



The ~~strike through~~ text will be deleted and the **bold** and shaded text will be added to the current handbook wording. Passed amendments will go into effect on August 1, 2018.

ML AMENDMENT #1

18.17.0 SIXTH GRADE PARTICIPATION, page 33

18.17.0 SIXTH (6th) GRADE PARTICIPATION- Sixth (6th) graders may participate in any middle level program except football if the total enrollment of the seventh (7th) and eighth (8th) grades in a middle school is less than 60 on the first day of the season for that sport. In that case, the sixth (6th) grade students of the school may participate in any seventh (7th) and eighth (8th) grade program except football during that season.

18.17.1 Sixth graders may participate with and against seventh (7th) and eighth (8th) graders in wrestling.

18.17.2 This participation does not count against the student's middle level eligibility.

18.17.3 This rule may not be appealed through the eligibility appeal process.

Submitted by the Discovery Middle School, Chehalis Middle School, Hawkins Middle School, Jenkins Junior Senior High School, McLoughlin Middle School, and Onalaska Middle School.

Rational for ML Amendment #1

- 1. In an attempt to provide more opportunities for middle school students, we propose allowing 6th graders to wrestle against 7th and 8th graders. Research has shown, participation in after school activities has many positive effects on a student's academics and social-emotional growth. Since there are weight classes, students of all ages will be wrestling students of similar size. High school students are allowed to wrestle 9-12 which can be a much greater strength/body development discrepancy.*
- 2. Most districts in our area allow 6-8th grade wrestling and have not had any significant issues. In our one year experiment, we have found similar results. We have seen more athletes compete without negatively impacting other sports. We have also been able to fill more weight classes which has allowed more matches for students.*

ML AMENDMENT #2

43.65.0 MIDDLE LEVEL VOLLEYBALL SEASON LIMITATION, page 67

- 43.65.1 A **Two (2)** one-day ~~culminating event~~ tournaments may count as ~~one (1)~~ **two (2)** of the ten (10) contests. A combination of sets or matches may not exceed the equivalent of three (3) matches, which is equal to nine (9) sets, **in each tournament.**
- 43.65.2 Each squad and each player is limited to schedule and to participate in ~~only one (1)~~ **two (2)** tournaments ~~as a culminating event.~~

Submitted by LaConner Middle School, Concrete Middle School, Darrington Middle School, Friday Harbor High School and Mt Vernon Christian.

Rational for ML Amendment 2 : This past October we were granted the experiment which allows us to host two middle school volleyball tournament. We were able to work in only one into our schedule. It was held at LaConner High School with 12 teams in attendance. It was an amazing experience for our players and coaches and it went great! We asked for the experiment due to the fact that many middle schools in our league were not able to field two teams and our players missed out on several of their matches, or we had to have 22 girls on one teams. As we only have ten matches per season, allowing our players the opportunity to play in two tournaments would greatly benefit their middle school volleyball experience. The tournament was centrally located for our league as we are geographically spread out. This would be a great opportunity for all middle school volleyball players!

ML/HS AMENDMENT #11

20.4.2 COACHES STANDARDS, RULES CLINIC REQUIREMENTS, page 40

- 20.4.2 Complete the WIAA general rules clinic and the WIAA approved rule clinic for the sport being coached prior to the end of the third week of the sports season.
- A. **All high school and middle level paid coaches and volunteers acting as head** high school head coaches – required annually.
 - B. **Volunteers acting as head high school coaches – required annually.**
 - C. ~~Middle level head coaches and assistant coaches for high school and middle level~~ **Volunteer assistant coaches** – recommended, but not required.

Submitted by Cascade High School, Everett High School, Jackson High School, Shorecrest High School and Shorewood High School.

Rationale for ML/HS Amendment #11:

1. *Middle level and sub-varsity high school coaches need to know the WIAA and sport specific rules just as much as high school head coaches.*
2. *Coaches who understand WIAA rules are less likely to violate the rules.*
3. *Coaches who understand sport rules are more confident in teaching the game and working with officials.*

ML/HS AMENDMENT #12

20.4.10 COACHES STANDARDS, page 21

20.4.10 Stunt Certification is required for cheer coaches and dance/drill coaches who intend to have their cheer or dance/drill squad(s) perform stunts. The certification program must be approved by the Washington State Cheer Coaches Association, the Washington State Dance/Drill Coaches Association, and the WIAA. Coaches must be recertified every three (3) years with “hands on” training ~~to be required the first year and either the “hands on” training or completion of WIAA approved online courses in subsequent years.~~

Each team must have a stunt certified coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to stunt.

