

SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

SECTION 10. CONTROL OF ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS. Since it is important that eligibility cases be processed as rapidly as possible, the number of days indicated at each level should be considered as maximum, and every effort should be made to expedite the process. The time limits specified may, however, be extended by mutual agreement in writing. The term "days" when used in this policy will mean working days. (Monday-Friday except holidays)

The eligibility of students of member high schools to participate in South Dakota High School Activities Association events will rest with the Board of Directors of the Association under the powers of Section 3 above.

LEVEL ONE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Initial rulings on request for interpretations regarding eligibility based on the Association Constitution and Bylaws, including rulings on all hardship cases, will be made by the Executive Director. Once the request is received in the SDHSAA office, the Executive Director will render a decision in writing to the aggrieved party within fourteen (14) days.

LEVEL TWO: APPEALS COMMITTEE

~~Any party~~ The member school aggrieved by a decision of the Executive Director in eligibility cases may appeal such decision to an Appeals Committee of the SDHSAA within seven (7) days after receiving notification of the Executive Director's decision. Such requests will:

- A. be made in writing
- B. be signed by the ~~party~~ member school requesting the appeal
- C. include a detailed explanation of the factual situation as per the particular question or questions involved and
- D. be directed through the office of the Executive Director of the SDHSAA.

The Appeals Committee will be appointed by the Executive Director and will consist of three (3) members, one of whom will be designated as the chairman of the committee. All members of such an Appeals Committee will be superintendents, high school principals, athletic/activities directors, or board of education members of member schools but no representative will be named from a school which is involved in the decision. The Executive Director of the SDHSAA will establish a date and conduct a hearing within seven (7) days and will advise all interested parties and committee members of the time, place and purpose of the hearing.

The hearing conducted by the Appeals Committee will be fair, impartial and in accord with due process of law. The Appeals Committee will have the authority to investigate the factual situation as per each request and require that additional, specific information be submitted. The aggrieved party and the Board of Directors will have the right to be represented by counsel; to examine and cross-examine witnesses; and to present evidence of all relevant nature in the matter before the Committee. The Appeals Committee will render a decision within seven (7) days following the hearing. Any decision made by the Appeals Committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors. Such requests will:

- A. be made in writing
- B. be signed by the ~~party~~ member school requesting the appeal
- C. include a detailed explanation of the factual situation as per the particular question or questions involved and
- D. be directed through the office of the Executive Director of the SDHSAA.

LEVEL THREE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Appeals from the three member Appeals Committee shall be initiated by the member school and will be to the Board of Directors of the SDHSAA. The request will be filed within seven (7) days after receiving notification of the decision of the Appeals Committee. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final. The Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors will have the authority to investigate the factual situation as per each request and require that additional specified information be submitted. The Board of Directors will hear appeals during their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Written notification of the decision of the Board of Directors will be rendered through the office of the Executive Director within seven (7) days following the Board of Directors hearing.

Nothing herein contained will prohibit the Executive Director or the Board of Directors from initiating investigations of cases of eligibility, including the right to require that information pertinent to such investigations be submitted. The Board of Directors can issue rulings resulting from such investigations in the same manner and with the same force and effect as decisions rendered pursuant to written requests.

All decisions of the Board of Directors rendered pursuant to this section shall be final.

Rationale:

- 1) The member school is keenly aware of the facts of the situation and is in a better position to determine if an appeal is warranted.
- 2) This would reduce the emotional side of the appeal brought by someone other than the member school.
- 3) Due process is afforded the individual requesting the appeal and the member school which the student attends.
- 4) As the SDHSAA is a member school organization, the member school should be the party requesting the appeal, not an individual.
- 5) Requests for waivers: eight semester, academic, transfer, athletic open enrollment, etc. must be requested by a member school, not an individual.

SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

2016 OFFICIAL AMENDMENT BALLOT

The deadline for the return of this ballot is **May 25, 2016**. In order to pass, a proposal must receive a 60% plurality. Please refer to the accompanying document for the text of the amendment and the rationale that was given at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors.

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Yes

No

Name of Member School

Date

Signature (Superintendent or Principal)

Signature (School Board President)

Unless there are **TWO** signatures, this ballot will be unacceptable and declared void.

BALLOTS DUE: May 25, 2016

**SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
2016 OFFICIAL ELECTION BALLOT
DIVISION IV REPRESENTATIVE
TERM: JULY 1, 2016 TO JUNE 30, 2021**

The **Division IV Representative** is to be filled by a principal. A principal/ assistant or vice principal is considered a principal and would be eligible only for those seats open to principals. This position is currently held by Ms. Linda Whitney, Superintendent at Sanborn Central High School. The Division IV Representative member may be nominated from any SDHSAA member school with a 2014-2015 ADM from 125.085 to 1.0. The Division IV schools include Hamlin High School with a 2014-2015 ADM of 125.085 to School for the Blind/VI with an ADM of 1.0. Any member school may nominate a person for this position and all member schools have the opportunity to vote. The person elected will serve a five year term on the SDHSAA Board of Directors and unable to run for reelection.

The deadline for the return of this ballot is **May 25, 2016**

- Kelly Messmer, Harding County High School
- Jim Aisenbrey, Baltic High School

Name of Member School

Date

Signature (Superintendent or Principal)

Signature (School Board President)

Unless there are **TWO** signatures, this ballot will be unacceptable and declared void.

BALLOTS DUE MAY 25, 2016

Jim Aisenbrey – Secondary Principal – Baltic School District:

I am finishing my 36th year in education. I taught social studies and PE at Canova for one year and Freeman for 24 years. I am currently in my 11th year as principal at Baltic. I coached football for 30 years, junior high and later assistant track coach for 18 years, baseball nine years, assistant basketball and assistant volleyball one year each. I am an avid supporter of the fine arts. In 2011, the fine arts directors in my school honored me with their “Ambassador to Fine Arts” award. I served on the South Dakota Football Coaches Association Board of Directors from 1991-1999 and I have served on the executive board of the South Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals since 2010. I formerly served as Treasurer, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Southeast Area Principal’s Association.

My wife, June, and I have been married for 37 years. We have two sons; Cameron, who is married with two children and works in marketing at Iowa State University, and Marc who teaches and coaches for the Platte-Geddes school district. As someone who has dedicated himself to giving back to the organizations who have supported student-athletes and participants, I would be honored to serve on the SDHSAA Board of Directors.

Kelly Messmer-Harding County

I have been in education for the past 19 years including 9 years of teaching and being the Assistant Principal in inner-city Bakersfield, CA. I then spent 5 years in Twin Falls, ID as a Principal before returning to my wife’s hometown of Buffalo, SD. For the past 5 years I have been the activities director at Harding County School District. In my time at Harding County I have been the technology coordinator and most recently the Assistant Principal. I will be the principal starting in the fall of 2016. As athletic director, I have served as conference, district, and region chairperson for multiple sports, and am currently serving on the In-Season/Out-of-Season Advisory Committee for the SDHSAA. I am also very active in the South Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (SDIAAA) as current Vice-President and past Region 8 Representative. It is crucial that the local districts and the SDHSAA continue to advocate for opportunities and ways to positively grow our students’ experiences through co- and extra-curricular activities.

I have been married to my wife, Cher, for 20 years. She is the 4th grade teacher and girls’ track coach at Harding County. Our daughter Emily is a sophomore and participates in volleyball, basketball, track, and band. I strongly believe that co and extra-curricular activities are an integral part of the academic, social, mental, and physical growth of students and I would greatly appreciate your support.