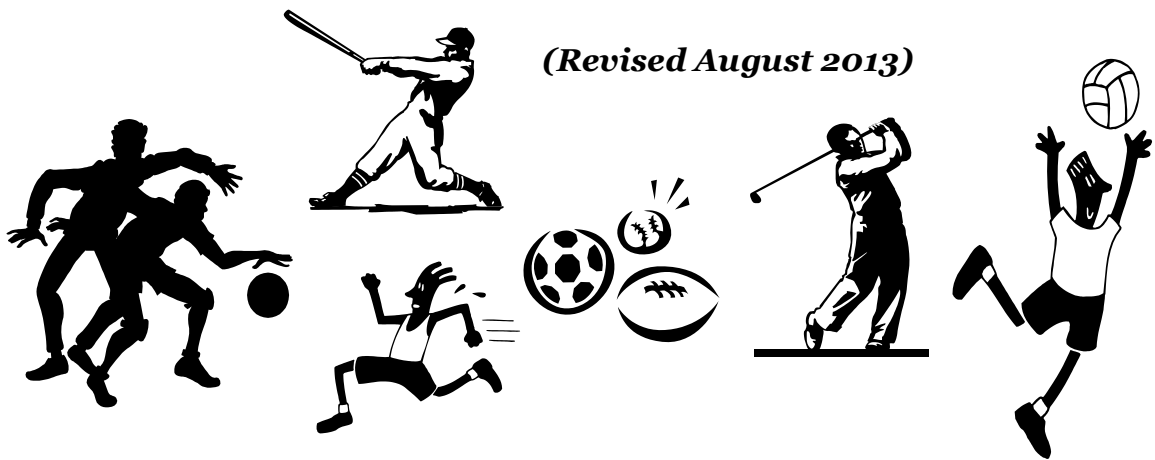




# Puerto Rico High School Athletic Alliance

## *Constitution & By-Laws*



# 2013

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(Revised August 2013)

# PUERTO RICO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ALLIANCE

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I - NAME

• **Section 1** - The name of this organization shall be the Puerto Rico High School Athletic Alliance, Inc., hereafter referred to as the Alliance.

### ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

The primary purpose of the *Alliance* is to provide a structured and well organized context for athletic competition among member schools, facilitating each school's effort to fulfill its educational objectives. *The Alliance* seeks to initiate, promote and maintain a spirit of athletics and good sportsmanship among member schools.

*The Alliance* and its member schools recognize that interscholastic athletic activities are an integral part of the total secondary school (7-12) educational program. The interscholastic athletic program has as its purpose to provide educational experiences not otherwise provided in the curriculum, which will develop learning outcomes in the areas of knowledge, skills and emotional patterns and will contribute to the integral development of the student-athlete.

All member schools shall be dedicated to the purposes of the *Alliance* and will promote clean, fair and well-organized athletic contests. They will help to promote sportsmanship among and between teams and in general maintain adequate control of players, spectators and all other persons or groups concerned. All coaching staff should be properly attired, identified by a polo or T-shirt with the name of the school he/she is representing during all official athletic contests.

**The interschool activities sponsored by the *Alliance* and/or its member schools shall be primarily for the benefit of the students who participate in them and not for the benefit of the sponsoring institutions.**

### ARTICLE III - GOVERNING BODY AND OFFICERS

• **Section 1** - The governing body shall be called the Council.

• **Section 2** - The Council shall be composed of two (2) official representatives from each member school. One representative will come from the administrative branch of the school and will be the administrative head or a designated administrator. The other representative will be the athletic director.

• **Section 3** - The officers for the organization shall be the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

• **Section 4** - The president and vice-president must be representatives of schools with full or special membership and shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Council. The president and vice-president shall not be representatives of the same member school. The secretary shall be hired by the Executive and Evaluation Committee.

**ARTICLE III - GOVERNING BODY AND OFFICERS (cont.)**

- **Section 5** - The president and vice-president will serve for a period of one (1) calendar year. They shall be elected at the May meeting.
- **Section 6** - In the event a vacancy occurs for the position of president, the vice-president will complete the remainder of his term.
- **Section 7** - The president and vice-president have full voting privileges in the Council.
- **Section 8- A treasurer will be designated by the Executive Committee**

**ARTICLE IV - BY LAWS**

- **Section 1** - By-Laws and other regulations deemed necessary by the Council shall be adopted and have the force and effect as if published as a part of the Constitution.

**ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP**

- **Section 1** - Membership will be on a voluntary basis.
- **Section 2** -Qualifications for membership will be determined by the Council.
- **Section 3** - Membership can be granted only by the Council.
- **Section 4** - The two (2) types of membership are: Probationary Membership and Full Membership.

**ARTICLE VI - QUORUMS AND MEETINGS**

- **Section 1** - A quorum for Council meetings shall be at least three quarters(3/4) of the eligible voting Council representatives excluding the president.
- **Section 2** - **General meetings will be held on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Saturday of August, the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Friday of January, and on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Wednesday of May.**
- **Section 3** - Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the Council or may be called at the discretion of the president.
- **Section 4-** The president shall be the presiding officer over all the procedural matters in connection with Council meetings.
- **Section 5** - If either of a school's official representatives is not able to attend a Council meeting, a replacement will be designated in writing to the Alliance's president; this, by the school's administrative representative. **Two official representatives from each school MUST be present at all Council meetings. If one of the official members is absent, it will result in a hundred dollars (\$100) fine. Absence of a member school representation from an official council meeting will be considered a serious infraction.**

*Within the same academic year, two (2) absences will result in a \$300.00 fine and three (3) absences will automatically place the school on probation.*

## **ARTICLE VII - VOTING**

- **Section 1** - Each official representative of schools with full membership shall be allowed one (1) vote on matters requiring a vote and that vote shall be made in person.
- **Section 2** - There shall be no proxy voting.
- **Section 3** - All matters shall require a two thirds (2/3) vote, which means at least two thirds of the votes cast by persons present and legally entitled to vote, excluding blanks or abstentions, unless otherwise specified in the Constitution.

## **ARTICLE VIII - FINANCE**

- **Section 1** - Each member school will be assessed a fee for covering operating costs. The amount shall be determined annually by the Council during the **MAY** meeting.
- **Section 2** - The treasurer will make the financial and other pertinent records of the Alliance available to the Council Representatives at the first meeting in August of each year and at any other time which he or the President deem necessary.
- **Section 3** - The treasurer will distribute a preliminary financial report to the membership at the May general meeting, listing all expenditures and deposits.
- **Section 4** - Member schools may examine the financial records of the Alliance at any time by submitting a written request to the President signed by the two official representatives of the member school. The President will provide the treasurer seven days to make the financial and other pertinent records available to authorized Council representatives.
- **Section 5** - All dues, fees, fines and other financial assessments must be paid in the form of a check against an account of the school or its sponsoring body. All dues, fees, fines and other financial assessments **must be paid within thirty (30) days** of a school's receipt of an invoice.

## **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

- **Section 1** - This constitution may be altered or amended by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the Council members present, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been presented to the members of the Council in writing by way of the president, at least thirty (30) days prior to the May meeting, at which the proposed amendment will be considered.
- **Section 2** - Amendments shall go into effect immediately on approval by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the Council members present at the May meeting.

## **ARTICLE X - ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION**

- **Section 1** - This constitution became effective upon adoption by the Council on May 24, 1969.
- **Section 2** - This constitution shall be translated into Spanish. However, the English version shall always be the official interpretive version of the Constitution and By-Laws.

# BY-LAWS

In accordance with authority established by Article IV of the Constitution of the Puerto Rico High School Athletic Alliance, Inc., the By-Laws contained herein shall have the same force and effect as if part of the Constitution.

## BY-LAW 1. COUNCIL

**A.** The powers and business of the Alliance shall be conducted and controlled by the Council.

**B.** Special meetings of the Council shall be called at any time by order of the president or by order of both official representatives from five (5) schools with full membership.

**C.** The Council shall have the authority to approve or disapprove any pre-season or post-season games in any or all sports which affect two (2) or more of the schools in the Alliance.

**D.** English or Spanish may be used in Council meetings and official written communication between members' schools and between member schools and the Alliance may be submitted in English or Spanish.

## BY-LAW 2. OFFICERS

Although the president and vice-president are not employees of the Alliance, the President & Vice-President will receive a monthly **financial incentive; to be determined by the General Council.**

## BY-LAW 3. PRESIDENT

The president shall be the chief executive of the Alliance. He shall preside at all meetings of the Council. He may call any special meeting of the Council and shall have general charge of the business of the Alliance.

## BY-LAW 4. VICE-PRESIDENT

The vice-president will assist the president with the business of the Alliance. The vice-president will be ex-officio chairman of the Executive and Evaluation Committee.

## BY-LAW 5. SECRETARY and TREASURER

### **A. Duties as Secretary**

1. Record the minutes of all proceedings of Council meetings and disseminate copies to all official representatives within 30 days after a general meeting.

2. Type and disseminate all necessary minutes, documents, etc. for the Alliance.

3. Receive all correspondence, record receipt of all documents, and administer the constitutional policies in relation to such correspondence.

4. Serve as a resource person for Alliance members.

5. Assist in public relations as needed.

**BY-LAW 5. SECRETARY-TREASURER (cont.)**

**B. Duties as Treasurer**

1. In the name of the Alliance, execute all checks for expenditures authorized by the Council. He shall be responsible for the receipt and deposit of all funds of the Alliance. He shall also account for all receipts, disbursements, and the balance on hand.
2. Perform all of the duties of the office subject to the control of the Council.
3. Present at the August meeting of the Council a breakdown of the expenses, by sport, expected for the coming year. These budgets will require approval of the Council.

**BY-LAW 6. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership shall be on a voluntary basis and it will be restricted to those schools who meet the requirements outlined herein. The privileges conferred by each form of membership are described in **By-Law 8**.