Submitted by the WIAA Executive Board.

Rationale for ML/HS Amendment #12:

1. *The option for online certification was intended to be consistent with the online certification that is available to pole vault coaches.*
2. *Due to the number of changes annually in the NFHS spirit safety rules, however, an online version does not provide the guidance and training necessary that can be accomplished only through “hand on” training.*

HS AMENDMENT #17

17.5.8 OUT-OF-SEASON, page 18

17.5.8 In the sport coached, a school coach may not sponsor, coach or direct activities which resemble out-of-season practices or contests to any student at that high school or any feeder school(s) for that high school in the school district except during the designated season for that sport until after the final spring WIAA tournament is completed (high school) or until after the completion of the final spring sports season (middle level.) A feeder school may be either grades 7 and 8 or grades 7, 8 and 9.

A. A coach may coach his/her child at any time.

B. Following the completion of the school season for that sport, a school coach may coach high school seniors.

Submitted by the WIAA Executive Board.

Rationale for HS Amendment #17:

1. *Since seniors would no longer be eligible to compete for the school team in that sport, there would be no benefit to the team or the school by allowing the coach to coach seniors following the completion of the school season.*
2. *This change would allow a coach the ability to assist a senior athlete in preparing for participation in any upcoming all-star, all-state, college, or any other higher level program.*
3. *While this change impacts sports based upon the season in which they are held, it still places the school season at the highest priority.*
4. *A senior would hopefully compete in another school sport during a subsequent season, but would also have the opportunity to work with his/her coach from a previous season.*

ML/HS AMENDMENT #6

18.7.6 SCHOLARSHIP, page 28

NEW ARTICLE

- A. In the fall, an incoming ninth grade student is not required to meet the previous semester scholarship rule in 18.7.4 provided he/she has met all other eligibility requirements. The student's grades will be monitored during the first designated monitoring period established by the school and every three (3) to six (6) weeks thereafter.**

Submitted by Marysville Getchell High School, Arlington High School, Eastlake High School, Marysville Pilchuck High School, Meadowdale Middle School, and Totem Middle School.

Rationale for ML/HS Amendment #6:

1. *Consistent with the ninth grade scholarship status upon entering the high school.*
2. *Immediately engages and connects ninth grade students without sanctions.*
3. *Aligns with Washington State Legislature HB 1541 Opportunity Gap, I which encourages school districts to find ways to get and keep students involved in school. Some students, once they hear that they will have to miss three or four games/competitions, may choose not to tryout and missing an opportunity to get involved early on with their high school experience.*
4. *Difficult to track and interpret middle school transcripts for high school administrators and assistants.*

Rationale against ML/HS Amendment #6:

1. *There is a possible loss of leverage for middle level teachers and administrators when addressing academically at risk students about their grades.*

ML/HS AMENDMENT #7

18.20.0 EIGHTH GRADERS PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM, page 33

18.20.0 Eighth graders may participate at the high school level based upon the parameters listed below.

18.20.1 High schools with an enrollment equal to or less than one-half of the enrollment in the largest 2B school may allow eighth (8th) grade students from a WIAA member feeder middle school/junior high to participate in any high school program for that classification cycle.

NOTE: 104 will be the enrollment cut-off for the 2016-20 classification cycle.

18.20.2 **With league approval, any 2B school may allow eighth (8th) grade students from a WIAA member feeder middle school/junior high to participate in any the high school program for that classification cycle with the intent to maintain a varsity and a junior varsity program in baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, or volleyball. Eighth graders cannot be brought up to establish a C squad if one of the following circumstances exist.**

18.20.3 **With league approval, any 2B school may allow eighth (8th) grade students from a WIAA member feeder middle school/junior high to participate in any high school program if that sport is not offered at the middle level/junior high.**

18.20.4 **With league approval, any 2B school may allow eighth (8th) grade students to participate at the high school level if at any time during the season the number of participants on the high school team is at or below these specified numbers.**

Baseball: 25

Basketball: 16

Soccer: 25

Softball: 25

Volleyball: 17

18.20.4 Combining contests in both middle level and high school, an eighth (8th) grader may participate in the maximum number of high school contests. Also refer to the specific sport sections in this WIAA handbook to verify daily, weekly or season limitations.

18.20.5 Provided all conditions of eligibility are met, any student will have four (4) years of eligibility after entering the ninth grade.

