

## **BY-LAW ARTICLE X**

### **Sports Officiating**

**Sect. 1:** The Sports Officiating Committee shall consist of administrators and athletic personnel from the member schools.

**Sect. 2:** The Committee shall be empowered to act on all matters that pertain to interschool sports officiating, which occur before, during, and after interscholastic athletic contests. Assignments of tournament officials shall be referred to the respective sports committee for action.

**Sect. 3:** The Committee shall recommend to the NHIAA Finance Committee maximum fees for all sports officials, during **pre-season**, regular season and state tournaments. Input regarding state tournament fees shall be solicited from the respective sports committees.

#### **Sect. 4: Administration of Sports Officials**

Each Sport Official Association shall be required to administer to the individual members of their association in a manner reflective of their own constitutions and or by-laws. In addition, the NHIAA has established standards that all Sports Officiating Organizations must follow in order to work with NHIAA member schools. These standards are outlined in NHIAA By-Law Article X "Sports Officiating." The NHIAA will enter into yearly contracts with the various Sports Officiating Organizations on behalf of our member schools. It is the expectation of the NHIAA that each Sports Officiating Organization comply with all tenets outlined in By-Law Article X "Sports Officiating." Failure to adhere to the standards set forth under this By-Law will be considered a breach of contract between the NHIAA and the Sports Officiating Association for that particular sport. The NHIAA retains the right to sever all ties with a Sports Officiating Organization that fails to meet the requirements in By-Law Article X.

Minimum Standards for Sports Officiating Organizations:

- A. Shall establish, implement, and maintain an effective evaluation system for all members of their association.
- B. Shall actively recruit, train, and retain officials to their association.
- C. Shall ensure that their members are in compliance with the tenets set forth in this By-Law through background checks and yearly monitoring.
- D. Shall show good-faith efforts in their adherence to all NHIAA by-laws and our mission statement in order to provide exemplary service to our member schools and their student athletes.
- E. Shall provide to the NHIAA upon request documentation related to an Officiating Association's adherence to these standards.

Supervisor of Officials:

- A. A Supervisor of Officials for all recognized sports of the NHIAA will be established by the NHIAA. Supervisors in other sports not recognized by the NHIAA may be added as necessary. The NHIAA Sports Officiating Board with the confirmation of the NHIAA Council will appoint an Official's Association for every sport. Special accountability and responsibility for proper compliance lies with the appointed Supervisor of Officials who must be approved by the NHIAA Council. Failure to come to agreement over the appointment of this individual may be considered a breach of contract between the NHIAA and the Sport Officiating Association for that particular sport and will be the basis for a breach of contract. It is expected that only properly enrolled officials as outlined in By-Law Article X, Section 5: Enrollment of NHIAA Officials; will be assigned NHIAA contests and it is the responsibility of the officials organization to ensure compliance with these rules. Failure to do so will be considered a breach of contract and the basis for the NHIAA to seek a different Sport Officiating Association.

**B. Appointment of Supervisors:**

The appointment of a Supervisor of Officials shall be made by the respective New Hampshire Sports Officials Organization. The NHIAA Sports Officiating Committee may nominate that supervisor, for approval by the NHIAA Council. This will be done at the last regularly scheduled Council meeting of the school year.

**C. Duties and Responsibilities:**

The Supervisor of Officials in each sport will become an NHIAA Committee Member of that sport upon appointment by his/her officiating organization subject to the approval of the NHIAA Council and will work cooperatively with that committee and the NHIAA Sports Officiating Committee. The supervisor shall arrange and supervise schools for the instruction of the officials throughout the State and will maintain a list of NHIAA enrolled officials.

The responsibility of the supervisors shall be:

1. To supervise at least one rules-and-interpretation meeting in the State in the respective sport involved.
2. To communicate with the NHIAA, the officials who are in good standing with their Association. It is the responsibility of the Supervisor to report to the NHIAA if an official for any reason becomes an official not in good standing with their Association.
3. To ensure that all members of the sports officials' organization including apprentices that officiate any NHIAA sanctioned event/game, at any level; scrimmage; or jamboree must be enrolled as an NHIAA official.
4. To investigate and provide a written report of any major cases involving officials' controversies, disputes or disturbances to the NHIAA Sports Officiating Committee.
5. To act as technical advisor to the Executive Director of the NHIAA and to the respective NHIAA sports committee.
6. To be a voting member of the respective NHIAA sports committee.

**Sect. 5: Enrollment of NHIAA Official:**

A. Each enrolled official must be a certified member of the New Hampshire Officials Organization representing that sport.

B. All officials' enrollment for the current school year shall terminate June 30.

C. Before enrollment is complete, and before his/her name appears on the approved list of officials, each official MUST:

1. Attend at least one approved rules interpretation meeting in that sport in which he/she is enrolled prior to the opening of the season.
2. Pass an examination on the rules annually. Each supervisor will keep the results.
3. Pay an annual enrollment fee of \$65.00 per official via the Arbiter.

D. Each official's board will have the ability to see the status of each of their officials via the Arbiter.

The NHIAA Arbiter is interfaced with each of the officials groups to assist in ensuring that non-enrolled officials are not assigned to NHIAA events. It is the responsibility of the Officials Association to ensure their Arbiter account is set up correctly to ensure in the proper notification of an officials enrollment with the NHIAA.

