participation. A sports physical terminates **395** days subsequent to administering and must be renewed immediately (should an athlete be "in season") to maintain eligibility. Physical examinations must be performed by a duly registered Physician, Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner. The Sports Medicine Committee recommended physical examination form is in the MIAA White Book.

**Proposal:**

All students must pass a physical examination within thirteen months of **the start of each season. Students who meet this criteria at the start of the season will remain eligible for that season.** Physical examinations must be performed by a duly registered Physician, Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner. The Sports Medicine Committee recommended physical examination form is in the MIAA White Book.

**Rationale:**

School nurses, coaches, parents, players, and administrators would need to check eligibility as it relates to physicals only at the start of each season and not be concerned with rolling expiration dates. Some sports seasons have as many as five hundred or more athletic participants.

This new rule proposal could extend the time period between physicals up to twelve weeks longer, but most renewed physicals are much closer to the thirteen-month limit.

This rule would **not** eliminate the need for a yearly physical.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	8-3-0	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	11-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	8-0-1	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	7-0	Approved
Game Officials Committee	12-0-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	4-2-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	4-0-2	Approved
Soccer Committee	10-1-1	Approved
Softball Committee	0-10-1	Rejected
Swim Committee	6-0	Approved
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-6-1	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	6-1-0	Approved
Sports Medical Committee	1-14	Rejected
TMC	1-6-0	Rejected
District C		Approved

District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	15-1	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	13-0	Approved
MIAC	15-0	Approved

18. **Page 45**  
**Part IV, Section 57.3**

**By Dick Baker**

**Proposal: Add a new sub-section**

57.3.3 The High School Principal will declare eligible a transfer student if the sending principal certifies the following:

1. Recruitment was not involved in any way.
2. At time of transfer, student was in good standing.
3. Student would be academically eligible at sending school.

**Rationale:**

1. Eliminates the need for an MIAA waiver.
2. Puts the responsibility where it should be - with the MIAA High School Principal.
3. If approved Form will be developed by MIAA.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	11-0-0	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	7-3	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	10-0	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	5-1-0	Approved
Golf Committee	7-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	6-0-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	11-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	11-0-0	Approved
Swim Committee	7-0	Approved
Tennis Committee	5-0-0	Approved
Volleyball Committee	5-0-2	Approved
Wrestling Committee	6-1-0	Approved
TMC	5-0-2	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	14-2	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	13-0-1	Approved
MIAC	15-0	Approved

19. **Page 46**

**Part IV, New Rule**

**By Roger Dowd, Esq.**

**Proposal: New Rule Sub-Section:**

57.6.5 A student who transfers from an outside school to the public school where he/she resides.

**Rationale:**

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	4-6-1	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	8-3	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-10	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	0-3-3	
Golf Committee	1-6	Rejected – all members equal opportunity
Gymnastics Committee	1-4-1	Rejected
Soccer Committee	0-12-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	9-1-1	Approved
Swim Committee	7-0	Approved
Tennis Committee	1-4-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	6-1-0	Approved
TMC	2-3-2	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	8-8	
MIAA Board of Directors	12-2	Approved
MIAC	9-6	Approved

**Following MIAC action, the Board of Directors was authorized by the Council to suspend this new rule. Consequently, the rule is not in effect, and receiving school principals/athletic directors should consider utilizing the new Form 200 process.**

20. **Page 46**  
**Part IV, New Rule**

**By Bob Sondheim, A.D., Sharon High School**

**Proposal:**

A student ruled ineligible for varsity competition due to the failure of a timely filing of a form 100 may still be deemed eligible for junior varsity or freshman participation (if applicable) at the discretion of the school athletic program and league approval.