Submitted by Saint George's School, Davenport High School, Liberty High School, Liberty Bell High School, and Mary Walker High School.

Rationale for/against ML/HS Amendment #7:

1. *Will allow schools to field teams at the varsity and junior varsity level in team sports other than football.*
2. *Not being able to field a junior varsity team can be a burden not only for your own program, but for your opponents as well.*
3. *This rule change would allow reserve students to play more, have a positive experience, and stay with the sport.*
4. *Those that are on the bottom end of a varsity team who rarely get playing time will likely migrate to another activity where they have a chance to participate.*
5. *Bringing up eighth graders can provide opportunities for high school athletes to contribute to the long term success of the program.*

Continuation of rationale for ML/HS Amendment #7:

6. Some schools may try to use the eighth grade rule to their advantage by making it essentially a five year high school program.
7. There can be mistrust between schools regarding the rationale for using eighth graders.
8. This amendment does not meet every need.

HS AMENDMENT #16

4.3.0 1B and 2B SCHOOLS OPTING FOR A HIGHER OR LOWER CLASSIFICATION, page 7

4.3.0 OPTING FOR A HIGHER CLASSIFICATION – A **1B or 2B** school may opt up to a higher classification **for all sports and activities under WIAA jurisdiction or may petition up or down for football only**. If a school chooses to opt up, it must be for all sports and activities under WIAA jurisdiction. There will be two (2) opportunities to opt up: A) The first opportunity will be prior to the enrollment count. After all the schools desiring to opt up have done so on WIAA Classification Commitment Form 3, the member schools will be divided into equal classifications after the numbers are finalized by the WIAA. B) The second opportunity to opt up will be a two week period after all the classification numbers have been finalized. A school opting up during this two week period must have approval from their District Board and the WIAA Executive Board. This rule will only be applied during the years that schools are reclassified using percentages.

Submitted by the WIAA Executive Board on behalf of the Classification Committee.

Pros for HS Amendment #16:

1. This rule change would allow schools more flexibility in scheduling football games in which the teams would have comparable abilities.
2. There could be a heightened interest in watching games involving evenly matched teams.

ML/HS AMENDMENT #9

18.24.2 AMATEUR STANDING, page 35

18.24.2 Provided he/she is not representing a WIAA member school, a student-athlete may participate against professional and college scoring athletes in ~~the following sports: bowling, cross country, golf, gymnastics, swim/dive, tennis, track and field, and wrestling~~ **any sport under the jurisdiction of the WIAA.**

Submitted by the WIAA Executive Board.

Rationale for ML/HS Amendment #9:

1. This proposed change would allow students who participate in any sport at the school level to also participate in non-school events which may involve one or more professional athlete (including pick up basketball games, international level competition, etc.).
2. This change would allow all students to be afforded the same opportunities, regardless of their chosen sport.

ML/HS AMENDMENT #10

19.13.3 APPEAL PROCESS FOR EJECTION FROM CONTEST, page 39

19.13.0 APPEAL PROCESS FOR EJECTION FROM CONTEST - An appeal of the penalty shall proceed as follows:

- 19.13.1 ~~Ejections resulting from a judgment call by a contest official may NOT be appealed.~~ Ejections resulting from a misinterpretation or misapplication on the part of the ejecting contest official(s), **or a judgment call that resulted in an ejection**, may be appealed. **School approved** pictures, video **evidence** and/or replay recording devices, **submitted by the principal or designee**, may ~~not~~ be used to determine whether an ejection was due to judgment, misinterpretation or misapplication on the part of the ejecting contest official(s).
- 19.13.2 The principal/designee of the ejected person must contact the WIAA administrative staff within one (1) school business day after the conclusion of the contest in which the ejection occurred to verify a misapplication or misinterpretation of the rule, **or an incorrect judgment call that resulted in the ejection**. Providing the WIAA administrative staff finds a misapplication or misinterpretation of the rule, **or an incorrect judgment call backed by video evidence**, the principal/designee may appeal the suspension to the school's league. If the school is not a member of a league, the appeal will be filed directly with the District Board.
- 19.13.3 The principal or designee may stay the suspension, but may not vacate the ejection, and will report his/her decision and rationale to the school's league.
- 19.13.4 The hearing procedures, as outlined in 27.0.0, shall be followed. The league shall review and either affirm the decision of the principal/designee with the understanding that the one (1) contest suspension shall not be assessed or overrule the decision of the principal/designee, whereby the ejected person shall be required to serve the one (1) contest suspension. Any league action shall be in writing and specify the reasons for the league decision. Failure of a school for any reason to enforce the regulation and/or decision of the league will be considered a school violation.
- 19.13.5 For tournaments, qualifying and/or state events any appeal will be heard by the games committee, providing the appeal was approved by the school principal/designee. A decision will be given no later than two (2) hours before the next event in which the ejected person might participate.
- 19.13.6 Providing the games committee finds misapplication or misinterpretation of a rule **or overturns a judgment call**, the penalty may be vacated. **The use of school approved video evidence may be provided by the appealing school to the games committee following the conclusion of the tournament game in which the athlete was ejected.**
- 19.13.7 Failure of the school to enforce the regulation or decision will result in the disqualification from and forfeiture of all remaining contests of that event. Due process procedures of the WIAA Handbook and Rule Violations and Penalties will apply to any further action.