**A. FULL MEMBERSHIP** will, upon unanimous approval of the Council representatives present and voting, as outlined before, is extended to schools which meet the following criteria:

1. The school must own or have access to facilities adequate for the sports in which it proposes to participate. Such facilities must meet the criteria specified in the rules for that sport or elsewhere in these By-Laws.
2. The school must participate in four of the following sports at the Varsity level: Volleyball, cross country, soccer, football, basketball, wrestling, swimming, indoor soccer, tennis, golf, track and field, baseball and softball. Participation is defined as fielding the minimum number of eligible students required for team scoring in all circumstances.
3. The philosophy of the school and its athletic program must be consistent with the philosophy and objectives of the Alliance as presented in the Constitution.

**B. PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP** for a period of one year will be extended to schools by the Council by two thirds of the votes:

1. During the year of a school's probationary membership, the Executive and Evaluation Committee will check to determine whether the school is complying with the membership criteria outlined in By-Law 6 A. In the May Council meeting at the end of a school's year of probationary membership, the Executive and Evaluation Committee will make a recommendation for further action to the Council.
2. Upon recommendation of the Executive and Evaluation Committee, a school will be admitted to full membership if it receives two thirds from the votes from the Council representatives present and voting. If a school after having been recommended for full membership by the Executive and



**BY-LAW 6. MEMBERSHIP (cont.)**

Evaluation Committee or, having been recommended for full membership by the Executive and Evaluation Committee, fails to be admitted to full membership because it received one third or more negative votes from Council Representatives present and voting, the school will automatically be suspended from participation in the Alliance.

3. Schools suspended from participation in the Alliance at the end of one or two years of probationary membership must wait one full year before re-applying for membership.

**C. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP & APPLICATION PROCEDURES:**

1. The school must submit a formal application for membership in the Puerto Rico High School Athletic Alliance, Inc. The application must be presented in writing thirty (30) days prior to the May Council meeting, must be signed by the administrative head of the school, and must contain the following information:

a) A description of the type of school and a statement of its philosophy and objectives.

b) A statement on the school's present enrollment of boys and girls in grades seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>).

c) A description of the facilities available to the school for athletic contests. They should have the necessary safety requirements and meet the regulations of the sport.

d) A copy of the school's student handbook.

e) A statement of how the school intends to fulfill the membership requirements as stated in *By-Law 6 A*, including a list of the sports in which the school intends to participate.

f) Two of the four sports that they are required to participate in, must be played in the school's facilities. For Basketball, Volleyball, and Indoor Soccer (Futsal) the school must provide indoor facilities in school grounds.

g) Sports that are to be played outside of the school area they must meet all the requirements as stated in *By Law 6 E c*.

h) A description of their Physical Education Department

1. Curriculum

2. Number of teachers

3. Part time and full time coaches

2. The Executive and Evaluation Committee will make the appropriate investigation and present to the Council at its May meeting the application for probationary membership of schools which in its judgment can conform to the membership requirements outlined in *By-Law 6 A*.

3. The Council will vote on the applications recommended by the Executive and Evaluation Committee. A school will be accepted for probationary membership if its application receives two thirds of the votes from Council representatives present and voting.

**BY-LAW 7. INSURANCE**

***A. Public Liability Insurance***

1. The Alliance will carry a public liability policy to fulfill requirements for use of public facilities for Alliance championships and competitions. However, such coverage does not substitute for the schools' responsibility as defined above.

***B. Directors and Officers Liability***

1. The Alliance will provide "Directors and Officers Liability Insurance" coverage for school personnel who accept responsibility as members of the Executive and Evaluation Committee, the Protest Committee, and/or as commissioners.

**BY-LAW 8. PRIVILEGES**

**A.** All members have the privilege of competing with other members of the Alliance.

**B.** All members have the privilege of competing for individual and team awards when a member school is sponsoring contests for which the member school is furnishing awards.

**C.** All members may engage in competition with schools outside the Alliance.

**D.** Schools with full membership have two (2) votes in the Council. Their teams and athletes have the privilege of competing in all regular Alliance competition and all post-season championship tournaments sponsored by the Alliance. Their teams and athletes may compete for all trophies, individual awards and team awards made by the Alliance.

**E.** Schools with probationary membership may participate in all Alliance meetings but have no vote. Their athletes are eligible for individual awards and recognition, but their teams are not eligible for participation in post-season championship tournaments, for trophies, or for awards.

**BY-LAW 9. GENERAL RULES FOR ALLIANCE COMPETITION**

***A. Supervision of Students:***

1. A full-time school employee from every school involved must be present at all athletic contests. If the full-time employee is not the coach of the team, he or she should introduce him- or herself to the official(s) and the coach(es) of the opposing team(s).

2. Visiting schools that bring spectator buses are also responsible for bringing at least one (1) full-time faculty member or administrator to act as crowd control.

3. Home and visiting schools are encouraged to have full-time faculty members as crowd control as often as possible.

4. Schools with part-time coaches in the sports of: track and field, cross-country, tennis, swimming, golf, bowling and volleyball having at least seven(7) consecutive years in the same sport in the same institution will be permitted to represent the school without been accompanied by a full time employee representation.

**BY-LAW 9. GENERAL RULES FOR ALLIANCE COMPETITION (cont.)**

A list of these persons shall be submitted to the PRHSAA's Executive Committee for its approval by each member school **prior** to the beginning of the first scheduled contest. Failure to comply with this rule will result in forfeiture of the game. School(s) on probation will not benefit from this rule.

**B.** Member schools must forward an eligibility roster of all participants in each team to the Alliance office and to the commissioner of the sport. Rosters must include legal name, grade in school, date of birth, number of semesters the student has completed in grades ten (10<sup>th</sup>), eleven (11<sup>th</sup>), and twelve (12<sup>th</sup>) (a semester is defined as one-half of a school year), age, date of first attendance, and signatures of the coach, athletic director, and an administrator. (See By-Law 11 L for special condition.)

The Executive Committee will have the responsibility to verify that all students are eligible to play. This roster information is to be supplied on copies of the official Alliance Roster Form provided by the Alliance. Rosters are to be received by, the commissioner of the sport, and the Alliance office seven (7) days before the first scheduled contest. Additions to the rosters, including changes of level, shall be received by the commissioner and the Alliance office prior to competition.

All signed eligibility rosters should be hand delivered, sent by certified mail, or sent by fax to the Alliance office. Failure to submit eligibility rosters to the Alliance office at least seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled contest in that category shall result in a fine of \$100 for each roster not submitted and forfeiture of any contests scheduled to be played prior to the receipt of said roster. The same fine and forfeiture will also apply to additions to the rosters that are not submitted in accordance to the procedures outlined above for such additions.

**C.** Seven (7) days before the first scheduled contest in any sport. Signed schedules should be hand delivered, sent by certified mail, or sent by fax to the Alliance office.

**D.** Schools participating in cross-country, swimming and track and field must indicate on the signed schedule the meets in which they will participate.

**E.** Signed schedules are the official contracts between participating schools. *Changes in schedules after the signed copies are submitted can only be made according to the By-Law 12 E.* Such changes can only be made by Athletic Directors or Administrators.

**F.** Failure to submit signed schedules to the Alliance office at least seven (7) days prior to first competition shall result in a fine of \$100 for each schedule and forfeiture of any contests scheduled to be played prior to the submission of said schedule.

**G.** Withdrawal from a sport after a school is included in the tentative schedule but before the publication of the final schedule will result in a school being assessed a fine of \$100.00.

**H.** Withdrawal from a sport after a school is included in the final schedule but before the first scheduled game or contest will result in a school being assessed a fine of \$300.00.

**BY-LAW 9. GENERAL RULES FOR ALLIANCE COMPETITION (cont.)**

- I. Withdrawal from a sport after the first scheduled game or contest has been played will result in a school being assessed a fine of \$100.00 per game or contest for each game or contest remaining.

**BY-LAW 10. RECRUITMENT**

A. The Alliance is opposed to professional recruitment and/or proselytizing of student-athletes for athletic purposes by any of its member schools.

1. It understands **PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT** in the following terms: a school through any of its officers (administration, faculty, staff, athletic department, coaches) or by any other means (parents, alumni, students, benefactors) directly or indirectly offers an inducement to or exerts undue influence (e.g. athletic scholarship, cash or equivalent, college scholarship, prestige, winning championship, etc.) on a student for that school for athletic purposes.

2. It understands **PROSELYTIZING** in the following terms: a school through any of its officers (administration, faculty, staff, athletic department, coaches) or by any other means, (parents, alumni, students, benefactors) directly or indirectly offers an inducement to or exerts undue influence (e.g. athletic scholarship, cash or equivalent, college scholarship, prestige, winning championship, etc.) on a student-athlete of any other school to sever connections with that school and transfer to the other school for athletic purposes.

3. The phrase **"FOR ATHLETIC PURPOSES"** refers to the search for athletes primarily for the school's athletic teams. It does not preclude normal public relations, the promotion of a school's image and program, academic recruitment of students and open houses in which athletic as well as academic facilities are shown, etc.

4. **"INDUCEMENT" or "UNDUE INFLUENCE"**. In addition to those more obvious inducements mentioned above, other inducements would include visits to the student's home, invitations to dinner, to Superior League or professional athletic events, or invitations to the student to try out, to work out, to train or to compete with the school's athletic teams.

5. **"A TRANSFERRING STUDENT-ATHLETE"** includes any student who has represented his school in interscholastic athletic competition as well as any student who has participated in any organized or recognized athletic team/league not under secondary school auspices during the year previous to transfer.

B. Transfer from one school to another for athletic purposes because of professional recruitment and/or proselytizing by anyone connected directly or indirectly with the school shall cause a student to forfeit eligibility for at least one (1) year from the date of enrollment.

C. Any member school which through its officers or any other means engages in professional recruitment and/or proselytizing, as defined herein, will incur sanctions, to be determined by the Council upon recommendation by the President and the Executive and Evaluation Committee.

**BY-LAW 10. RECRUITMENT (cont.)**

1. For a first offense, the member school will be fined not more than \$300, and be placed on probation in that sport for a year.

2. For a second offense, the member school will be fined no more than \$500, and be suspended from that sport for a year.