**Rationale:**

An innocent party (the student) should not be robbed of participation within a sport if the necessary paperwork was not filled out properly to allow for such participation. Moreover, there is no appeals procedure to provide a safety net for the omission of this important filing. This should be addressed. While the present regulation allows such a student to practice (but not compete with) the varsity team, this rule change would grant the student allowable game competition experience at a level where record-keeping or post-season play is not a factor. This would be a choice by the student and school athletic program and sanctioned by the league to grant this as an option.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	2-6-2	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-11	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-10	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-7	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	0-5-1	Rejected
Golf Committee	3-4	Rejected
Soccer Committee	1-6-4	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-11-0	Rejected
Swim Committee	1-6	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-4-1	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	2-5-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	2-4-1	Rejected
TMC	5-1-0	Approved
District C		Rejected
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	4-4	
MSSADA	3-13	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-14	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

- 21. **Page 48-49**  
**Part IV, Section 62.1**

**By Phil Vaccaro, A.D., Reading Memorial High School**

**Current Rule:**

*62.1* During the season of practice or play, a student shall not, regardless of the quantity, use, consume, possess, buy/sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product; marijuana; steroids; or any controlled substance. This policy includes products such as “NA or near beer”. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by his/her doctor. This rule represents only a minimum standard upon which schools may develop more stringent requirements.

This MIAA statewide minimum standard is not intended to render "guilt by association", e.g. many student athletes might be present at a party where only a few violate this standard.

If a student in violation of this rule is unable to participate in interscholastic sports due to injury, academics, or otherwise, the penalty will not take effect until that student is able to participate again.

**Minimum PENALTIES:**

**First Violation:** When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive interscholastic events, or two weeks of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever encompasses the greater number of contests. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program for the purpose of rehabilitation, it is recommended that the student be allowed to practice.

**Second And Subsequent Violations:** When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a second or subsequent violations have occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next 12 consecutive interscholastic events or 12 consecutive weeks, whichever encompasses the greater number of contests in which the student would be a participant.

If after the second or subsequent violations the student of his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MIAA activities after a minimum period of six (6) weeks or six (6) contests, whichever penalty is greater. Such certification must be issued by the director or a counselor of a chemical dependency/treatment center.

Penalties shall be cumulative each academic year. If the penalty period is not completed during the season of violation, the penalty shall carry over to the student's next season of actual participation, which may affect the eligibility status of the student during the next academic year.

**Proposal:**

**Minimum Penalties**

**First violation:** When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contest totaling 25% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. For the student, these penalties will be determined by the season the violation occurs. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 25% of the season.

**Second and subsequent violations:** When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contest totaling 60% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. For the

student, these penalties will be determined by the season the violation occurs. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 60% of the season.

If the second or subsequent violations the student of his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MIAA activities after a minimum of 40% of events. The director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 40% of the season.

Penalties shall be cumulative each academic year. If the penalty period is not completed during the season of violation, the penalty shall carry over to the student's next season of actual participation, which may affect the eligibility status of the student during the next academic year.

**Rationale:**

This rule will no longer be weather dependent. This percentage makes the rule consistent and very close to current rule penalties.

The purpose of this rule change is consistency and not a longer or shorter penalty.

Please note all other language of the rule is the same as present rule.

Example;

If an athlete gets suspended at the beginning of the spring season and it rains for two weeks, the most an athlete will miss is two games. If another athlete gets suspended at the end of the spring season and the team is playing 4 games a week due to make-ups, the athlete could potentially miss 8 games.

When calculating percentages, all decimals are dropped. For example, 18 game season x 25% = 4.5 means 4 games, 11 game season x 25% = 2.75 means 2 games.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	10-4	Approved
Basketball Committee:	5-5-0	
Cross Country & Track Committee	8-2	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	9-1	Approved
Field Hockey Committee	0-4-2	Rejected
Football Committee	0-14	Rejected
Game Officials Committee	7-5-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	4-2-0	Approved
Golf Committee	6-1	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	7-6	Approved
Soccer Committee	11-0-0	Approved
Softball Committee	0-11-1	Rejected

Swim Committee	4-2	Approved
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	6-1-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	5-2-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	7-1	Approved
TMC	5-1-0	Approved
Wellness Advisory Committee	4-6-0	Rejected
District C		Approved
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	12-3	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	13-1	Approved
MIAC	13-1	Approved

22. **Page 50**  
**Part IV, Section 63 (New)**

**By William Gaine, Jr., Deputy Director, MIAA**

**Current Rule:**

None - Add a "Good Citizen Rule"

**Proposal:**

Student-athletes may not represent their school if they are on in-house or out-of-house disciplinary suspension.