Continuation of ML/HS Amendment #10

- 19.13.8 The severity of the penalty for the second ejection or for aggressive physical contact may be appealed to the WIAA Executive Director upon presentation of rationale and written documentation signed by the WIAA member school principal or superintendent desiring and supporting penalty modification within two (2) school business days after the conclusion of the contest in which the ejection occurred.

Submitted by the Mid-Columbia Conference (Chiawana High School, Hanford High School, Kamiakin High School, Kennewick High School, Pasco High School, Richland High School, Southridge High School, and Walla Walla High School), and the Greater Spokane League (Central Valley High School, Ferris High School, Gonzaga Prep High School, John Rogers High School, Lewis and Clark High School, Mead High School, Mount Spokane High School, North Central High School, Shadle Park High School, and University High School).

Rationale for ML/HS Amendment #10:

1. *High school and middle level officials at times make mistakes in judgment that lead to the ejections of players. To not have a source of appeal, with these decisions directly impacting student/athletes, is wrong. If we are kid first than we are responsible to provide DUE PROCESS, a process that increases fairness and prudence.*
2. *Other states, including Oregon, allow the use of video when appealing ejections.*
3. *There is currently no source of appealing the judgment of an official in the WIAA. Professional and collegiate officials, and every level of the education system in general, provide opportunities to appeal judgment decisions.*
4. *School approved video may allow the correct call be made when an incorrect judgment call by an official has occurred.*
5. *Ejections that are made in error can be corrected. It is understandable that officials at times will make mistakes. We can correct an error. Most ejections are warranted, and no appeal would be necessary.*
6. *The WIAA administrative staff and league Athletic Directors will need to periodically rule on ejections when video evidence is provided by member schools. This will create some additional work as video has not been previously allowed for this purpose.*
7. *Some in the Washington Officials Association will be resistant to the idea of overturning contest ejections/suspensions with the use of video.*

ML/HS AMENDMENT #13

29.5.0 and 29.65.0 PITCHER LIMITATION, page 55

29.5.0 HIGH SCHOOL PITCHER LIMITATION

29.5.1 The pitching limitation rule applies during all regular season and postseason games, as well as to tied, suspended, discontinued or protested games.

29.5.2 The pitching limitation rule is based upon the number of pitches thrown during a calendar day with a maximum of 105 pitches in a calendar day. **At the beginning of the at bat, if the pitch count is less than 105, a pitcher will be allowed to finish the at bat.**

29.5.3 High school pitching limitation

# PITCHES	REQUIRED REST
76 - 105	3 calendar days
51 - 75	2 calendar days
31 - 50	1 calendar day
1 - 30	0 days

29.65.0 MIDDLE LEVEL PITCHER LIMITATION

29.65.2 The pitching limitation rule is based upon the number of pitches thrown during a calendar day with a maximum of 80 pitches in a calendar day. **At the beginning of the at bat, if the pitch count is less than 80, a pitcher will be allowed to finish the at bat.**

29.65.3 Middle level pitching limitation

# PITCHES	REQUIRED REST
61 - 80	3 calendar days
41 - 60	2 calendar days
21 - 40	1 calendar day
1 - 20	0 days

Submitted by the WIAA Executive Board.