E. Reciprocity of Officials:

Officials who transfer from out of state and who meet all NHIAA registration qualifications, may be enrolled by the Supervisor providing these officials become members of the respective New Hampshire sports officials organization.

F. School and Officials Relations:

1. Game cancelation - if a school cancels a game without properly notifying the officials assigned or hired, the school is obligated to pay the regular fee.
2. Suspension of Officials - The Executive Director may revoke NHIAA enrollment cards of those officials who:

- a. Fail to cooperate with the policies of the NHIAA.
  - b. Fail to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to the best interest of high school sports programs.
  - c. Refuse to comply with the regulations.
3. Right of Appeal - Decisions by the Executive Director are subject to the appeals process as outlined in NHIAA By-Law Article V.
- G. General Policies:  
All officials shall wear the prescribed uniform as approved by each New Hampshire officials organization, when they officiate contests between the member schools. The NHIAA recommends that all enrolled officials successfully pass an annual physical examination.
- H. Officials Fee Schedule for Postponements, Game Suspensions, No-shows During the Regular Season and NHIAA Tournament Play:
1. If a game is postponed and the official is not notified, the official shall be paid a game fee plus mileage where applicable (using the tiered mileage chart).
  2. If a game is postponed, canceled, or changed for any reason and the official is notified, there will be no payment to the official.
  3. If one official does not show **or is assigned alone**, the working official shall be paid one and one half the usual game fee and a report of the incident shall be sent to the Supervisor of Officials with copies sent to the Executive Director of the NHIAA and the assigner of that sport. (CM 11.2022)
  4. If an official doesn't show and someone works with a hired (enrolled or otherwise) official, both people should be paid a full fee and a report of the incident shall be sent to the Supervisor of Officials through the NHIAA Office.
  5. Once the game starts a full fee will be paid.
  6. If there is a continued game at the same site or a continued game at an opponent's site the official will be paid one half the game fee plus mileage where applicable (using the tiered mileage chart). If a new official is required a new game fee shall be paid. (CM 1.2017)
  7. If a game is postponed just prior to the scheduled start an offer will be made to the original official for the make-up game and the official shall be paid half a game fee.
  8. An official must have an avenue of contact up to two hours before game time. The official should contact the school (or the NHIAA during tournament play) to check if the game will be played. If an official does not check and travels to the site of the postponed event a game fee shall not be paid.  
Exception: Football and Ice Hockey officials must have an avenue of contact up to three hours before game time.
  9. If both officials do not show for the game the assignor must pay bus transportation costs for the rescheduled game.
  10. If a team fails to arrive at a contest at its scheduled start time the officials shall not wait longer than 45 minutes. After the 45 minute wait the game will be called as a "no game." In the event the traveling school calls ahead to inform the home school they are experiencing difficulties arriving for the start of the contest the officials shall remain beyond in order to start the contest.
  11. If the same official has been scheduled to work two games in the same day and the first game is played but the second game is called before it starts due to weather related issues, the official will only be paid for the first game.
- I. Enrollment by each officials' organization will not be permitted or renewed for anyone:
1. Convicted, or adjudicated with a finding of fault, guilt, or violation, in regard to an offense against a minor or any sexual offense unless/until such offense has been reversed by proper authority with jurisdiction over the matter; or
  2. Convicted, or adjudicated with a finding of fault, guilt, or violation, in regard to an offense involving any illegal/illicit drug or controlled substance as prescribed by federal or state law or

regulation, unless/until such offense has been reversed by proper authority with jurisdiction over the matter.

3. In those circumstances in which the organization becomes aware of facts which raise significant questions of character and fitness, including but not limited to the arrest for any crime, the NHIAA reserves the right to reject or deny renewal or continuation of enrollment.

J. Currently Enrolled Officials:

1. When a currently enrolled official is indicted or charged with any indictable criminal offense or charged with a violation of any statute pertaining to minors, drugs or a controlled substance such enrollment will automatically be suspended pending resolution or indictment of the charges. Conviction or adjudication of fault, guilt or a violation under any such indictment or charge shall result in immediate and automatic forfeiture of officiating enrollment with the NHIAA.
2. Currently enrolled officials must inform the Supervisor of Officials of their organization of any such indictment or indictable criminal charge instantly upon receipt of or upon having knowledge of such indictment or charge. Failure to so notify shall be the basis of immediate and automatic forfeiture of officiating at any level of high school athletics.

K. Re-installment/Re-application for Enrollment:

An official whose registration has been forfeited, suspended or revoked or an apprentice who is denied enrollment, under the provisions of this policy, may petition the NHIAA Sports Officiating Committee through the Supervisor of Officials for their sports based on the following:

If suspensions, revocation, forfeitures or denial of enrollment is based upon any conviction, adjudication or finding of guilt involving a minor or sexual offense or use of any illegal/illicit drug or controlled substance as prescribed by federal or state law or regulation, re-installment/reappointment will not be permitted, unless/until such offense has been reversed by proper authorities having jurisdiction over the matter.

**Sect. 6: Physical Contact**

A player or coach who makes or causes non-accidental physical contact with an official before, during, or after any NHIAA sanctioned contest, other than to alert an official to an injury or other relevant circumstance, shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from further participation in all sports for one calendar year (365 days) from the date of the offense.