**D.** Any coach or member of the athletic department of any member institution, who engages in professional recruitment and/or proselytizing, as defined herein, will incur sanctions, to be determined by the Council upon recommendation by the President and Executive and Evaluation Committee.

1. For a first offense, the coach or member of the athletic department will receive a letter of reprimand.

2. For a second offense, the coach or member of the athletic department will receive a letter suspending him from Alliance participation for one year.

**E.** Any administrative head or designated administrator of any member institution, who engages in professional recruitment and/or proselytizing, as defined herein, will incur sanctions to be determined by the Council upon recommendation by the President and the Executive and Evaluation Committee.

1. For a first offense, the administrative head or designated administrator will receive a letter of reprimand.

2. For a second offense, the administrative head or designated administrator will receive a letter suspending him from Alliance participation for one year.

**BY-LAW 11. RULES OF ELIGIBILITY**

**A.** A participant must be fully enrolled in the school which he is representing, and he must meet the academic requirements of that school for athletic participation in the Alliance.

**B.** A student will be ineligible for competition after the completion of six (6) semesters beyond the ninth grade (for the purpose of this bylaw, completion means attendance during).

**C.** A student may not participate in any athletic event if he/she has reached his/her nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) birthday prior to the first (1<sup>st</sup>) of September.

**D.** To be eligible for junior varsity competition, a student may not have reached his sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) birthday prior to the first (1<sup>st</sup>) of September, nor have begun his senior year.

**E.** Although students eligible to participate in lower level competition may participate in higher-level competition, once they have appeared on a higher-level roster, they are no longer eligible for lower level competition in that sport. **No additions to the roster will be allowed for post-season tournament participation.**

A student may move up to a higher level of competition at any time during the regular season, but not during post-season play, provided his name is

**BY-LAW 11. RULES OF ELIGIBILITY (cont.)**

included on a roster addition. However, no student may move up to a higher level of competition during post-season play.

Students who move up to a higher level of competition must have participated in at least one regular season game at that level to be eligible for participation in post-season play.

**F.** A student must be in at least the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade to be eligible for competition.

**G.** A student who transfers from one island school to another is ineligible to participate in Alliance athletic competition for one calendar year from the date of his first attendance at the new school in either the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grades. If enrollment takes place in the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 9<sup>th</sup> grade, no waiver request is necessary.

**H.** The Alliance recognizes exceptions only if:

1. The student must transfer to another school because the *transferring school* does not have a 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
2. The student must transfer to another school because of a Legal Change of Residency by the parent or legal guardian. Legal Change of Residency is defined as moving from one Senatorial District to another, as established by the Electoral Law of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; or moving to Puerto Rico from any jurisdiction outside the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
3. The student must transfer to another school because his/her Parent or Legal Guardian is employed full-time by the receiving school. The transfer must take place within the first two (2) years of employment in the receiving school. Supporting evidence must be accompanied with the Waiver Request Form.
4. The student must transfer to another school because his/her Parent or Legal Guardian has been granted or denied Military/Federal Educational Benefits. In the case of denial, the student must return to the school which he/she transferred from originally. Supporting evidence must be accompanied with the Waiver Request Form.
5. Exchange students. The student is attending the receiving school as part of an official student - exchange program and must return to his / her original school at the conclusion of the program. Supporting evidence must be accompanied with the waiver request.

**I.** Students who transfer from one school to another may apply for a waiver of the ineligibility rule only in the above-indicated cases. For consideration, *FOUR (4) COMPLETE AND ACCURATE SETS* of the application for waiver shall be received by the chairperson of the Executive and Evaluation Committee.

**J.** Any student who participates in a sport camp led by a coach or employee from a member school, or participates on a team coached by a coach or employee of a member school who transfers to said coach's or employee's school within one year will be ineligible for Alliance participation for one (1) year regardless of the reason for transfer.

**K.** Any student who participates in a sport camp led by a coach or employee from a member school, or participates on a team coached by a coach or employee of a member school who transfers to said coach's or employee's

**BY-LAW 11. RULES OF ELIGIBILITY (cont.)**

school within one (1) year will be ineligible for Alliance participation for one (1) year regardless of the reason for transfer.

**L.** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students may not participate in Varsity contact sports (Football, Soccer, Futsal, Baseball and Basketball).

**M.** Infraction of these rules automatically results in forfeiture of all games in which the infractions occurred.

**N.** Students in grades seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) will not be able to participate in any competition within the same academic year in more than one institution.

**BY-LAW 12. RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION**

**A.** All officials assigned to an athletic contest must be registered and/or competent and qualified to exercise control of the game.

**B.** The rules set down by the rules committees of the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations shall be used in all PRHSAA competitions. The PRHSAA Constitution shall be considered the final authority in all matters.

**C.** Decisions involving the judgment of an official cannot be protested.

**D.** If a team is not present and ready to play within thirty (30) minutes after the regular scheduled time for the contest, the team which is present wins the game by forfeit, unless the favored school rejects the forfeiture or the Protest Committee rules differently. In the event of a scheduled second game, an additional (15) fifteen minutes wait period will be allowed before a forfeit is declared.

**E.** Play may only begin if a full-time faculty or administration member of each competing school is present. The above-mentioned person must identify him/herself to the representative of the other school and remain present throughout the duration of the contest. If within thirty (30) minutes after the regularly scheduled time for the contest, a team is still not accompanied by a full-time faculty or administration member, that team forfeits. A second contest, if scheduled, will also result in a forfeit.

**F.** The signed final schedule represents a formal agreement between schools that the competition will be held as scheduled. Changes in scheduled contests are not to be made, except under extreme circumstances.

1. In the event that a game cannot be played or completed due to weather or field conditions, darkness, safety or security reasons, it shall be the responsibility of the athletic directors of the involved schools to mutually agree upon the date, time, and site to play the contest prior to the championship tournament of that sport.

The athletic director of the home team is responsible for notifying the commissioner of such changes and for notifying the officials sufficiently in advance.

**BY-LAW 12. RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION (cont.)**

2. In the event that a school wishes to make a schedule change due to circumstances not contemplated when the final schedule was signed, the athletic director of that school must request the commissioner's authorization before contacting the other school. The commissioner will be responsible for considering and evaluating the basis for the requested change and will have the prerogative to determine if the affected school may approach the other school with the proposed change. If the approach is allowed, the other school will have the option of accepting or rejecting the proposed change. If accepted, it shall be the responsibility of the athletic directors of the involved schools to mutually agree upon the date, time, and site to play the contest prior to the championship tournament of that sport.

Such agreed changes must be arranged sufficiently in advance to allow for the athletic director of the home team to notify the commissioner and the officials of the arrangements no less than seven (7) days prior to date on which the contest was originally scheduled or the newly scheduled date, whichever is earlier. Failure to comply with this rule shall result in forfeiture of the contest by the team(s) at fault.

**G.** The home team in soccer, indoor soccer, football, and basketball will wear a light colored jersey; the visiting team will wear a contrasting dark colored jersey. Team must wear same color shirt and same color pants.

**H.** A team or participant may not participate in more than seven (7) invitational tournaments in any sport during a scholastic year.

1. Each school will make an official report to the Alliance office of all tournaments in which their teams have participated during each sports season. This report is due in the league office no later than seven days following the last day of each season. The report format is provided by the Alliance and is to be signed by both official representatives.

2. Failure to submit the report of tournament participation to the Alliance office no later than seven days after the end of each season, a fine of \$100 will be imposed.

**I.** Expulsion of a player or member of the coaching staff from a league's competition will result in suspension from the next league competition. All schools must comply with this sanction and report their compliance in writing to the commissioner of the sport. *Failure to do so, within seven (7) days, will be considered a serious infraction.*

**J.** If the officials are not present thirty (30) minutes after the regular scheduled time both games will be suspended.

**K. Championship tournament placement in case of all ties will be decided according to which team won over the other during the season. If the two teams won over each other during the season, placement shall be decided according to which team had more total points in the games played against each other. *If a tie persists, placement will be decided by the flip of a coin by the commissioner in the presence of the athletic directors of the affected schools.***

**L.** An Alliance post season championship tournament will be scheduled yearly and will take place at the conclusion of the regular season play for each sport male and female and the varsity, junior varsity and junior



high levels. The site and schedule for the post season championship tournament will be mutually agreed upon by the participating schools. Only one (1) post season championship tournament will be held in each sport with the exception of volleyball and basketball where separate post season championship tournaments will be held for the A Division and B Division. If a seed division is necessary in any of the previously two sports mentioned, it shall be included in the B Division post championship tournament.

### **BY-LAW 13. SPORTS COMMISSIONERS**

**A.** Commissioners for the following school year will be appointed by the president in the May meeting. The president will call a commissioner's meeting in May to set the following guidelines:

1. The start and the end of the regular season play for each sport
2. The number of divisions and numbers of teams in each division
3. The number of games each team is going to play in the regular season.
4. The final tournament format
5. The All-Star Game date.

**B.** The commissioner for each sport will be responsible for the preparation of the season schedule in accordance with the following regulations:

1. Commissioners will draw up and distribute a tentative schedule to all participating schools and the Alliance office at least thirty (30) days prior to the first scheduled contest.

2. Schools must resolve any conflicts and notify the commissioner of changes no less than twenty (20) days prior to the first scheduled contest.

3. Commissioners will forward a finalized schedule to each participating school and to the Alliance office at least fifteen (15) days prior to the first scheduled contest.

4. The copies of the tentative and finalized schedule which are submitted by the commissioner to the Alliance office are to be hand delivered or sent via Fax. These copies will be available for review or duplication by member schools in the event that their copy fails to arrive through the mail.

5. Each participating school must submit a signed copy of the finalized schedule to the Alliance office at least seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled contest in accordance with By- Law 9 C.

**C.** The Commissioner will act as Chairperson of any meetings pertaining to his sport. Athletic directors and coaches will be given at least two (2) weeks' notice in writing, by commissioners, of the date, time, and place of any meetings. **The Commissioner will be responsible for keeping and distributing minutes of these meetings to members of the Alliance and also to send, in writing, the Meeting's Attendance Record to the Alliance's president for review.**

The commissioners will call a meeting of the coaches and athletic directors of the schools participating in that sport at least seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled contest.