**Rationale:**

Those student-athletes whose character or conduct is such to reflect discredit upon themselves or their school are not considered good citizens. Participation in interscholastic athletics has always been regarded as a privilege and consequently participants should accept additional responsibilities. Conduct shall be satisfactory in accordance with standards of good discipline. A student-athlete shall not be considered eligible while under school suspension. This proposal is intended to be consistent with the values that we purport are inherent in interscholastic athletics. This option is relevant as school boards throughout the country are looking at the priority of character education and at vehicles to support this goal. There continues to be cases of notoriety that demonstrates student-athletes receiving community attention and adulation for their athletic prowess, yet have demonstrated behavior, which would judge them not in "good standing."

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	12-0	Approved
Basketball Committee:	7-2-1	Approved
Cross Country & Track Committee	9-0	Approved
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	5-5	
Field Hockey Committee	0-6	Rejected
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	4-2-0	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	5-0-1	Approved

Ice Hockey Committee	11-2	Approved
Soccer Committee	0-11-1	Rejected
Softball Committee	9-2-0	Approved
Swim Committee	2-4	Rejected
Tennis Committee	1-4-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	7-0-0	Approved
Wrestling Committee	4-3-0	Approved
Sports Medical Committee	Voted to table 14-0	
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0	Approved
TMC	6-0-0	Approved
Wellness Advisory Committee	8-0-0	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	14-2	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	4-10	Rejected
MIAC	14-0	Approved

23. **Page 52**  
**Part V, Section 64.4**

**By Richard Carey, former baseball coach at Weymouth High School & Christopher Columbus High School**

**Proposal:** (*bold and italics are proposed changes*)

**64.4** *Beginning as soon as possible all MIAA high school baseball games are to be played using only wooden bats. (This proposal is presented as an emergency measure that would affect the health and safety of students.)*

**Rationale:**

It is an irrefutable fact, recognized and acknowledged by all those who do not have a vested interest, that a baseball comes off a metal bat quicker, faster, and harder than off a wooden bat. This being the case, fielders, especially pitchers, has less time to react to line drives off metal bats than off wooden bats. Consequently, pitchers are more at risk of suffering serious and life-threatening injuries when metal bats are used.

Safety, therefore, is the principal (but not sole) reason for mandating the use of wooden bats. Metal bats have also made a mockery of the great game of baseball. They have changed the character of the game to such an extent with bogus statistics being produced by metal bats that it really isn't baseball. Call it "smash ball," or "gorilla ball," "ping ball," whatever you want - but don't call it baseball, because it is not! For these reasons, then, (safety, legitimacy, consistency, integrity) and for any reasons of your own, I urge you to require that only wooden bats be used in all your high school baseball games.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	6-9	Rejected
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Sports Medical Committee	4-9-1	Rejected
TMC	6-0-0	Approved
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	1-7	Rejected
MSSADA	2-14	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	2-12	Rejected
MIAC	0-15	Rejected

24. **Page 52**  
**Part V, Section 64.4**

**William Gain, Jr., Deputy Director, MIAA**

**Proposal:**

Effective July 1, 2005 only wood bats will be permitted in high school baseball.

