

# NMAA HANDBOOK ADDENDUM

## COVID-19 BYLAW AMENDMENTS/CLARIFICATIONS

### 2020-2021 ONLY

#### 1. Annual Meeting – 2.5.1

- a. There will not be an Annual Meeting (Fall Conference) requirement for the 2020-2021 school year.

#### 2. District Clinics (All conducted via Zoom except for Spirit) – 3.6

- Cross Country, Golf, Volleyball – September 28
- Spirit – October 17
- Football – January 26
- Soccer – February 22
- Basketball, Swimming & Diving – March 15
- Wrestling – March 23
- Golf, Tennis, Track & Field – March 29
- Baseball, Softball – March 30

#### 3. School Online Reporting – NMAA Bylaw 3.9

##### a. Beginning of School Information – 3.9.2

- i. No change to current NMAA policy. Each member school must submit/update their school information through Max Preps by September 1.

##### b. Beginning of Athletic Season Information (Max Preps Deadlines) – 3.9.3

- Football – February 12
- Cross Country, Volleyball – February 26
- Soccer – March 12
- Basketball, Spirit, Swimming & Diving – April 2
- Wrestling – April 9
- Baseball, Golf, Softball, Tennis, Track & Field – April 16

##### c. Pre-Season Meetings – 3.9.4

- i. There are no pre-season meeting requirements for the 2020-2021 school year however; schools will need to provide the NMAA Pre-Season video to all parents and students.

#### 4. Failure to Complete Season and Classification & Alignment – NMAA Bylaw 4.1.3.A

- a. Schools opting to drop a sport must notify the NMAA at least two weeks prior to the start of official practice for that sport.
- b. Schools unable to start or complete seasons due to state, county, or local health department or local school/school district determinations will be exempt from penalties for failure to complete seasons and/or fulfill contracts.
- c. Classification and alignment by sport will be updated throughout 2020-2021 to account for schools that will not have programs due to the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the pandemic.

**5. Scholastic Eligibility – NMAA Bylaw 6.2**

- a. A Student may compete without reference to his/her immediate or previous scholastic record during the Fall 2020 semester. The end of the Fall 2020 semester is the beginning of the scholarship requirement (2.0 with no F's) for Students. The cumulative provision may not be applied if a Student has more than one "F" in the semester grading period immediately preceding participation. **The cumulative provision can be used for 9th grade students during the 2020-2021 school year.**
- b. A Student who is scholastically eligible at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 2020-2021 school year shall remain eligible for the remainder of the 2020-2021 competition calendar.
- c. A Student who is scholastically ineligible after the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 2020-2021 year, and is unable to utilize the cumulative provision, is subject to the following guidelines for regaining and retaining eligibility for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year:
  - i. A Student may regain his/her eligibility at the next regular grading period (3<sup>rd</sup> quarter or 4<sup>th</sup> 6-weeks).
  - ii. A Student who regains eligibility at the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter will retain his/her eligibility for the remainder of the 2020-2021 competition calendar.
  - iii. A Student on a 6-week grading period who regains/maintains eligibility after the 5<sup>th</sup> 6-weeks will retain his/her eligibility for the remainder of the 2020-2021 competition calendar.
  - iv. A Student who is ineligible at the conclusion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter or 5<sup>th</sup> 6-weeks, will remain ineligible for the remainder of the 2020-2021 competition calendar.
- d. Spring 2021 semester grades determine scholastic eligibility for the Fall 2021 semester.

**6. Multiple Seasons in Same Sport – NMAA Bylaw 6.5.1.C.1, 6.13.1.B**

- a. No changes to current NMAA policy.

**7. Transfer Students – NMAA Bylaw 6.6**

- a. No changes to current NMAA policy.

**8. Did Not Participate Exception – NMAA Bylaw 6.9.2.B**

- a. If a school is unable to offer a particular sport during the 2020-2021 school year due to state, county, or local health department or local school/school district determinations, students who later transfer from those schools will have their 2019-2020 sport participation utilized when applying the did not participate exception.

**9. Participation after Graduation – NMAA Bylaw 6.11**

- a. **A Student that earns or is eligible for his/her GED or high school diploma or its equivalent during the 2020-2021 school year, shall be eligible to participate during the Spring 2021 semester.**

**10. Semesters of Attendance – NMAA Bylaw 6.12**

- a. No changes to current NMAA policy.

**11. Physical Exam Waivers – NMAA Bylaw 6.15**

- a. Students who received a sports physical on or after April 1, 2019 may utilize the NMAA Returning Athlete Physical form if approved by the local school/district.
- b. Students who have not had a physical exam on or after April 1, 2019 must receive a formal sports physical utilizing the NMAA Required Physical Form.

**12. Out-of-Season Coaching – NMAA Bylaw 7.4, 9.7.8**

- a. High school out-of-season coaching regulations will remain in effect as per Bylaw 7.4 in the NMAA Handbook.
- b. Middle school students/coaches will be permitted out-of-season contact time, exclusive of the high school, but must follow the out-of-season coaching regulations listed in Bylaw 7.4 of the NMAA Handbook.
- c. Summer regulations will go into effect Memorial weekend. – TBD

**13. Minimum Contests for Post-Season Eligibility – NMAA Bylaw 7.6.5**

- a. Not in effect for the 2020-2021 school year.
- b. Schools will still be required to meet district competition requirements.

**14. Missed Games – NMAA Bylaw 7.9 (See also 3.11.4, 5.1.6 & 5.1.7)**

- a. Teams will not be penalized a loss or forfeit due to state, county, or local health department determinations relative to Covid-19.
- b. Games missed due to Covid-19 will be considered a “no contest” but can be made up if mutually agreed upon.
- c. Teams may work to reschedule with new possible opponents should they have open dates due to scheduled opponents missing games.
- d. District games missed due to Covid-19 must be rescheduled if time permits (see Rule 17 below). Teams may work to reschedule with new possible opponents if the district game(s) cannot be rescheduled.

**15. Out-of-State Competition**

- a. Out-of-State competition is permitted but schools must comply with public health orders, including potential quarantine orders.

**16. Home/Charter/Alternative/Non-Member Private School Eligibility – NMAA Section 10**

- a. No changes to current NMAA policies.
- b. Students electing to remain enrolled through virtual curriculum offered by the local public school, retain eligibility at that school.

## **17. Seeding & Selection Rules – NMAA Bylaw 7.11**

### **a. Qualifying Numbers**

- i. 8-Team Format
  - Baseball (2A-5A), Basketball (A-5A), Football (6-man, 2A-6A), Soccer (A/3A-5A), Softball (A/2A-5A), Volleyball (A-5A)
- ii. 4-Team Format
  - Baseball (A), Football (8-man)

### **b. Seeding & Selection**

- District Champions will automatically qualify for the State Championships.
- At-large teams will be selected using the standard criteria listed in Section 7.11.2.B of the Handbook.
- A school forced to cancel one or more district games due to state, county, or local health department determinations, must complete at least 51% of their district schedule to be eligible for post-season selection. This rule only applies to those schools forced to shut down due to state, county, or local health department determinations.
- District finish will be determined using the win/loss percentage of district games played.
- District ties will be broken using the sport specific procedures listed in Section 7 of the Handbook.
- District tie-breaking games will not occur in the sport of basketball.
- State seeding will utilize the standard criteria listed in section 7.11.3 of the Handbook.

## **18. Powerlifting**

- a. Powerlifting will be added as a sanctioned activity for the 2020-2021 school year.