Another meeting will be called at least one (1) week prior to the final meet, or post-season tournament, whichever the case may be. This meeting

**BY-LAW 13. SPORTS COMMISSIONERS (cont.)**

will be for the purpose of discussing problem areas and preparing any recommendations which might be necessary. The recommendations will be presented by the commissioner in his report to the Council.

**D.** Sports commissioners will direct all their correspondence to member schools to the athletic director of the schools.

**E.** In matters which arise between Council meetings and are not expressly provided for in these By-Laws, the commissioners will consult with the president of the Alliance.

**F.** Commissioners for cross-country, swimming and track and field will keep current records of winning performances which excel those of previous years for each course or meet, the best performances of that year for each event, and Alliance all-time records.

**BY-LAW 14. RECOGNITION AS AN OFFICIAL SPORT OF THE ALLIANCE.**

At least four (4) teams must be willing to participate in a full schedule in a particular sport before the Alliance will consider recognizing it as an official sport or award trophies and medals. A sport becomes an official sport of the Alliance only upon approval by the Council.

**BY-LAW 15. EXECUTIVE AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**A.** An Executive and Evaluation Committee will be composed of the Alliance president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, three (3) administrative representatives and four (4) full-time athletic department members. These must be Council representatives as defined in *Article III, Section 2*. The latter two groups will be elected by the Council at the first meeting of the school year.

The Alliance vice-president will be the chairman of the Executive and Evaluation Committee. In the absence of the vice-president, the president will act as chairman.

**B.** A quorum for meetings will be the committee chairperson and four members. In the absence of the Vice-President and President, quorum will be seven (7) members who will elect a chairman from among their number.

**C.** The Committee will have the responsibility for the maintenance and implementation of the Alliance Constitution.

**D.** The Committee will pass on questionable practices, incidents, scheduling, division format and any other business necessary for the protection of the published aims of the Alliance and for the betterment of the Alliance. The Executive Committee will have the responsibility to meet with school representatives and any other person that the Committee understands could help in the decision process. It will be the school's responsibility to investigate involvement of its students, athletes, coaches, spectators in any incident reported to the Executive Committee. This information will be brought to the Committee through the official representative of the school.

**E.** To appeal a decision of the Executive Committee a formal letter from the school signed by the school's Official Representative and Athletic Director accompanied by a \$100.00 non-refundable fee, will be sent to the

**BY-LAW 15. EXECUTIVE AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE (cont.)**

Committee. In this letter the school should present the reasons for this appeal. This letter must be received within seven (7) days after the receipt of the certified/registered letter of the Committee's decision is received. If any of these requirements are not met the request will not be accepted. After reviewing an appeal the Executive Committee's decision will be final.

**F.** Decisions of the Executive Committee will be sent by 1<sup>st</sup>. Class Mail, Fax or Electronic Mail (email).

**G.** The committee will have the responsibility for evaluation of those schools interested in becoming members of the Alliance.

**H.** Two (2) committee members will have the responsibility with the commissioner of each sport to negotiate contracts and recommend them to the committee for approval.

**I.** The committee will make reports as necessary about all committee business and will supply minutes to the Alliance secretary

**BY-LAW 16. PROTEST (Grievance) COMMITTEE**

**A.** A Protest Committee will be composed of the Alliance president and four (4) Council representatives, the latter being elected by the Council at the first meeting of the school year.

In the absence of the president, the vice-president will become a voting member of the committee. The commissioner of the sport involved in the protest will have voice but no vote.

**B.** The committee will elect a chairman from among its number at its first meeting each year.

**C.** A quorum for meetings will be two members and the Alliance president or vice-president. In the absence of the president and vice-president quorum will be the four elected members.

**D.** Protests must be hand delivered or mailed postmarked within three (3) days of the end of the contest, not counting Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, to the Protest Committee chairperson, the administrative head of the protesting school, the Alliance President, and the commissioner of the sport.

**E.** A protest must have the signed endorsement of the administrative representative of the school making the protest.

**F.** A \$50 fee shall be submitted with each protest by the protesting school. If the school wins the protest, the fee shall be returned to the school. If the protesting school loses the protest, the fee shall be deposited in the Alliance treasury.

**G.** Should a protest be prepared and submitted, according to the above regulations, which directly affects the post-schedule tournament, the tournament will be suspended until the protest committee has made determination on the protest.

**H.** The Committee will be responsible for making decisions on all protests based on the application and interpretation of the rules covering athletic events. The committee chairperson will cite an official representative of

**BY-LAW 16. PROTEST (Grievance) COMMITTEE (cont.)**

each school directly affected by a protest to the meeting at which that protest will be discussed.

He will also invite to the same meeting any other individuals e.g. officials, commissioners, coaches) whose presence he deems necessary in order to insure that the committee hears all sides of the issue under protest. The committee chairman will issue such citations and invitations either in personal conversation, by telephone communication, by fax or by mail. Should any of these representatives not be present at the hearing, the committee will proceed at its own discretion.

**I.** The committee will communicate its decisions in writing to the administrative representative of the protesting school, the administrative representative of the protested school, the Alliance president, and the commissioner of the sport within a reasonable time of receiving a protest.

**J.** Decision(s) of the Protest Committee are considered final and not subject to appeal.

**BY-LAW 17. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**A.** A Finance Committee will be composed of the Alliance President and two (2) Council Representative and two (2) members of the Executive and Evaluation Committee. The two (2) members of the Council will be elected on the August meeting. An absence of the President, the Vice President will become voting member of the Committee.

**B.** The Committee will have the responsibility for evaluation of all finance matters, President, Vice President, Executive Committee's stipends, Commissioners' stipends and other finance matters with regard of the Alliance.

**C.** The Finance Committee will have the responsibility of purchasing and distributing all awards.

**D.** The Committee will come with reports and recommendations to the Council in the January meeting and May meeting.

**BY-LAW 18. REGULATIONS FOR FOOTBALL**

**A.** A minimum of three game officials (referee, umpire, and head linesman) will be furnished by the home school.

**B.** An adult will handle the down-marker and will be furnished by the home school.

**C.** A running score will be kept where it is visible to the players and public.

**D.** A suitable barrier will be erected around the field at a minimum distance of five (5) yards from sidelines and end lines.

**E.** All non-official personnel will remain outside the barrier when the game is in progress.

**F.** A non-toxic line marking material will be used for marking the field.

**G.** The home team will provide for the presence of a qualified physician or trained paramedical help and ambulance, from thirty (30) minutes before

**BY-LAW 18. REGULATIONS FOR FOOTBALL (cont.)**

game time until the end of the game. Games may not be played if this provision has not been met.

**H.** The winner of the Alliance league championship may play in a post-schedule game if desired.

**I.** Coaches are not allowed to scout scrimmages or practices.

**J.** The home team is responsible for lining the field and having adults supervising the first-down indicators.

**K.** Two official game balls are to be provided by the home team for each game.

**L.** Players in a fight in a game automatically are out of the game.

**M.** Every team must have a statistician and have statistics turned in to the commissioner by the Monday following each game so that all-star balloting by coaches can be based on statistics. The football commissioner will mail the statistics of all games to all coaches each week according to an approved format.

**N.** The football schedule will not exceed ten (10) games, with the opportunity of one (1) additional post-schedule game for the champion team.

**BY-LAW 19. REGULATIONS FOR BASKETBALL**

**A.** A minimum of two (2) game officials (referee and umpire) will be required for competition and will be paid by the home school.

**B.** An adult timer and an adult scorer will be furnished by the home school. Those will be the official timer and scorer.

**C.** A running score will be kept where it is visible to the players and public.

**D.** Unless mutually agreed to the contrary, the junior varsity game will be played before the varsity game.

**E.** The playing time for boys Jr. Varsity & Varsity will be four (4) quarters of eight (8) minutes each with intermissions of one (1) minute after the first and third quarters and ten (10) minutes between halves. *The playing time for girls Jr. Varsity and Jr. High will be four (4) quarters of six (6) minutes each with intermission of one (1) minute after the first and third quarters and ten (10) minutes between halves.*

**F.** If any portion of the first half is not completed because of rain or any other causes, the entire game will be replayed. If any portion of the second half is not completed because of rain or other causes, the game will resume at the point of interruption on a mutually agreeable date.

**G.** An Alliance tournament will be scheduled yearly to take place at the conclusion of the regular season play on the varsity, junior varsity and junior high levels.

**H.** All-star games, varsity and junior varsity will be scheduled to take place.

**BY-LAW 20. REGULATIONS FOR BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL**

- A. An official game is seven (7) innings with four and one half (4 1/2) innings necessary in case of suspension because of rain or darkness.
- B. A minimum of two (2) officials (umpire and referee) will be required for competition and will be paid by the home school.
- C. Afternoon games will be scheduled to begin no later than 4:00 PM.
- D. Batter's boxes, coaches' boxes, on-deck circles, three foot lines, foul lines, and the pitcher's circle will be clearly marked.
- E. An adult will act as official scorer and will be furnished by the home school.
- F. Softball will use the NFHS Rules.

**BY-LAW 20. REGULATIONS FOR BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL (Cont.)**

- G. An Alliance tournament will be scheduled yearly to take place at the conclusion of regular season play.
- H. If darkness, rain or other causes interfere with play so that a game is called by the umpire after becoming a regulation game and with the score tied (as of the end of the last completed inning or with the home team having equaled the visitor's score during the incomplete inning) the game will be considered a suspended game and shall be continued from the point of suspension at a later date.
- I. In the event of a suspended game, as in H, the line-up and batting order of each team shall be exactly the same when the game is resumed as the line-up and batting order at the moment of suspension. If this cannot be suitably arranged, then the entire game shall be replayed.
- J. An all-star game will be scheduled to take place yearly.
- K. Minimum distances for a home run over an obstacle within the confines of the playing field shall be 250 feet in baseball and 200 feet in softball.
- L. A game may end any time after five (5) innings, or after four and a half innings when a team is ten (10) or more runs behind and has completed its turn at bat.
- M. The use of metal cleats is not allowed.

