

APPENDIX B

Regulations Governing Nonpublic Schools when Engaging in Contests with Member Schools

Upon being informed as to whether a Virginia nonpublic secondary school (private, preparatory, parochial, etc.) agrees to abide by the special regulations governing nonpublic schools, League member schools may decide whether or not to compete with that non-member school.

To be eligible to represent the school in any athletic contest with a Virginia High School League, Inc., member school, a student of a nonpublic school shall meet the following requirements:

1. **Bona Fide Student Rule-***The student shall be a regular bona fide student in good standing of the school which he/she represents. See Section 28-1-1.*

2. **Grade Rule-***The student shall be enrolled in the last four years of high school. See Section 28-2-1 and 28-2-2.*

3. **Enrollment Rule-***The student shall have been regularly enrolled in the nonpublic school which he/she represents not later than the fifteenth school day of the semester. See Section 28-3-1.*

Exception: Any student enrolling in a nonpublic school more than 15 days after the matriculation date of that school, either by normal enrollment or by transfer from any other school, shall be eligible for participation in contests with League member high schools only after a period of 90 days from the date of his/her enrollment in the nonpublic school.

4. **Age Rule-***The student shall not have reached the age of 19 on or before the first day of August of the school year in which he/she wishes to compete. See Section 28-5-1.*

5. **Semester Rule-***The student shall not have been enrolled in the last four years of high school for a period of more than eight consecutive semesters, beginning with the semester in which he/she was enrolled for the first time in the ninth grade. The eight consecutive semesters shall be counted continuously from that point, regardless of whether or not he/she remains continuously enrolled in school. See sections 28-7-1 and 28-7-2.*

6. **Amateur Rule-***A student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social, and pleasure benefits derived therefrom. See Section 28-8-1.*

7. **Independent Team Rule-***See Section 28-11-1.*

To be eligible to represent the school in any nonathletic activity with a Virginia High School League, Inc., member school, a student of a nonpublic school shall meet all of the above listed regulations except the Amateur Rule and the Independent Team Rule with the further provision that an 8th grader may participate in any nonathletic activity.

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Nonpublic schools shall observe the following school regulations in all athletic contests and competitions with Virginia High School League, Inc., member schools:

1. **Headmaster's Responsibility**-*Final authority and ultimate responsibility in all matters pertaining to the athletic activities of the school shall be vested in the headmaster.*

2. **Officials Rule**-*Officials shall be mutually agreed upon by the faculty representatives of all schools concerned. See Section 27-6-1.*

3. **Preseason Practice Rule**-*No nonpublic school shall engage in regular practice or interscholastic competition prior to August 10 in any athletic sport in which an interscholastic program is conducted by that school.*

4. **Eligibility Certificate**-*At least 10 days before an athletic contest between a non-public school and a League member school the headmaster or principal of the nonpublic school shall send to the principal of the League member school a complete squad list to which is appended the signed statement of the headmaster that all those listed meet the eligibility requirements to which the nonpublic school has subscribed for such contests as set forth above.*

5. **Proselytizing Rule**-*No nonpublic school or group of individuals representing the nonpublic school shall subject a student from a member school to undue influence by encouraging that student to transfer from a member school to a nonpublic school for interscholastic activities. See Section 27-10-1.*