

ARTICLE 5 – STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

5.1 ACADEMICS

5.1.1 Each school must maintain and enforce an academic eligibility policy with a minimum of all passing academic grades.

5.1.2 Players must take no less than 51% of their schooling through the school’s curriculum.

5.1.2.1 Students must be enrolled in three core curriculum classes at their school in order to be considered eligible for that school.

5.1.2.2 In a student’s last year of high school, they are only required to take as many classes as necessary to complete their graduation requirements in order to be considered eligible.

5.1.3 Once a student has met the Arizona State Department of Education requirements for graduation, they lose eligibility to continue to compete in the CAA, even if they still meet age requirements.

5.2 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE/TEAM

5.2.1 Age Limits – If a student becomes 19 years of age after September 1, he/she is eligible to compete for the remainder of that school year. If he/she becomes 19 years of age on or before September 1, he/she is not eligible for any part of that school year.

5.2.1.1 Varsity athletes can be in grades 7-12.

5.2.1.1.1 Exception: Varsity football players must be in 9- 12 grades.

5.2.1.1.2 Exception: Varsity Wrestlers must be 8 -12 grades.

5.2.1.2 Student-athletes in 6th grade or below may not compete on varsity level teams

5.2.2 Junior High School

5.2.2.1 Junior High athletes can be in grades 5 - 8.

5.2.2.2 Student athletes who transfer schools are eligible upto the roster deadline of each season.

5.2.2.3 Transfers after the seasonal roster date are ineligible for the rest of that season only.

5.2.2.4 Fall Season - October 1

5.2.2.5 Winter Season - December 1

5.2.2.6 Spring Season - March 1

5.3 MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION RULE – After a student first enrolls in the ninth grade, he/she has a maximum of eight semesters of opportunity with a maximum of four seasons of opportunity in each sport or activity. **Semesters 1-8 are consecutive.**

5.3.1 Enrollment for at least fifteen school days during any semester, or participation in any interscholastic contest, constitutes a semester of opportunity and a season of opportunity.

5.3.2 A student's ineligibility during any semester or season does not affect application of the Maximum Participation rule and does not extend the number of semesters of opportunity or seasons of opportunity.

5.3.3 During a school year a student shall be eligible to participate in only one season of competition per sport.

5.3.4 Any period during which a student is not enrolled or is out of school due to suspension, expulsion or removal for disciplinary reasons shall be included for purposes of the Maximum Participation Rule.

5.4 TRANSFER RULE – After enrolling and attending one or more classes, a student changing enrollment from one school (sending school) to another school (receiving school) shall be considered a transferring student. For information and record keeping purposes, the receiving and sending school shall reasonably cooperate.

5.4.1 In State Transfers – a student shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels if transferred to a different school after August 1st of the current school year, OR until after the first half of the minimum regular season contests, stated in those sports in which the student participated during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the transfer.

5.4.1.1 Students who did not participate in a sport for (12 months) are eligible immediately.

5.4.1.2 Participation is defined as a student participating in the sport during a regular season game as is specified by the CAA standardized calendar.

5.4.1.3 Intent to enroll - to allow them to participate in practices and workouts but the transfer does not actually occur until the student has attended a class at the school

5.4.2 For individual sports, the student will be ineligible for the first 3 regular season competitions for that school on the CAA calendar.

5.4.3 If a transfer occurs during the season, the student is ineligible for that sport from the date of first attendance at the receiving school in that sport

5.4.3.1. If a student athlete did not play the previous school year or attempted to play the sport this current school year, the student will be eligible.

5.5 Transfer Rule Exceptions – Without Change of Domicile – A student who transfers from one high school (the “sending school”) to another high school (the “receiving school”), where there has been no change in domicile of parents or legal guardian, shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic activities at the receiving school when one of the following eligibility requirements has been fulfilled:

5.5.1 In the event the district does not offer the sport or nonathletic activity in any of its schools, the student may transfer to a public high school of another district closest to the domicile of the parents.