**BY-LAW 21. REGULATIONS FOR WRESTLING**

- A. The International Amateur Wrestling Federation (FILA) rules will be used.
- B. The match official will be assigned by the referees' association. An adult match timer and scorer will be furnished by the home school.
- C. A scoreboard indicating both match score and team score will be situated in a place visible to both the wrestlers and the public.
- D. Alliance competition will be conducted in the following weight categories: 88 pounds, 98, 105, 112, 119, 126, 132, 138, 145, 155, 165, 175, 185, and unlimited (175 and over).

**BY-LAW 21. REGULATIONS FOR WRESTLING (Cont.)**

**E.** A varsity and junior varsity championship tournament will be held at a site mutually agreed upon by the participating schools. Tournament's format will be agreed upon by the coaches.

**F.** To qualify for participation in the official Alliance tournament, a wrestler must have competed in at least one (1) preliminary meet during the regular season.

**G.** The FILA system of pairing, elimination, and final team standing and individual placement will be used in the annual Alliance wrestling championship.

**H.** A team must have a minimum of seven (7) wrestlers in order to compete in a dual meet.

**I.** An official season title based on junior varsity dual meet results will be contested. A 78 pound weight class shall be included in the junior varsity competition.

**J.** Each coach is responsible for getting dual meet results to the wrestling commissioner. The report must be exact and complete.

**K.** The commissioner will provide a form for dual meet results at the fall coaches meeting. This form will be used to report results.

**BY-LAW 22. REGULATIONS FOR TRACK AND FIELD**

**A)** IAAF rules will be used in all meets with the exceptions indicated in the By-Laws of the PRHSAA Constitution.

**A-1:PRHSAA False Start Rule:** Any athlete responsible for a false start shall be warned. Only one (1) false start per race shall be allowed without the disqualification of the athlete(s) responsible for the false start. Any athlete(s) responsible for further false starts in the race will be disqualified.

**A-2:PRHSAA - 800m.:** When there are more than twelve (12) athletes in a race, they may be divided into two (2) groups with one group of approximately two thirds (2/3)of the athletes on the regular arced start line and the other third (1/3)on a separate arced start line marked across the outer half of the track from lane five (5). The other group shall run as far as the end of the first bend on the outer half of the track, which shall be marked by the cones or flags as described in Rule 160.1.

**A-3:PRHSAA - 4 x 400m. Relay:** In a 4x400m relay, the first 400m will be run entirely in lanes, after that point, athletes may leave their respective lanes.

**A-4:PRHSAA - Field Events:** In all field events for regular season and championship, except for the high jump and Pole vault, each athlete shall be allowed three (3) trials.

**A-5: Pole Vault (All track events and Field events:** At least three (3) schools must participate in any event during the regular season to be able to acquire points. If this is not possible, the event will be declared as exhibition where the athlete(s) be awarded with medals but the schools will NOT receive point for team competition.

**BY-LAW 22. REGULATIONS FOR TRACK AND FIELD (cont.)**

- B. Distances are measured entirely according to the metric system.
- C. A contestant may participate in four (4) events in any varsity meet.
- D. A contestant may participate in two (2) individual distance races. A distance race shall be defined as any race that is greater than 400 meters.
- E. In group meets two (2) contestants from each school may enter each event.
- F. A school may enter only one team in each relay event.
- G. Boys varsity events and the order in which they will be held are:
  - (1) Pole Vault
  - (2) Long jump
  - (3) Shot put (12 pounds)
  - (4) Discus (1.6kilos)
  - (5) High jump
  - (6) Triple jump
  - (7) Javelin (800 Grams)

- (1) 4 x 100 meters
- (2) 1500 meters
- (3) 300 meter intermediate hurdles (36 inches)
- (4) 100 meters
- (5) 800 meters
- (6) 400 meters
- (7) 110 meters high hurdles (39 inches)
- (8) 200 meters
- (9) 3000 meters
- (10) 4 x 400 meter relay

*All running events will be timed finals.*

- (1) pole vault
- (2) long jump
- (3) shot put (12 pounds)
- (4) discuss (1.6 kilos)
- (5) triple jump
- (6) javelin (800 grams)
- (7) high jump

- H. Girls varsity events and the order in which they will be held are:
  - (1) 4 x 100 meter relay
  - (2) 1500 meters
  - (3) 100 meters
  - (4) 800 meters
  - (5) 400 meters
  - (6) 100 meter hurdles (33 inches)
  - (7) 200 meters
  - (8) 3000 meters
  - (9) 4 x 400 meter relay



**BY-LAW 22. REGULATIONS FOR TRACK AND FIELD (cont.)**

*All running events will be timed finals.*

- (1) High Jump
- (2) Discus (one (1) kilo)
- (3) Shot Put (eight (8) pound)
- (4) Long Jump
- (5) Javelin (600 grams)

**I.** Change of schedule shall only be made when absolutely necessary. Such change shall be decided by the appointed Referee and the Commissioner but must be accepted by the coaches unanimous. This does not apply to extreme weather conditions such as lightning, etc.

**K.** In group meets points will be awarded in the individual events for five (5) places as follows: 6, 4, 3, 2, 1; and in relay events for five places as follows: 12, 8, 6, 4, 2.

**L.** The site for the Alliance's Championship Meet will be mutually agreed upon by participating schools.

**M.** Only the top eight (8) times and /or distances will qualify for the Alliance championship meet in the following events:

- (1) 100 meters
- (2) 200 meters
- (3) 400 meters
- (4) 110 meter high hurdles
- (5) 300 meter intermediate hurdles
- (6) shot put
- (7) long jump
- (8) triple jump
- (9) high jump
- (10) pole vault
- (11) javelin throw
- (12) discus throw
- (13) 4 x 100
- (14) 4 x 400

*Only the top twelve (12) times will qualify for the following events:*

- (1) 800 meters
- (2) 1500 meters
- (3) 300 meters

A contestant must have posted these times and/or distances in a preliminary meet during the regular season. Participants for the Alliance championship meet must be registered with the meet manager (for seeds and lane assignments) seventy-two (72) hours prior to meet starting time.

**N.** Meets will be conducted on the varsity and junior varsity levels. A contestant may participate in only one level in a meet.

**O.** Junior varsity boys and girls may participate in three (3) events in any meet. The events and the order in which they will be are:

**BY-LAW 22. REGULATIONS FOR TRACK AND FIELD (cont.)**

**Junior Varsity Boys**

1. Discus (1 Kilo)
2. Shot put (8 pounds)
3. Long jump
4. High jump
5. Javelin (600 grams)

**Junior Varsity Girls**

1. High Jump
2. Shot put (8 pounds)
3. Long jump
4. Discus (1 kilo)
5. Javelin (600 grams)

- (1) 4 x 100 meter relay
- (2) 1500 meters
- (3) 100 meters
- (4) 800 meters
- (5) 400 meters
- (6) 100 meter hurdles (boys 36" and girls 30")
- (7) 200 meters
- (8) 4 x 400 meter relay

**All running events will be timed finals.**

- (1) shot put (8 pounds)
- (2) discus (1 kilo)
- (3) long jump
- (4) high jump
- (5) javelin (600 grams)

**P.** Each participating school will be charged an officials' fee to be paid to the league treasurer one week prior to the first meet.

**Q.** The Alliance, through the track commissioner, will purchase and supply at each Alliance track meet, an official scale that will be used to weigh and certify all field weight events equipment (shot, discus, javelin and others) prior to use in competition. During the competition, competitors may use only the equipment certified at the meet.

**R.** Officials' fees and operational costs will be divided among participating schools.

**BY-LAW 23. REGULATIONS FOR SWIMMING**

**A.** Meets will be conducted on the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels for boys and girls. Junior Varsity (JV) level includes students in the 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grade who have not reached their fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) birthday by September 1<sup>st</sup>. However, students in the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) grade may participate at Varsity level. **Once the student has participated at Varsity level, will no longer be eligible to participate in any (JV) Junior Varsity level competition any longer. (Reference: By-Law 11 - Rules of Eligibility)**

**B.** Two (2) contestants from each school may enter each event. One (1) team from each school may enter each relay event.

**C.** A contestant may enter two (2) individual events and one (1) relay or one (1) individual event and two (2) relays.

**D.** A school may enter any or all events, but the school with the highest overall point total will be declared the winning school in each division.

**BY-LAW 23. REGULATIONS FOR SWIMMING (Cont.)**

**E.** In dual or triangular meets, points will be awarded in the individual events for five (5) places as follows: 6,4, 3, 2, 1; and in relay events for three (3) places as follows: 6,4,1.

**J.** When more than three schools participate in a meet, points will be awarded in the individual events for six (6) places as follows:

7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1; and in the relay events for six (6) places as follows: 14, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2.

**G.** Swimming events and the order in which they should take place are:

*Boys Varsity:*

- (3) 200 medley relay
- (6) 100 mts. freestyle
- (9) 200 mts. individual medley
- (12) 100 mts. butterfly
- (15) 200 mts. freestyle
- (18) 100 mts. backstroke
- (21) 50 mts. freestyle
- (24) 100 mts. breaststroke
- (27) 400 freestyle relay

*Girls Varsity:*

- (2) 200 meter medley relay
- (5) 200 meter freestyle
- (8) 50 meter freestyle
- (11) 100 meter individual medley
- (14) 50 meter butterfly
- (17) 100 meter freestyle
- (20) 50 meter backstroke
- (23) 50 meter breaststroke
- (26) 200 meter freestyle relay

*Boys and Girls Junior Varsity:*

- (1) 200 meter medley relay
- (4) 200 meter freestyle
- (7) 50 meter freestyle
- (10) 100 meter individual medley
- (13) 50 meter butterfly
- (16) 100 meter freestyle
- (19) 50 meter backstroke
- (22) 50 meter breaststroke
- (25) 200 meter freestyle relay

**H.** The distance of the events may be altered to conform to the length of the individual pools.

**I.** Additional events may be added if a plurality vote of participating schools is obtained before the season begins. Such events will not be official until entered in the By-Laws.