Rationale for ML/HS Amendment #13:

1. *Most other states allow the pitcher to continue the at-bat with no adverse consequences.*
2. *This change will allow for continuity in a game.*

ML/HS AMENDMENT #14

38.3.0 SOCCER PLAYING RULES, page 62

38.3.3 Any player that is issued a second yellow card caution in the same match will be disqualified from participating for the remainder of the match and the offending team will not be allowed to substitute for the disqualified player. This will not be counted as an ejection nor reported as an ejection to the WIAA. The player will remain with his/her team in the bench area. **NFHS soccer rule 12.8.2, Situation 1, page 178: Player A2, having been cautioned earlier in the game, commits a second cautionable offense. RULING: Stop play, show the yellow card, subsequently show the red card to disqualify A2 and do not permit a substitution for the disqualified player.**

ML/HS Amendment #14 submitted by: Eastmont High School, Davis High School, Moses Lake High School, Sunnyside High School and Wenatchee High School.

Rationale for ML/HS Amendment #14

1. *Does not penalize the player or school for behavior not warranting an ejection. Basketball players are not ejected after their fifth foul in a game.*
2. *Further supports the intent of 38.3.2 to promote sportsmanship and intervention by coaches during the match, but yet penalizes the team for that match for poor sportsmanship.*
3. *Will alleviate any pressure perceived or real on officials to not issue yellow cautions in an effort to keep players in the game to avoid a one match suspension following a “double yellow/soft red”.*
4. *Aligns with the rules of the NFHS which eliminated the “soft red” in 2012.*
5. *Allows for adjusting of Law 12 of the Laws of the Game to come into alignment with the purpose of Educational Based Athletics and will be a teachable moment. The infraction of two yellow cautions does not compare with the listed sending off offenses in Law 12. The Laws of the Game Law 12, page 40: A player, substitute or substituted player is sent off if he commits any of the following seven offenses: serious foul play; violent conduct; spitting at an opponent or any other person; denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area; denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player’s goal by an offense punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick; using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures; or receiving a second caution in the same match.*
6. *Creates a man down situation in a match.*

HS AMENDMENT #22

30.4.0 HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL, page 56

30.4.0 PLAYER LIMITATION – Each player may play in 20 contests, but in doing so may not exceed 80 quarters. Any appearance in a quarter, regardless of the length of time played, shall be considered as one (1) quarter. This is interpreted as meaning when a player is beckoned onto the floor and the ball becomes alive, that the player has played in one (1) quarter.

30.4.1 ~~Varsity~~ players from all classifications of schools ~~except ‘1B’ schools~~ may appear in a maximum of ~~four (4)~~ **five (5)** quarters in one (1) day.

~~30.4.2 Players in ‘1B’ schools may appear in a maximum of five (5) quarters in one (1) day.~~

30.4.3 Players from all classifications of schools ~~except ‘1B’ schools~~ may participate in a maximum of ~~20 games~~ **80 quarters** during the regular season.

~~30.4.4 Players in ‘1B’ schools may participate in a maximum of 80 quarters during the regular season.~~

Submitted by Saint George’s School, Colfax High School, Lakeside High School (Nine Mile Falls), Liberty High School, and West Valley High School.

Rationale for HS Amendment #22:

1. *Counting quarters rather than games would allow schools with low participation numbers to cover both JV and varsity on the same day.*
2. *Counting quarters rather than games might encourage coaches to play some of the lower skilled players when there is a great score differential, especially if the running clock is in play.*

Continuation of rationale for HS Amendment #22:

3. *Schools may be able to field C squads if players are allowed to surpass 20 games. If a lower level player on JV plays only one quarter and it is considered a game, the player cannot currently fill the other three quarters in a C squad game on a different day against a different opponent.*

HS AMENDMENT #24

43.3.0 HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL CONTEST DEFINITION, page 66

- 43.3.2 By league adoption sub-varsity contests may be two (2) out of three (3) sets, a guaranteed three (3) sets, ~~or three (3) out of five (5) sets,~~ **or a guaranteed five (5) sets.**

Submitted by Kittitas High School, Tri Cities Prep, Mabton High School, White Swan High School and Dayton High School.

Pros for HS Amendment #24:

1. Allows a school with only a JV squad to play another school's C squad for two (2) sets and also play the JV squad for three (3) sets.

Continuation of pros for HS Amendment #24:

2. Increases playing opportunities for C squad players, who are less likely to quit due to increased playing opportunities.
3. Lowers travel and officials' costs by not having to schedule separate C squad events.
4. As an approved experiment, this has been very well received by the schools as an effective way to increase student participation.

Cons for HS Amendment #24

1. Lengthens the event from just a varsity and JV match.
2. Officials costs are higher than for just a varsity and JV match.