**Rationale:**

Many variables evolved leading to the recommendation to go to wood bats during the 2003 baseball season and 2003 Tournament where the use of wood bats was widespread. These variables include coaches' preference, tradition, safety concerns, and esthetics.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	7-8	Rejected
Sports Medical Committee	11-1-1	Approved
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	1-7	Rejected
MA Baseball Coaches Asn-Executive Board	0-21	Rejected
MSSADA	2-14	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	3-11	Rejected
MIAC	3-12	Rejected

25. **Page 52**  
**Part V, Section 64.12**

**By MIAA Baseball Committee**

**Proposal: (*bold and italics are proposed changes*)**

***64.12 Any coach ejected from an Interscholastic Baseball game will be suspended for the next 2 games.***

***64.13 A Strike Two Program will be implemented:***

***A baseball umpire at any time will voice "strike one" when a warning for inappropriate comment or actions is warranted, and that "strike***

*one" will be recorded in the scorebook. Upon the need for a "strike two" call, an ejection of the coach would occur. Exception: In the case of a flagrant unsportsmanlike infraction and/or physical assault an immediate ejection will occur.*

*In addition to the experimental rule, sportsmanship workshops, clinics, and/or meetings will be scheduled with Baseball Coaches, Umpires and Athletic Directors for appropriate understanding of the need and application of these experimental rules.*

**Rationale:**

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	13-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0	Approved
District C		split vote
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	11-4	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	14-0	Approved
MIAC		

26. **Page 53**  
**Part V, Section 65.7.2**

**By Dick Baker**

**Current Rule:**

65.7.2 No member of a high school basketball squad shall participate in more than two halves per day. (This does not include official over-time periods.)

**Proposal:**

Change from two halves per day to **three** halves per day.

**Rationale:**

This rule is used in NH and allows coaches flexibility when moving players between the junior varsity and varsity. This proposal is supported by the Cape Ann League and Northeastern Conference Athletic Directors and Basketball Coaches.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	1-8-1	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	1-3-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	12-4	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	7-7	
MIAC	6-8	Rejected

27. **Page 53**

**Part V, Section 65.8**

**By Jack O'Brien - Boys Basketball Coach**

**Current Rule:**

None (currently only in hockey and football)

**Proposal:**

A doctor, licensed trainer or certified EMT must be in attendance and on duty for all interscholastic varsity basketball games. The medical person shall be responsible for both teams unless the visiting team has its own medical coverage. His/her judgment will be final with regard to the condition of a player after injury. No player may continue to play against the medical person's advice. The penalty for violation of this provision is forfeiture of the game.

**Rationale:**

Currently football and hockey cannot start a contest without a doctor, licensed trainer, or certified EMT. Recently we at Charlestown High School lost a tremendous young man. He died of an enlarged heart while working out in the gym with his teammates and coaches.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Basketball Committee:	0-10-0	Rejected
Sports Medical Committee	1-10-1	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	2-6	Rejected
MSSADA	0-16	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-12	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

28. **Page 57**  
**Part V, Section 69.1**

**By George Callahan, Golf Coach Medfield High School**

**Current Rule:**

*69.1* Except as modified by the individual leagues, Massachusetts high school golf shall be played under the USGA Rules with the following modifications or exceptions.

**Proposal:**

All members of mixed gender golf teams shall "tee off" from the same tee markers on each hole. This rule should be in effect for the Fall 2004 golf season.

**Rationale:**

There is no justification for having girls on a mixed gender team hit from the forward tees. All competitors must play the same course. Everyone must be treated equally (and the rules of golf (USGA) are neutral). No one should have an unfair advantage in a competitive match. I know of no other sports (in the MIAA Blue Book) in which girls on a mixed gender team follow a different set of rules in competition. (As you know, female golfers are now competing with men on the PGA Tour and are doing quite well while playing the same course.) Let's follow the rules and have everyone play the same course.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Golf Committee	1-6	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	1-2-1	Rejected
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	10-6	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	0-12	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

29. **Page 60**  
**Part V, Section 71.12 & 71.16**

**By MIAA Ice Hockey Committee**

**Eliminate Current Rule:**

**71.12\*** *\*Rule 71.12 has been suspended by the Board of Directors at the request of the Ice Hockey Committee through the 2004-2005 ice hockey season.*

Any team whose players receive collectively a combination of more than six misconducts, game misconducts, and/or game disqualification penalties during pre-season competition and/or regular season games shall not qualify for the MIAA tournament.