**J.** Site for the Alliance championship meet will be mutually agreed upon by the participating schools.

**BY-LAW 23. REGULATIONS FOR SWIMMING (Cont.)**

K. To qualify for participation in the Alliance championship meet, a contestant must have competed in a preliminary meet. Competition in a preliminary meet is understood as swimming a registered and official time.

L. Officials' fees and operational costs will be divided among participating schools.

**BY-LAW 24. REGULATIONS FOR VOLLEYBALL**

A. International Volleyball Rules will be used.

B. A minimum of two (2) officials (referee and umpire) will be required for competition and paid by the home school.

C. An adult scorer will keep score on a standard Alliance score sheet.

D. A running score will be kept in a place visible to the players and public.

E. A measuring stick will be available to check the height of the net: seven feet, ten inches (7' 10") for boys' varsity; seven feet, six inches (7' 6") for boys', junior varsity; seven feet two inches (7' 2") for boys' (ie.) Junior high; seven feet four inches (7'4") for girls' varsity; seven feet, two inches (7'2") for girls' junior varsity, seven feet (7'0") for girls' junior high.

F. If any set of the "two out of three" match is not completed before suspension to another date is declared, that set will be replayed and the match continued.

G. In case of an outdoor court and when physically possible, either a suitable barrier will be erected around the court at a minimum distance of three (3) yards from the sidelines and the end-lines, or bleachers will be provided for the spectators.

H. Unless mutually agreed to the contrary, the junior varsity games will be played before the varsity games.

I. A championship tournament will take place at the conclusion of regular season play.

J. An all-star game will be scheduled to take place yearly.

**BY-LAW 25. REGULATIONS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY**

A. Meets will be conducted on the varsity and junior varsity and junior high levels.

B. In dual meets, each participating school must enter seven (7) contestants. In group meets, a team will be considered as 5 to 7 runners. Schools may field less than a full team but not more.

C. Total team points in each division will be the sum of the places scored by the first five (5) finalists of that team. Scoring shall be by simplified method (i.e. runners receive points in number equal to the place of finish). All runners, whether on a full team or not, count in the scoring. Low score wins. In case of ties, the fifth place runner determines the winner.

**BY-LAW 25. REGULATIONS FOR CROSS-COUNTRY**

D. Officially assigned numbers will be used during the contests. Numbers assigned are:

1-99	Col. Puertorriqueño de Niñas (CPN)
100-199	Ramey (RAM)
200-299	University High School (UHS)
300-399	Colegio San Ignacio (CSI)
400-499	San Antonio Abad (CSA)
500-599	Antilles High School (AHS)
600-699	Colegio Nstra. Sra. De Belén (BEL)
700-799	Colegio Marista (MAR)
800-899	Wesleyan Academy (WES)
900-999	Colegio San José (CSJ)
1000-1099	Antilles Military Academy (ANT)
1100-1199	Commonwealth High (COM)
1200-1299	Perpetuo Socorro (APS)
1300-1399	Baldwin School (BAL)
1400-1499	St. John's School (STJ)
1500-1599	Notre Dame (CND)
1600-1699	Palmas Academy (TPA)
1700-1799	TASIS School (TAS)
1800-1899	Robinson School (ROB)
1900-1999	Nstra. Sra. De La Providencia (PVD)
2000-2099	Dorado Academy (DOR)
2100-2199	Cupeyville School (CUP)
2200-2299	Bonneville School (BON)
2300-2399	Acad. María Reina (AMR)
2400-2499	Rosa-Bell (ROS)
2500-2599	Col. Beato CMR (BEA)
2600-2699	American Military Academy (AMA)

*Other schools will be assigned numbers as they join in Cross Country competition.*

E. Distance of the varsity boys' course shall be exactly 3.0 miles.

F. Distance of the junior varsity and girls' course shall be exactly 2.0 miles.

G. Distance of the junior high course shall be no more than 1.0 mile.

H. The site of the Alliance's Championship Tournament Meet will be mutually agreed upon by participating schools.

I. To qualify for participation in the Alliance championship meet a contestant must have competed in a preliminary test.

K. The International Rules will be used in all Cross Country meets.

**BY-LAW 26. REGULATIONS FOR TENNIS**

A. Current USTA rules will be used for all matches.

B. Competition will be conducted at the varsity level with boys and girls in grades 7-12 eligible.

C. Contestants may enter both singles and doubles events.

**BY-LAW 26. REGULATIONS FOR TENNIS (Cont.)**

**D.** For a dual meet season each competition shall consist of three (3) singles matches and one (1) doubles match.

1. *Pro set points will constitute the scoring system for each match.*
2. *The winning team will be the one that wins the most games.*

***In case of a tie in total games:***

- a) The winner will be the team that wins the most matches.
  - b) If a tie persists, the winner of the match between the first seeded rackets shall be declared the winner.
  3. Each team must provide two cans of new balls per meet.
  4. The matches must be played in the following order: 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> racket, followed by 3<sup>rd</sup> racket and doubles match.
  5. Failure to present competitors in any of the four (4) required matches will result in the forfeiture of the whole meet.
  6. Coaching will be allowed only during players court rotation between games.
  7. Each coach must present the (3) three single matches seeding and players before the start of the competition. Doubles match participants can be presented before the double match begins.
  8. Un-sportsmanlike conduct by a player(s) in a match will be sanctioned as follows:
    - a) First - a warning will be given
    - b) Second - a point will be taken away
    - c) Third - a game will be lost
    - d) Fourth - forfeiture of the match
  9. Unless mutually agreed, matches will start at 3:00 p.m. Warm-up should be prior to this time.
- E.** Team must wear same color shirt with school identification.

**BY-LAW 27. REGULATIONS FOR SOCCER**

**A.** FIFA rules will be used in all games with only the exceptions indicated in the By-Laws.

**B.** For junior varsity there will be two (2) twenty (20) minute halves with a five (5) minute break between halves. For varsity there will be two (2) thirty (30) minute halves with a five (5) minute break between halves.

**C.** Each team is allowed to make an unlimited number of substitutions. These substitutes may enter according to FIFA rules and are allowed to reenter.

**D.** The FIFA system of warnings and expulsions (red cards and yellow cards) is used by the Alliance and schools are expected to comply with sanctions voluntarily. In addition, all sanctions contained in the latest International Handbook of FIFA regulations shall be applied to violations by players and members of the coaching staff:

1. One red card will result in suspension from the next league competition.

**BY-LAW 27. REGULATIONS FOR SOCCER (cont.)**

2. Three yellow cards will result in suspension from the next league competition.

3. If an athlete has only one or two yellow cards at the beginning of the championship tournament the cards will be voided.

**E.** Coaching from the sidelines is permitted up to half field on the side where the team bench is located.

**F.** If the referee stops a game due to rain or other causes during the first half, the entire game will be replayed. Should he stop the game during the second half, the game will be resumed at the point of interruption on a mutually agreeable date unless the athletic directors of the involved schools agree to have the game considered final without its completion.

**G.** The home team is responsible for preparing the field with lines of non-toxic marking material, nets, goals, and approach corner markers by game time, or it will forfeit the match. The referee shall decide if the field is adequately prepared.

**H.** Each player listed on the line-up sheet must have a different numbered jersey.

**I.** Any student officially suspended from league competition should be so indicated on the line-up sheet.

**J.** The Alliance championship is determined by the number of points accumulated in Alliance competition according to standard FIFA practice.

**K.** The tournament's format will be decided by the coaches at the beginning of the season.

**L.** To be eligible for junior varsity competitions a student must be in the 7th, 8th or 9th grade and have not reached his 15th birthday by September 1st. of the current year and have not appeared on any varsity soccer roster.

**M.** The junior varsity contest will precede the varsity contest.

**N.** For all varsity contests a regulation #5 soccer ball will be used. For all junior varsity contests a regulation #5 soccer ball will be used.

**O.** Rosters (line-up) for each game will be submitted to the official on the official triplicate form before each game. Failure to do so will result in forfeit. ***"A student who has not been included in the triplicate form final sheet provided by the league will not be allowed to play once the game commences. The maximum amount of players dressed in uniform at any given time shall not exceed nineteen (19). Violation of this rule will result in forfeit against the school at fault"***.

**BY-LAW 28. REGULATIONS FOR FUTSAL**

**A.** FIFA Rules will be used in all games with the following exceptions:

1. Each team is allowed to make an unlimited number of substitutions. These substitutes may enter only with official permission and according to FIFUSA rules.

2. There will be two (2) twenty (20) minute halves with a ten (10) minute break between halves.

**BY-LAW 28. REGULATIONS FOR FUTSAL (cont.)**

3. At each end of the court, a semi circle with a 19'9" radius will be drawn from a point at the center of the goal line (end line) towards the inside of the court. This semi-circle will constitute the penalty area.

4. A kick-in is a method of re-starting play. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in.

**A) A kick-in shall be awarded:**

1. When the whole of the ball passes over the touch line, either along the ground or through the air, or hits the ceiling.

2. Shall be taken from the point where it crossed the touch line.

3. Shall be awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball

4. The ball shall remain on the touch line and may be kicked onto the pitch in any direction.

**B) The player taking the kick-in:**

1. Shall have part of one foot on the touch line or off the pitch at the moment he/she takes the kick-in.

2. Shall do so within four (4) seconds of receiving the ball.

3. May not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player.

The ball shall be deemed in play as soon as it enters the pitch.

The players of the defending team:

a) Shall be at least four (4) meters from the place where the kick-in is taken.

4. A corner kick is a method of restarting play.

a) A corner kick shall be awarded when the whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the defending team, passes over the goal line (end line) either on the ground or through the air and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 11.

b) A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.

c) The ball shall be placed inside the corner arc at the nearest corner.

d) The opponents shall remain at least four (4) meters away from the corner arc until the ball is in play.

e) The ball shall be kicked by a member of the attacking team.

f) The ball shall be deemed in play from the moment it is played and set in motion.

g) The kicker may not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player.

h) The player taking the corner-kick shall have part of one foot on the line where the touch line (side line) and goal line (end line) meet.

