

schools may room and board expense be included in the determination of school expenses and financial need.

8. A school that satisfies the requirements of paragraphs 2-7, but cannot satisfy the requirements of paragraph 1, shall comply with the following additional requirements:

(a) The school shall notify the FHSAA in writing of the name of each boarding student, his/her grade in school and the interscholastic sport(s) in which he/she will participate;

(b) Not more than 25 percent of the school's boarding students may be members of the school's varsity or junior varsity athletic teams in any single sport;

(c) The school shall permit the FHSAA to conduct on-site inspections of the school, the full costs of such inspections to be borne solely by the school; and

(d) The FHSAA at anytime may disqualify the students enrolled in the school's boarding program from further interscholastic athletic participation should the Executive Director determine that the school is using the boarding program for any improper athletic purpose.

POLICY 38

Policy on Athletic Recruiting

The FHSAA Board of Directors has established the following policy with regard to the recruiting of students for athletic purposes by member schools:

1.0 General Principles

1.1 Athletic Recruiting Forbidden. Athletic recruiting is a gross violation of the spirit and philosophy of educational athletics. Athletic recruiting is unethical and unsporting conduct, and is forbidden by FHSAA Bylaws (FHSAA Bylaw 7.6.1).

1.2 Scope of School's Responsibility. A school's responsibility for the conduct of its interscholastic athletic program includes responsibility for:

(a) The acts of any employee or athletic department staff member;

(b) The acts of an independent person, business or organization that is a representative of the school's athletic interests when a member of the school's administration or athletic department staff knows or should know that the person, business or organization is promoting the school's interscholastic athletic program; and

(c) The acts of any other independent person, business or organization acting at the request, direction, or otherwise on behalf of any employee or representative of the school's athletic interests.

1.3 Compliance Programs. Schools are expected to educate all employees, athletic department staff members and representatives of the school's athletic interests about acts that are prohibited by this policy. Schools must immediately report to the FHSAA Office such impermissible acts when they are discovered to have occurred.

1.4 Academic Recruitment Permissible. A school may conduct an academic recruitment program that is designed to attract students to the school based



upon its total educational and extracurricular (athletic and activities) program. A school must not use an academic recruitment program as a disguise for athletic recruiting.

1.5 Financial Assistance Permissible. Private schools, as well as developmental research schools operated by state universities, may administer school-based financial assistance programs for students who attend those schools. Financial assistance must be totally unrelated to a student's athletic interest, potential or performance. Financial assistance based even partially on a student's athletic interest, potential or performance is not permitted.

1.6 Extra Benefit. Student-athletes must not receive extra benefits, which are benefits that are not offered or generally made available to all other students in the school.

1.7 Eligibility Effect of Violation. A student who is found to have been athletically recruited or is found to have received an impermissible benefit will be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition for one or more years at the school to which the student was athletically recruited or at which he/she received the impermissible benefit, and may be declared ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition at all member schools for one or more years.

2.0 General Definitions

2.1 Athletic Recruiting. "Athletic recruiting" is any effort by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of a school's athletic interests to pressure, urge or entice a student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

2.1.1 Representative of a School's Athletic Interests. "Representative of a school's athletic interests" refers to any independent person, business or organization that participates in, assists with, and/or promotes that school's interscholastic athletic program. This includes:

- (a) A student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program, such as a team manager, student trainer, etc., at that school;
- (b) The parents, guardians or other family members of a student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program at that school;
- (c) Relatives of a coach or other member of the athletic department staff at that school;
- (d) A volunteer worker in that school or that school's athletic program;
- (e) An athletic booster organization of that school;
- (f) A member of an athletic booster organization of that school;
- (g) A person, business or organization that makes financial or in-kind contributions to the athletic department or to an athletic booster organization of that school; and
- (h) Any other person, business or organization that is otherwise involved in promoting the school's interscholastic athletic program; and

2.2 Improper Contact. "Improper contact" is contact, either directly or indirectly, whether in person or through written or electronic communication, by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school's athletic interests with a student who does not attend that school or any



member of the student’s family, in an effort to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

2.3 Impermissible Benefit. An “impermissible benefit” is any arrangement, assistance or benefit that is not offered or generally made available to all students and/or their families who apply to or attend a school, or that otherwise is prohibited by FHSAA rules. Receipt of a benefit by a student-athlete or his/her family is not a violation of FHSAA rules if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the school’s students or family members and is not based in any way on athletic interest, potential or performance.

2.4 Financial Assistance. “Financial assistance” is funds from various sources that are administered and provided by a school to students to pay or assist in paying costs directly related to their education at the school.

3.0 Improper Contact

3.1 General Regulation. No school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school’s athletic interests may make contact, either in person or through any form of written or electronic communication or through any third party, with a student who does not attend that school or any member of the student’s family, in an effort to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

3.2 Specific Prohibitions. Specifically prohibited contact by school employees, athletic department staff members and representatives of the school’s athletic interests with a student who does not attend that school includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Sending, or arranging for anyone else to send, any form of written or electronic communication to the student or any member of his/her family, in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

(b) Visiting or entertaining the student or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

(c) Making a presentation or distributing any form of advertisement, commercial or material that promotes primarily or exclusively the school’s athletic program or implies the school’s athletic program is better than the athletic program of any other school or suggests that the student’s athletic career would be better served by attending that school.