**71.16\*** *\*Rule 71.16 has been suspended by the Board of Directors at the request of the Ice Hockey Committee through the 2004-2005 ice hockey season.*

After a combination of seven misconducts, game misconducts, and/or game disqualification penalties, each subsequent misconduct, game misconduct, and/or game disqualification penalty received by a team will result in a forfeiture of the subsequent MIAA contest. These penalties will carry over to the next season should the violation occur in the final game of the season. A status report relative to such penalties, forfeitures, and local remediation must be immediately filed with the MIAA office.

**Proposal:**

Eliminates Rules 71.12 and 71.16

The 2003-2004 Ice Hockey year was played with the experimental elimination of these Rules.

**Rationale:**

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Ice Hockey Committee	14-0	Approved
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Sportsmanship Committee	0-6-2	Rejected
District C		Approved
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	2-6	Rejected
MSSADA	10-3-3	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	14-0	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

30. **Page 60**  
**Part V, New Rule**

**By MIAA Ice Hockey Committee**

**Proposal:**

Add Ice Hockey Rule: All Ice Hockey Officials will be required to meet in locker rooms with players and coaches before all regular season games.

**Rationale:**

This procedure is done in all MIAA Ice Hockey Tournaments and determined most effective. In addition, Central Mass used it as an experimental rule in 2003-2004 and found it to be important, helpful, and successful as it provided a direct and consistent message to all ice hockey players.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Game Officials Committee	5-1-1	Approved
Ice Hockey Committee	11-2	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	3-1-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	14-1	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	13-1	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

31. **Page 60**  
**Part V, Section 71.12 & 71.16**

**By MIAA Ice Hockey Committee**

**Proposal:**

Add Ice Hockey Rule: Require all Varsity Hockey Coaches to attend a Pre-season Hockey meeting sponsored by the Ice Hockey Committee. Meetings will be scheduled regionally and attendance will be mandatory and lack of attendance will preclude participation in Member school from the Ice Hockey Tournament.

**Rationale:**

To focus on the responsibility of the "Teacher/Coach" and promote educational athletics. Ice hockey coaches are asked to accept the responsibility to keep interscholastic ice hockey at the highest level. One season meeting requirement will assist in this mission and help provide the

tools and resources so that the legacy of teaching about skills and behavior will be the continued priority of ice hockey coaches and the presumption of ice hockey being "out of control" may diminish.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Ice Hockey Committee	15-0	to amend to read <b>may</b> preclude – approved
	by a vote of 13-2	
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0	Approved
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	1-15	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-12	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

32. **Page 66**  
**Part V, Section 78.1.3**

**By Nancy Quimby, Girls Tennis Coach, Westborough High School**

**Current Rule:**

78.1.3 Players are to be played in order of ability: i.e., the first and second singles players will be the two best players on the team actually engaging in the match, and the best player will play number one and the second best player will play number two. The third singles player will be representative, and the two doubles teams will be played in order of their ability. **Written line-ups must be exchanged prior to the warm-up period of each team match. (Violation of this rule will result in match forfeiture of that team's point or points affected by the violation).**

**Proposal:**

78.1.3 Players are to be played in order of ability: i.e., the first and second singles players will be the two best players on the team actually engaging in the match, and the best player will play number one and the second best player will play number two. The third singles player will be representative, and the two doubles teams will be played in order of their ability. **The order of ability will be determined by ladder matches consisting of at least ten game pro sets (two of three set matches are preferred) to be completed with scores documented and signed by each player or doubles team as well as the coach and turned in to the Athletic Director by April 15<sup>th</sup> of each season. The Athletic Director will submit this ladder to the MIAA Tennis Committee. At least the top eight players on the team must determine their individual ladder positions before doubles teams can be established. Doubles teams can then be established and the same format mentioned above should be used to determine the order of doubles play. Any subsequent necessary changes in order of play during the season must be documented by a new ladder match between players involved with scores and signatures of players and coaches turned in to the Athletic Director to substantiate the reason for the change.** \* Written line-ups must be

exchanged prior to the warm-up period of each team match. *Coaches must also exchange their current team ladder to give basis/justification of their team line-ups spelling out exactly why their players/doubles are playing in the order they are.* \* (Violation of this rule will result in match forfeiture of that team's point or points affected by the violation).

