Bylaw 203

Camps/Clinics

DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR
During the school year, members of the high school coaching staff (full time, part time, head coach, assistant coach, volunteer coach, salaried or non-salaried) may not own, organize, administer, direct, or coach a camp or clinic, league, or tournament that is attended by players from the coach’s school in that sport.

SUMMER WAIVER
High school athletes may attend a camp or clinic owned or coached by a member of his school’s coaching staff provided the coach has been approved for a summer waiver. Consult with your athletic director for the summer waiver criteria.

NOTE: Camp/clinic participation fees must be paid by the student or student’s parent or guardian. Coaches and or booster clubs cannot pay for a student to attend a camp or clinic or participate on a non-school team.

Schools may not issue school uniforms for non-school use in camps, clinics, or leagues during the summer.

Lessons/Training:

After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility IN THAT SPORT for the next two consecutive interscholastic contests or two weeks of that season, whichever is greater. If there are fewer than two events remaining in that sport, the loss of eligibility will continue into the next season in that sport.

NOTE: This means that a senior who violates the bylaw at the end of a sport season will lose eligibility for two games in the next sport season in which the student participates.

Bylaw 307

Undue Influence on Students

Any verbal or written contact initiated by a representative of another school resulting in the transfer of a student will be considered as asserting undue influence, for which the school may be publicly censured, removed from tournament competition, suspended from the League, or fined.

Bylaw 208

Team and Individual Sports

During the high school season:

A. Students may receive coaching, training or lessons in that sport from a source other than the school’s coaching staff. Training shall be defined to include receiving instruction in the techniques and skills of a particular sport.

B. Non-school training during the high school season for athletes who qualify as individual competitors to the state tournament:

(Swimming, Cross Country, Tennis, Skiing, Gymnastics, Wrestling, Synchronized Swimming, Golf, and Track and Field)

COACHING MSHSL-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

This document is intended to provide specific information regarding your high school coaching assignment and Minnesota State High School League bylaws pertaining to student eligibility. Review the following League bylaws which may affect your contact with your athletes outside of the high school sports season.

Contact your athletic/activities director or the League if you have any questions about these bylaws.
COMPLETION OF ONLINE RULES MEETING & CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Every three years, all Coaches must complete the League Continuing Education Requirements (CER) as detailed on Coaches Clipboard on the League website. All Coaches must complete an annual online League Pre-Season Rules Meeting (if a meeting is conducted) for that sport. Coaches who do not complete the CER and who do not complete the Rules Interpretation Meeting or pass the written Rules Interpretation Exam with an 80% or better score will be immediately ineligible to coach MSHSL-sponsored programs.

Penalty:
Failure to pass the rules test and the CER makes the Coach immediately ineligible to coach in the regular season and post season.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR COACHES

A coach will be in violation of the standards for good sportsmanship established by the Minnesota State High School League by:

A. making degrading/critical remarks about officials during or after a contest either on the field of play, from the bench, through any public news media, social media or other electronic media;

B. detaining the officials following the contest to request a ruling or explanation of actions taken by the official; or

C. being ejected from any contest.

Actions and Response:
Negative actions by a coach shall be reported to the League by the school and by the head contest official. The school shall document the results of their investigation and actions taken, where necessary and appropriate.

Penalties:
Penalties for violation of these standards may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, censure, fines, or other actions as deemed appropriate by the League Board of Directors.

PRIOR TO AND FOLLOWING THE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SEASON, A COACH:

MAY

● Conduct a pre-season meeting to review team registration, MSHSL rules, tryout information and other administrative items. No coaching or instruction in the skills or strategies of the sport is permissible.

● Provide camp and non-school team information to athletes if approved for a summer waiver and authorized by your athletic director to do so.

● Provide coaching during the summer vacation period if approved for summer waiver. Ref. Bylaw 208.

MAY NOT

● Provide coaching, instruction, training, etc. to athletes of their high school B-squad, junior varsity, or varsity teams (unless approved for and during summer waiver period).

● Direct athletes to play in a league or to attend a camp or clinic.

● Place athletes on a roster, develop or organize a team roster, draft players for a team, select, secure, or otherwise influence the placement of athletes on a team for leagues, tournaments, camps, or clinics, other than those athletes approved for a summer coaching waiver.

● Direct or unduly influence an athlete to participate in open gym, captains practice, or on non-school teams, leagues, camps, clinics, or weight training.

● Organize, supervise, direct, or otherwise participate in the organization of captains practice.

LAST DATE TO JOIN A TEAM

A. To be eligible for section and state competition, a student must be a member of that school’s team not later than the fourth Monday (the 22nd calendar day) from the official start of that sport season.

B. Membership Defined: A student must:
   1) Be practicing with the high school team;
   2) Be on the school's master eligibility list; and
   3) Be under the bylaws of the League.

C. Exceptions: At the member school’s discretion, students may be allowed to join a team after the fourth Monday (the 22nd calendar day) from the official start of the that sport season and be fully eligible for post-season competition if they meet any of the three conditions (1, 2 or 3) below.

   1) Transfer students who become eligible in their new school.

   2) Students, who are participating in another sport and wish to drop that sport or participate in a second sport during that same sport season, provided they have not delayed their membership in order to gain a competitive advantage.

   3) Students who were under the care of a physician and were medically unable to join the team by the specified date. Students must have written documentation from the physician.

   4) Students who join a team after the fourth Monday (the 22nd calendar day) from the official start of the that sport season, but who also meet any of the three conditions (a, b or c) below are eligible ONLY for regular season competition, not post-season competition.

      a) Participated on a non-school team or as an individual competitor;
      b) Participated in a camp or clinic; and/or
      c) Received private instruction in that sport during the high school season.