5. An indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team if:

a) The player taking the corner kick plays the ball a second time before it has touched another player. The indirect free kick shall be taken from the place where the infringement occurred.



**BY-LAW 28. REGULATIONS FOR FUTSAL (cont.)**

b) The corner kick is not carried out within four (4) seconds from the time the player taking the kick takes possession of the ball. The indirect free kick shall be taken from the corner arc.

c) For any other infringement the corner kick shall be retaken.

**6.** During a kick-off (start of match, after a goal, at the start of the second half, at the start of the extra period) no player may deliberately aim and kick the ball at the opponent's head or body. The player will be cautioned or sent off. Play will be restarted with a direct kick by the opposing team.

**7.** The teams are entitled to request two (2) time-outs per half. A team that does not request one or two time-outs during the first half of the match is still entitled to two time-outs in the second half. Each time-out will have duration of one (1) minute (**FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game 2005, Law 8: The teams are entitled to request a one (1) minute time-out in each half**).

**B.** The FIFA system of warnings and expulsions (red and yellow cards) is used by the Alliance and schools are expected to comply with sanctions voluntarily. In addition, all sanctions contained in the latest International Handbook of Indoor Soccer by FIFA regulations shall be applied to violations by players and members of the coaching staff:

**1.** One red card will result in suspension from the next league competition.

**2.** Two yellow cards will result in suspension from the next league competition.

**3.** If an athlete has only one yellow card at the beginning of the championship tournament the card will be voided.

**C.** An official adult timer/scorer will be furnished by the home school.

**D.** Two game officials (referee and umpire) will be required for competition and paid by the home school.

**E.** Each team will be permitted a maximum of twelve (12) players and a Minimum of five (5) to start the game. Coaches may designate five (5) starters and seven (7) substitutes on the line-up sheet and cannot use any student not listed on the line-up sheet.

**F.** Each player listed on the line-up sheet must have a different numbered jersey.

**G.** The Alliance championship is determined by the number of points accumulated in the league according to standard rules (win=3 points, loss=0 points, tie=1 point)

**H.** The championship's tournament format will be decided by the coaches at the beginning of the season.

**I.** An all-star game will be scheduled to take place.

**J.** All rules are governed by FIFA's regulation. (Thus, the word "FIFUSA" will be changed or substituted to read "FIFA".) **Ball size: for all contests a regulation size number #4 ball, low bounce will be used.**

## **BY-LAW 29. REGULATIONS FOR GOLF**

### **A. Basic Rules**

1. Each team will consist of five (5) players listed on the eligibility roster during the competition. The team's final score shall be determined by totaling the scores of the five (5) players with the fewest strokes.
2. All tournaments will be governed by the USGA Rules.
3. Stroke or Medal play will be in effect. This simply means that each player will count every stroke during the competition. There will be no handicap.
4. The competition will consist of eighteen (18) holes.
5. The golf season will consist of no less than three (3) regular season tournaments and a final Championship Tournament.
6. No team or individual entry will be permitted to compete in any tournament unless accompanied by a coach or school representative. Teams or individuals unaccompanied will NOT be allowed to play. The school representative must be present throughout the competition.
7. Coaches will assist the Commissioner in shuttling players to the different starting holes and in the scoring tournaments.
8. Results will be emailed to the coaches and posted on the PRHSAA Web page.

### **B. Team Participation**

1. Any school may participate with three (3) or less players; however, they will not be eligible for any team championship.
2. All schools must compete in the required amount of season tournaments established before the final schedule.
3. **TEAM SCORING:** Each team will combine all four (4) players scores, which will make up their team score for that competition.

#### **a) EXAMPLE:** Antilles High School

Player #1. 85  
Player #2. 95  
Player #3. 105  
Player #4. 100

Player #5. 112\* \*=Score eliminated for being the highest. The score  
**TOTAL:385** is eliminated from the team total not from the individual's for All-Star criteria.

4. **DISQUALIFICATIONS:** Any player who stops playing during a competition will be disqualified and could possibly disqualify his/her team. This is very serious offense, since it could possibly not allow the team to be eligible for any team championship.

### **C. Season Championship:**

1. The season tournament results will be based on four (4) competitions but no less than three (3) competitions.

**BY-LAW 29. REGULATIONS FOR GOLF... (cont.)**

2. The Low Scoring system will be used throughout the regular season.

a) *EXAMPLE:* Antilles High School

1<sup>st</sup> Competition (1<sup>st</sup>. Place) = 1 point  
2<sup>nd</sup> Competition (3<sup>rd</sup>. Place) = 3 points  
3<sup>rd</sup> Competition (1<sup>st</sup>. Place) = 1 point  
4<sup>th</sup> Competition (1<sup>st</sup>. Place) =  $\frac{1}{6}$  point  
TOTAL Points: 6

**NOTE:**

***In order to compete as a team you need four (4) players in every competition, however, schools without a complete team (3 or less players) may compete for individual awards (all-star, all-alliance and medals)***

3. The two teams with the lowest combined team scores will be awarded a 1<sup>st</sup> place and a 2<sup>nd</sup> place plaque/trophy.

4. Ties - to break a tie between two (2) or more schools, the lowest individual score for that team in that round will be compared with the similar lowest score of the team involved in the tie. In case of a continued tie we will go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest individual scores of the teams involved.

**D. Final Tournament:**

1. The top six (6) teams from the regular season standings will be the teams that qualify to compete in the final Championship Tournament.

2. To be eligible to play in the final tournament as a team, you need to compete in the required amount of season matches established before the final schedule.

3. Championship Final Tournament teams will consist of only **four (4) players.**

4. To be eligible to compete in the final tournament as an individual you need to have competed in the required amount of season tournaments established before the final schedule, and be one of the top ten (10) players that are not competing with a complete team. No school may present in the championship tournament both a complete team of four (4) players and individual competitors.

5. This competition will be composed of team and individual awards.

6. **TEAM SCORING:** The two (2) top teams with the lowest combined scores will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place plaques/trophy.

7. **INDIVIDUAL MEDALS:** Medals will be awarded to the top ten (10) scores of the championship tournament.

**E. All-Star Criteria:**

1. Top sixteen (16) golfers will be selected.

2. Each golfer must compete in the required amount of season competitions to be eligible.

3. An accumulation of these scores will determine their ranking.

4. All-Star selection has nothing to do with Final Tournament.

**BY-LAW 29: REGULATIONS FOR GOLF (cont.)**

5. An All-Star Polo shirt will be awarded.
6. The amount of All-Star selections could be adjusted based on player participation.

**F. All-Alliance Criteria:**

1. Top eight (8) golfers will be selected.
2. Each golfer must compete in the required amount of season competitions to be eligible.
3. An accumulation of these scores will determine their ranking.
4. All-Alliance selections have nothing to do with the Final Tournament.
5. Each golfer will receive a Certificate.
6. The amount of All-Alliance selections could be adjusted based on the amount of participating teams that season.

**G.** All participants will walk the course carrying or pulling (nonelectric golf cart) their own equipment.

**H.** The use of cellular phones by players during the competition is prohibited. They must be turned off. They will only be authorized in case of an emergency.

**I.** All participants will tee off at the same tee.

**J.** There will be no coaching during the competition by School Staff, Parents and/or Individual Instructors.

**K.** Team must wear same color polo shirts with school identification. Pants should conform to proper golf attire code.

**L.** A maximum of eight (8) strokes per hole will be in effect.

**M.** Range finders are permitted as long as they only measure distance and not slope or wind conditions.

**N.** A tournament committee will be established consisting of the following: League Commissioner, Rules Official, host course pro/manager.

**O.** Spectators are permitted, but are not permitted to converse with participants and must stay at a distance of 30 yards away from any player.

**BY-LAW 30. REGULATIONS FOR JUNIOR HIGH SPORTS**

**A.** For the purpose of this By-Law, junior high is defined to mean 7<sup>th</sup> and 8th grade. No student may participate in junior high sports who are in the 9th grade or who has reached his 14th birthday prior to the first of September.

**B.** No student may participate in a junior high sport if he has been listed on the varsity or junior varsity roster for that same sport.

**C.** Junior high sports will be governed by all those regulations which apply to other Alliance competition.

**D.** Regulations for particular sports will be the same as those elsewhere provided in these By-Laws (at the junior varsity level, where a sport is provided for at that level) unless otherwise agreed to in advance by all schools competing in a particular sport.

### **BY-LAW 31. SPORTS SEASONS**

**A.** The following dates will determine the seasons of the individual sports:

1. September 1 - December 1: for Football, Volleyball, Golf, Male's Soccer and Cross-Country.

2. December 1 - March 1: for Basketball, Wrestling, Tennis, Swimming and Female's Soccer.

3. March 1 - May 11: for Baseball, Softball, Track & Field, and Futsal.

**B.** For convenience of scheduling, the above-mentioned dates may be altered by a maximum number of six (6) days by the commissioner of the particular sport.

**C.** The above mentioned dates may be altered by the council.

### **BY-LAW 32. RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF DIVISIONS**

**A.** Divisions shall be created on the basis of school enrollment. Exception to this rule should be requested to the Executive Committee.

**B.** Enrollment will be defined as students enrolled on the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Friday of August. Such enrollment will be reported as two figures:

- 1) number of boys enrolled, and
- 2) number of girls enrolled.

**C.** A statement of enrollment will be signed by each school principal and delivered to the president at the spring meeting.

**D.** In grades 9-12 divisions in boys' varsity and junior varsity sports will be based on male enrollment and divisions in girls' varsity and junior varsity sports will be based on female enrollment in grades 9-12.

#### **Divisions in junior high sports will be based on enrollment in 7th and 8th grades.**

**E.** No division shall be created with fewer than five competing schools without approval from the Executive and Evaluation Committee.

**F.** In volleyball, basketball, **indoor and outdoor soccer, tennis**, baseball and softball, varsity schedules will be constructed so that each team plays no fewer than 10 games during the regular season.