\* Proposed rule change is in italics, bold, and underlined.

**Rationale:**

Because tennis is a self-officiated sport as it pertains to regular season play in high school athletics, it is especially important for ALL coaches and players to understand the rules as spelled out by the MIAA. In order to enforce rule 78.1.3, there needs to be a concrete vehicle for enforcement. A ladder as described in this proposal, will provide the simple necessary vehicle to enforce the integrity of the intent of the rule. Without a ladder with specific structure, it is impossible to prove violations, and many teams (sometimes naively) are violating the rule and have an unfair advantage over teams who are adhering strictly to the rule.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION**

Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
District C		split vote
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	3-13	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	1-13	Rejected

33. **Page 68**  
**Part V, Section 79.1**

**By MIAA Volleyball Committee**

**Current Rule:**

79.1 *NCAA Women's* rules shall be used for both boys and girls with the following modifications.

79.1.1 Coaching during the match is permitted as long as it is not distractive to the opponents.

79.1.2 The length of a time-out is limited to 60 seconds.

**Proposal: Add following modifications**

79.1.3 The height of the net measured from the center of the court is 7'4" for girls and 7'11 5/8" for boys. **Rationale:** NCAA Rules do not specify a boy's height.

79.1.4 During regular season matches, all games will be played to 30 points. In tournament play, the deciding (fifth) game is won when a team scores 15 points and has at least a two point advantage over the opponent. **Rationale:** Because we decided to play only 2 out of 3 matches during the regular season rather than the regular 3 out of 5 that the rules call for, we did not want to shorten the third game to 15 points.

Varsity and JV regular season matches will be the best 2 out of 3 games. **Rationale:** Although we will be playing rally scoring as opposed to side-out scoring used now, the 2 out of 3 game format is consistent with our past practice of playing a 2 out of 3 game match.

79.1.4.1 All tournament matches will be the best 3 out of 5 games. **Rationale:** Consistent with what we now play.

79.1.5 Replace NCAA protocol with MIAA protocol as published in the Volleyball Format. **Rationale:** Our protocol suits the time frame better.

79.1.6 Teams will not switch sides of the court in the middle of the deciding game. **Rationale:** Consistent with what we do now.

79.1.7 Each team is entitled to 18 player substitutions per game in varsity matches. Libero replacements are not counted as player substitutions. Unlimited substitutions are allowed in sub-varsity matches. **Note:** MIAA game day limitations restrict a player to no more than three games, or the equivalent of one match, per day against one opponent, unless both coaches agree to waive this rule. If the rule is waived, the Varsity contest must precede the JV contest. **Rationale:** Allows for more participation.

79.1.8 The pursuit rule will not be in effect. **Rationale:** Safety concern.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
District C		split vote
District F	1-3-0	Rejected
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	11-4	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

34. **Page 68-69**  
**Part V, Section 79.2, 79.4, 79.5.2, 79.5.3, 79.5.5**

**By MIAA Volleyball Committee**

**Current Rules:**

79.2 Schedule of Matches:

During the regular season, all competitions will be two out of three games and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit.

79.4 *The third junior varsity match will be played to only 15 points.*

- 79.5.2 *When competing against only one school on a given day, a student may participate in part of a varsity or junior varsity contest on the same day provided he/she does not appear in more than a total of three games.*
- 79.5.3 *When playing a match against each of two schools on the same day, a student is limited to a maximum of 3 games against each opponent.*
- 79.5.5 *If a coach wants to request that players on his/her team participate in more than 3 **games**, this must be agreed upon by both coaches prior to the match. Prior notification is required if a varsity match is going to precede a junior varsity match.*

**Proposal:**

79.2 During the regular season, all varsity competitions will be three out of five games, played to 25 points utilizing rally scoring, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit. The fifth varsity game will be played to 15 points. Junior varsity competitions will be two out of three games, played to 25 points utilizing rally scoring, with the third game to 15 points, and will count toward the season and weekly schedule limit.