5.5.2 Boarding School – The transfer rule (15.10) shall not apply to a student who transfers to and is a full time resident of an CAA member school which is a bona fide boarding school. The transfer rule shall apply to any subsequent transfers by that student from that boarding school. A school is a bona fide boarding school only if it meets both of the following criteria:

5.5.3 The school shall be currently accredited by an appropriate and proper accrediting agency for secondary boarding schools, which accrediting agency shall be approved by the Executive Board or its designee; and

5.5.4 A majority of the school’s students must reside full time on the actual school campus. Off campus housing does not meet this requirement.

5.5.5 Public School Closures / Drop of CAA Membership – Upon closure or drop of CAA membership by the governing board, students may transfer at the beginning of the following semester to another school in the district as approved by the governing board, to the public highschool of another district closest to the domicile of the parents, or to a private, parochial or BIA school and be automatically granted athletic eligibility.

5.5.6 Private, Parochial or BIA School Closure / Drop of CAA Membership - Upon closure or drop of CAA membership of a private, parochial or BIA school, students may transfer at the beginning of the following semester to any other private, parochial or BIA school encompassing the closed private, parochial or BIA school attendance zone, or may transfer to the public school serving the student's domicile and be automatically granted athletic eligibility.

5.5.7 Student Sports Participation / Current or Previous Year (Form 101) - The sending school administration shall provide to the receiving school, via Form 101, the verification of activities in which a transferring student has participated. The receiving and sending school(s) shall reasonably cooperate and complete Form 101. Upon receipt by the receiving school of a completed Form 101, assuming all other eligibility requirements are met, the student becomes eligible for all interscholastic activities except for those activities in which the student has competed during the current or previous school year.

5.5.8 The Student Sports Participation / Current or Previous Year (Form 101) may only be used between schools in Arizona, between schools in Arizona and schools from other states in the United States, and between schools in Arizona and accredited United States accommodation schools in foreign countries.

5.5.9 Hardship Appeal (Form 202) - A student aggrieved by a decision of his/her school administration relating to transfer may appeal.

5.6 Disciplinary Removal - A student suspended, expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary reasons, including revocation or non-renewal of open enrollment, from one high school shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition in any other high school until all conditions for re-admittance have been fulfilled at the high school where the suspension, expulsion, open enrollment revocation or removal for disciplinary reasons occurred.

5.7 Definitions

5.7.1 Sending School – A school from which a student transfers.

5.7.2 Receiving School – A school to which a student transfers.

5.7.3 Charter, Private, Parochial School Attendance Zone – no boundaries.

5.8 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION RULE

5.8.1 A student shall not be allowed to practice or compete in interscholastic athletics until there is on file with the principal or his/her designee a record of a preparticipation physical examination

5.8.2 The physical examination will be valid for one calendar year, from the date of examination.

5.8.3 Member schools shall utilize the physical examination forms (form 303) provided by the CAA. There shall be four parts:

5.8.3.1 Part One – Four: Annual Preparticipation Physical Evaluation – To be completed and signed by the parent or guardian and student athlete. This form must also be signed by the examining medical provider.

5.8.3.2 Part Five – Annual Preparticipation Physical Examination – To be completed and signed by the examining medical provider.

5.8.3.4 Part Six – Annual Preparticipation Consent to Treat Form – to be completed and signed by the parent or guardian and student athlete.

5.9 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ELIGIBILITY – Prefatory Statement: In an effort to preserve and promote interscholastic competitive opportunities within CAA Communities for students and International students further the goals of competitive fairness and equity, and recognizing that CAA member schools support its members related to students from foreign countries, the following bylaw adresse:

5.9.1 Foreign Exchange Students: A foreign exchange student is a student that is in the U.S. under a J-1 Visa, and who is placed in a school by an educational exchange program approved by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). A foreign exchange student is eligible at a school. A foreign exchange student must meet all other eligibility requirements and is eligible for a maximum of one school year.

5.9.2 International Students: An international student is a student who is in the U.S. under any Visa or document other than a J-1 Visa and who is attending an CAA member school. Except as stated below with regard to domicile, an international student must meet all eligibility requirements of any regularly enrolled student.

5.9.2.1 Domicile changes for international students only when they first arrive in the United States and that address is the address at which is used to determine eligibility.

5.10 SPORTSMANSHIP

5.10.1 Please refer to Article 12 regarding Sportsmanship

5.11 Schools failing to comply with the guidelines defined in Article 5 will be held accountable per the guidelines established in Article 10.