(d) Answering an inquiry by the student or any member of his/her family about athletic participation opportunities at the school with any response that pressures, urges or entices the student to attend that school. The student or family member instead should be immediately referred to the school employee responsible for registrations or admissions.

(e) Providing transportation to the student or any member of his/her family to visit the school, to take an entrance examination for the school, to participate in an athletic tryout at the school, or to meet with a school employee, athletic department staff member or other representative of the school’s athletic interests as part of an effort to pressure, urge or facilitate the student’s attendance at that school to participate in interscholastic athletics.



(f) Attending an elementary school, a junior high school, a middle school or a non-school athletic contest to identify prospective student-athletes who might be recruited to attend the school.

(g) Suggesting or going along with any effort by any person, whether a school employee or other representative of the school's athletic interests, or any other person such as an alumnus of the school, a coach or other person affiliated with a non-school athletic program (e.g., AAU team, club team, travel team, recreation league team, etc.), a coach of or recruiter for a collegiate athletic team, or a scout for a professional team, to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics, or to direct or place the student at the school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

(h) Making or arranging any other contact with the student or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the school to participate in interscholastic athletics.

3.3 Contact Initiated by Prospective Student. When a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of a school's athletic interests is contacted by a student who does not attend that school and/or any other member of his/her family, about the school's interscholastic athletic program or attending the school, the school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school's athletic interests must immediately refer the student and/or his/her family member to the appropriate school personnel who have the responsibility of registering and admitting prospective students.

3.4 Casual Contact with Students in Normal Community Settings. It is not considered a violation of this policy for an employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of a high school to have casual contact with a student who does not attend that school or any member of the student's family in a normal community setting. At no time during such contact, however, may the employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of the high school pressure, urge or entice the student to attend the high school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

4.0 Impermissible Benefit

4.1 General Regulation. No school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school's athletic interests may be involved, directly or indirectly, in promising, offering or giving an impermissible benefit to any student who does not attend that school or any member of his/her family in an attempt to entice the student to attend the school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics, or to any student-athlete who already attends that school.

4.2 Specific Prohibitions. Specifically prohibited arrangements, assistance or benefits include, but are not be limited to, the following:

(a) School-based financial assistance of any kind that exceeds the amount for which a student has been approved by an independent financial needs assessment company that is recognized by the FHSAA or otherwise is in excess of any supplemental assistance provided by the school to each and every student who qualifies for financial assistance.

(b) Cash or like items, such as credit cards, debit cards, gift cards, gift certificates, coupons or vouchers.



- (c) Gift of clothing, equipment, merchandise or other tangible items.
- (d) Loans or assistance in securing a loan of any kind.
- (e) Payment for any work or service that is not performed or that is in excess of the amount normally paid for such work or service.
- (f) Free or reduced-cost transportation.
- (g) Living on a full- or part-time basis, regardless of whether rent is paid, with any school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school's athletic interests.
- (h) Free or reduced-cost rent for housing, vehicles or other items.
- (i) Full or partial payment of moving expenses or assistance of any kind with an actual physical move.
- (j) Employment or assistance in securing employment or contractual arrangement of any kind for which compensation may be paid.
- (k) Promise of a position on an interscholastic athletic team or playing time as a member of the team.
- (l) Promise of **guaranteeing** a college athletic scholarship.
- (m) Free or reduced costs to attend a sport or skills camp.
- (n) Any other form of arrangement, assistance or benefit that is not generally available to other students in the school or their families or that is based in any way on athletic ability.

5.0 Academic Recruitment Programs

5.1 References to Athletic Program. Any presentation conducted as part of a school's academic recruitment program must promote the school's overall educational and extracurricular programs. Any mention of the school's interscholastic athletics program must be limited to a listing of the interscholastic sports sponsored by the school and to a description of the school's athletic facilities. It is understood that the presentations and activities of all persons involved in the school's academic recruitment program must avoid any references to the school's athletic program that might pressure, urge or entice a student to attend that school for purposes of athletic participation. All such presentations and activities must be in keeping with the general spirit of the rules prohibiting athletic recruiting.

5.2 Open Houses. A school may conduct an open house for prospective students and members of their families. Information distributed and presentations made during the open house, as well as advertisements for the open house, must limit references to the school's athletic program to a listing of the interscholastic sports sponsored by the school and to a description of the school's athletic facilities. No information can be distributed or any statement made that in any way implies that the school's interscholastic athletic program is better than any other school's interscholastic athletic program or that a student would be better served by participating in interscholastic athletics at that school as opposed to any other school.

6.0 Financial Assistance

6.1 School-Administered Financial Assistance. Financial assistance provided by a school must be administered by the school; meaning that the school, through an established process that conforms to this policy, makes the final determination of the student who is to receive the assistance and the amount of as-