79.4 Omit section

79.4 Create new section:

Warm-up time will be reduced from 23 minutes to 15 minutes (7-7-1)

79.5.2 in last line replace “three” with “five”

79.5.3 in second line replace “3” with five”

79.5.5 in second line replace “3” with “five”

**Rationale:**

- The committee members felt that the current practice of playing 2 out of 3 games during the regular season and then 3 out of 5 games in the tournament was not in the best interest of our student athletes who play one way all season and then utilize a different format in the tournament.
- This reduction in warm-up time and number of points per game (30 to 25) is intended to balance the amount of time required to complete a volleyball match when playing 3 out of 5 games during the regular season.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	1-3-0	Rejected
District H	6-2	Approved
MSSADA	11-5	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	11-3	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

35. **Page 69**  
**Part V, Section 79.7**

**By Nicky Dumond, Student, Academy of Notre Dame-Tyngsboro**

**Current Rule:**

79.7 *New Rule*

**Proposal:**

Boys playing on a girls' team. Eligible boys playing on a girls' team will not be allowed to block, or attack a ball unless they take-off completely behind the attack line.

**Rationale:**

After consulting numerous volleyball experts; including Dave Castanon, New England Regional Volleyball Commissioner, Judy Slamin, Head of High School Referees, and Rob Slavin, President, Massachusetts High School Coaches Association, it was determined to follow the above USAV reverse coed rule. I also talked to Susan Wunsch of the ACLU, who stated that her organization would not have a problem with my proposal. My proposal is short, sweet, and fair.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Volleyball Committee	8-0-0	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	0-4-0	Rejected
District H	0-8	Rejected
MSSADA	5-10	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

36. **Page 70**  
**Section V, Rule 81.1**

**By MIAA Wrestling Committee**

**Current Rule:**

*81.1* The National Federation Wrestling Rules will be the official rules of all wrestling contests, including all tournaments.

**Proposal:**

Add Exception: Any regular season dual-meet competition ending in a tie score shall remain a tie. Only tie scores in a dual meet tournament will be decided by the existing National Federation tie-breaker criteria.

**Rationale:**

Unlike most sports wrestling has no overtime to decide a dual-meet winner after the 14<sup>th</sup> weight class is concluded.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Wrestling Committee		
District C		Approved
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	14-2	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	12-0	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

37. **Page 72**  
**Section V, Rule 81.4.6**

**By MIAA Wrestling Committee**

**Current Rule:**

81.4.6 To qualify at a certain weight for MIAA sectional and state tournaments, a wrestler must weigh-in at his certified weight class at scratch weight at least once during the season, even if the first weigh-in occurs after the 2 lb. Allowance is granted on January 15<sup>th</sup>. He must also weigh in at the base weight (scratch weight plus any rule book allowances) 60% of the varsity days of competition on which the wrestler competes. A wrestler **MUST COMPETE** on the day of competition in order to count that weigh-in towards the 60% requirement for certification. Rulebook weight class allowances count toward certification.

**Proposal:**

Change "60% of the varsity days of competition..." to **50%** and  
Change "60% requirements for certification..." to **50%**

**Rationale:**

To conform to existing National Federation Rule.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Wrestling Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
Sports Medical Committee	9-0-3	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	13-3	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	0-13	Rejected
MIAC	0-14	Rejected

38. **Page 72**  
**Section V, Rule 81.4.7**

**By MIAA Wrestling Committee**

**Current Rule:**

81.4.7 A wrestler may weigh-in for a varsity dual meet and compete at that weight or the next heavier weight. A wrestler may weigh-in for a varsity dual meet or tournament at the next weight heavier than the wrestler's certified weight class. If a wrestler ever weighs in for a varsity dual meet or MIAA sanctioned tournament two weight classes above the wrestler's certified weight class, the wrestler loses his certification at the lower weight class and is then certified at the next heavier weight class. For example, a wrestler who certified at 103 lbs. may never, during that current season, weigh in at 119 lbs. and keep the 103 lbs. certification. The wrestler may weigh in at 112 lbs. and wrestle at 119 lbs. and keep the 103 lbs. certification.

**Proposal:**

Insert prior to ... for example...

Exception: All wrestlers may weigh in two weight classes above their certified weight prior to December 25<sup>th</sup> without losing their certification.

**Rationale:**

To allow athletes competing late into the fall season the opportunity to get down to lean body weight in a gradual and safe manner.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Wrestling Committee	6-1-0	Approved
Sports Medical Committee	13-0-1	Approved
District C		Approved
District F	4-0-0	Approved
District H	8-0	Approved
MSSADA	16-0	Approved
MIAA Board of Directors	13-0	Approved
MIAC	14-0	Approved

- 39. **Page 87**  
**Part VIII, Section 89.18 (New Rule)**

**By William Gaine, Jr., Deputy Director, MIAA**

**Proposal:**

Game Officials will not receive compensation unless they remain present at the conclusion of every interscholastic event to assist in monitoring the student-athlete handshake.

**Rational:**

This is a procedure that has been in place for a number of MIAA sponsored sports. It is a sportsmanship strategy, which has benefited the athletic climate significantly. It is an example of utilizing the partnership of coach and official as teachers for the expected and programmed outcome of respect for opponent. It adds to providing a positive environment, which has a modeling impact on fans.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	9-4	Approved
Basketball Committee:	2-7-1	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-11	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	3-5-2	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-5	Rejected
Football Committee	13-1	Approved
Game Officials Committee	1-5-1	Rejected
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	0-6-0	Rejected
Gymnastics Committee	0-6	Rejected
Ice Hockey Committee	14-0	Approved
Soccer Committee	0-12-0	Rejected

Softball Committee	5-6-0	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-5-0	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	6-1-0	Approved
Sportsmanship Committee	8-0	Approved
TMC	0-6-0	Rejected
Wellness Advisory Committee	8-0-0	Approved
District C		Rejected
District F	1-2-0	Rejected
District H	7-1	Approved
MSSADA	4-12	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	0-11	Rejected
MIAC	4-9-1	Rejected

40. **Page 95**  
**Section IX, Rule 95.1**

**By: Ron Ford, Athletic Director, Cohasset Middle-High School**

**Current Rule:**

95.1 A bona fide member of the school team is a student who is consistently present for, and actively participates in, all high school team practices and competitions. Bona fide members of a school team are precluded from missing a high school practice or competition in order to participate in a non school activity/event in any sport recognized by the MIAA. Any student who violates this standard becomes ineligible for the MIAA tournament(s) in that sport for that season. (See also Rule 45, for additional regular season consequence.)

**Proposal:**

To eliminate Rule 95.1 which suspends students from tournament participation.

**Rationale:**

This rule penalizes a student athlete two times for one infraction. I believe it is too harsh. A student athlete who violates the chemical health rule may return for post season play, but the loyalty to team rule violator may not. There is some inequity in the punishment. The South Shore League also supports this rule change.

**REVIEWING BODY ACTION:**

Baseball Committee	1-9	Rejected
Basketball Committee:	0-10-0	Rejected
Cross Country & Track Committee	0-11	Rejected
Boys' Lacrosse Committee	0-10	Rejected
Field Hockey Committee	0-5	Rejected
Football Committee	14-0	Approved
Girls' Lacrosse Committee	1-5	Rejected
Golf Committee	6-1	Approved
Gymnastics Committee	0-6	Rejected

Ice Hockey Committee	6-8	Rejected
Soccer Committee	3-9-0	Rejected
Softball Committee	0-11-0	Rejected
Swim Committee	0-7	Rejected
Tennis Committee	0-4-1	Rejected
Volleyball Committee	0-7-0	Rejected
Wrestling Committee	1-5-1	Rejected
TMC	0-6-0	Rejected
District C		Rejected
District F	3-0-0	Approved
District H	1-7	Rejected
MSSADA	7-9	Rejected
MIAA Board of Directors	12-0-1	Approved
MIAC	1-13	Rejected