### **BY-LAW 33. INFRACTIONS AND SANCTIONS**

**A.** Willful disregard of the rules set down in the Constitution and the By-Laws of the Alliance and willful disregard of the rules set down by the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations and other rules recognized for Alliance competition will result in sanctions against individuals, teams and/or schools. These sanctions will be determined by the Alliance Council; under the direction of the president unless otherwise specified.

**B.** Certain automatic sanctions and penalties for infractions of the By-Laws of the Alliance are set out elsewhere in these By-Laws. They include:

1. A fine of \$100.00 per roster for failure to submit eligibility rosters to the Alliance office at least seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled contest in a category and the forfeiture of any contests scheduled to be played prior to the receipt of said roster. (*By-Law 9 B*).

2. A fine of \$100.00 per schedule for failure to submit signed schedules to the Alliance office at least seven (7) days prior to the

**BY-LAW 33: INFRACTIONS AND SANCTIONS (cont.)**

first scheduled contest in a category and the forfeiture of any contests scheduled to be played prior to the submission of said schedule. (By-Law 9F).

3. A fine of \$100.00 per team for withdrawal from a sport before the publication of the final schedule after a school has been included in the tentative schedule. (By-Law 9 G).

4. A fine of \$300.00 per team for withdrawal from a sport before the first scheduled game or contest after a school has been included in the final schedule. (By-Law 9 G).

5. A fine of \$100.00 per game or contest for each game or contest remaining for withdrawing from a sport after the first scheduled game or contest has been played. (By-Law 9G).

6. A fine of not more than \$300 against the school when the Council, upon recommendation of the president and the Executive and Evaluation

(6)Committee, judges a school guilty of a first offense of professional recruitment and/or proselytizing. (By-Law 10 C).

7. A fine of not more than \$500 against the school when the Council, upon recommendation of the president and the Executive and Evaluation Committee, judges a school guilty of a second offense of professional recruitment and/or proselytizing. (By-Law 10 C).

8. A letter of reprimand to the coach or member of the athletic department when the Council, upon recommendation of the president and the Executive and Evaluation Committee, judges a coach or member of the athletic department of any member institution guilty of a first offense of professional recruitment and/or proselytizing. (By-Law 10 D).

9. A one year suspension from Alliance participation of the coach or member of the athletic department when the Council, upon recommendation of the president and the Executive and

10. Evaluation Committee, judges a coach or member of the athletic department of any member institution guilty of a second offense of professional recruitment and/or proselytizing. (By-Law 10 D).

11. A letter of reprimand to the administrative head or designated administrator when the Council, upon recommendation of the president and the Executive and Evaluation Committee, judges an administrative head or designated administrator of any member institution guilty of a first offense of professional recruitment and/or proselytizing. (By-Law 10 E).

12. A one year suspension from Alliance participation of the administrative head or designated administrator when the Council, upon recommendation of the president and the Executive and Evaluation Committee, judges an administrative head or designated administrator of any member institution guilty of a second offense of professional recruitment and/or proselytizing. (By-Law 10 E).

13. One year's ineligibility for participation in all Alliance competition from the date of the infraction for an athlete who participates in all-star competition not sanctioned by the Alliance. (By-Law 11 E).

14. A fine of \$100 for failure to submit the signed report of tournament participation to the Alliance office, no later than seven days after the end of each season.

**BY-LAW 33: INFRACTIONS AND SANCTIONS (cont.)**

15. A one game suspension from the next league competition will result for the expulsion of a player or member of the coaching staff from a league competition. **A coach under suspension shall not be allowed to be present at the site when the suspension is taking place. Violation of this rule will result in the forfeit of the game against the school at fault.**

16. **Any suspension or sanction determined by the Executive Committee will be effective at the moment of any oral or written communication with the school.**

**C.** Failure to pay dues, fines, special assessments and/or other fees within thirty (30) days of receipt of notification will result in a fine of ten (10%) percent per month on the amount of dues, fines, special assessments and/or other fees. Any part of a month will constitute a full month. Failure to meet financial obligations may result in the Executive and Evaluation Committee recommending a school's probation or suspension to the Council.

**D.** If, by decision of the Executive and Evaluation Committee or Protest Committee, a school is determined to have refused to play a game, or to have forfeited a game or contest by decision of the officials, or to have forfeited a game or contest under the circumstances specified in *By-Law 9 B, By-Law 9 C, By-Law 11 P, By-Law 12 D and/or By-Law 3 G (4)*, the school in violation will be fined \$100.00.

**E.** The following shall be considered serious infractions of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Alliance:

1. Physical aggression against a referee.
2. Violation of player eligibility regulations as outlined in *By-Law 10A-0*
3. Failure of the home school to exercise control of spectators and/or failure of visiting or participating schools to exercise control of team followers when such failure of control results in interference with the normal progress of a contest or game.
4. Failure of a visiting team and/or team followers to honor the standards of good conduct of the host school.
5. Failure of team members to observe standards of good sportsmanship and conduct before, during or after an athletic contest.
6. Absence of a member school's representation from an official Alliance council meeting.
7. Absence of a full-time faculty or administration member from an official Alliance contest or competition.
8. Participation of a suspended athlete or coach in an official Alliance contest or competition.

**F.** If, by decision of the Executive and Evaluation Committee, an individual is judged guilty of the infraction contemplated in *By-Law 33 E (1)*, he shall at least be suspended from all Alliance competition for one calendar year from the date of the occurrence. This sanction will be imposed without prejudice to the Executive and Evaluation Committee's competence to impose other penalties and/or sanctions under the powers granted to it in *By-Law 33 G*, and/or the Council's competence to impose other penalties and/or sanctions under the powers granted to it in *By-Law 33 A*, should such penalties or sanctions be considered necessary or appropriate.

**BY-LAW 33: INFRACTIONS AND SANCTIONS (cont.)**

**G.** If, upon investigation and decision of the Executive and Evaluation Committee, a school, team, coach, athlete, team follower and/or spectator should be judged guilty of any of the serious infractions contemplated in By-Law 33 E:

1. A school may be subject to censure and/or fines. Removal of censure will require compliance with the recommendations of the Executive and Evaluation Committee. In addition, the Executive and Evaluation Committee may recommend to the council that a school's entire athletic program be placed on probation or that the school be suspended from the Alliance.

2. An athletic director, coach and/or member of a team's personnel may be subject to censure, fines, probation and/or suspension.

3. A team and/or student athlete may be subject to censure, probation and/or suspension.

4. The game or contest during which the infraction occurred will be forfeited if won by the violating school.

5. During the appeal process the decision of the Executive Committee will remain in effect.

**H.** Probation of a school's entire athletic program and/or suspension from Alliance activities can be decided only by the Alliance Council:

1. Upon recommendation of the Executive and Evaluation Committee or motion at a Council meeting, a school may be considered for probation or suspension.

2. Probation will be for a minimum of one year and makes a school ineligible for all trophies, awards and participation in championship tournaments. Individual athletes remain eligible for individual awards and recognition including participation in post season tournaments in cross-country, golf, swimming and track & field.

3. Suspension results in loss of membership. After a full year of suspension, a school can apply for probationary membership.

**BY-LAW 34. TROPHIES AND AWARDS**

**A.** A standardized regular season championship trophy will be awarded for all Jr. Varsity, Varsity and Jr. High team sports. This trophy will be retained by the winning school. Also, a second place trophy per division will be awarded in all varsity, junior varsity and junior high sports at the end of the regular season.

**B.** An individual trophy will be awarded to the highest scorer in the track and field championship tournament. An individual trophy will be given to the best Varsity, Jr. Varsity and Jr. High runners, based on participation in all cross country tournament meet and the championship meet. Simplified results addition method (low score wins) will be used and one throw-out race is allowed to protect all athletes from specific situation that otherwise would affect the runner.

**C.** Individual certificates will be given to each all-alliance selection in volleyball, football, basketball, softball, soccer, indoor soccer, baseball **and bowling**. These certificates shall bear the signature of the Alliance president and the commissioner of that sport.



**BY-LAW 34: TROPHIES AND AWARDS (cont.)**

D. *Individual all-tournament certificate* awards for cross-country will be given to the top seven (7) performers in each varsity category. This will be determined by performance in all regular season meets as certified by the commissioner. Simplified results addition method (low score wins) will be used and one throw-out race is allowed to protect all athletes from any specific situation that otherwise would affect the runner.

E. *Individual awards* will be given to the first twenty-five (25) finishers of Jr. Varsity and Jr. High divisions in the cross-country championships.

1. Individual awards for places 1-3 and ribbons for places 4-5 will be given at the Varsity and Jr. Varsity team levels at the track and field championship tournament, including relay races.

2. Individual awards for places 1-3 and ribbons for places 4-5 will be given at the Varsity and Jr. Varsity team levels at the swimming tournament.

3. Individual awards will be given for places 1-3 for the Varsity wrestling championship tournament. Ribbons will be awarded to the top three places in the Jr. Varsity championship wrestling tournament.

4. Individual awards will be given to the top three (3) finishers in each flight (championship, first and second) in the golf championship tournament.

5. Individual awards will be given to championship tournament winners in boys and girls tennis.

**6. Individual awards will be given to the first eight (8) positions during bowling's regular season.**

**7. All-Alliance certificates will be awarded to the first five (5) positions in All-star competitions.**

F. In the case of first place ties, duplicate awards will be presented and no second place award will be presented.

**G. First (1st) and second (2nd) place awards will be given in all tournaments.**

H. Season championship in each sport will be awarded on the basis of team record.

I. For football, a most valuable player of the Alliance will be selected by the coaches. In addition, they will select a most valuable offensive lineman and a most valuable offensive back. **These students will be presented a certificate.**

J. All athletes and coaches participating in Alliance all-star competition shall receive an all-star t-shirt.

**BY-LAW 35. SPORTSMANSHIP TROPHY**

A. The annual traveling *JOSE MADERA SPORTSMANSHIP TROPHY* will be awarded to that school whose school community manifested qualities of sportsmanship in the current scholastic year. The school community includes athletes and teams, spectators, students, personnel, parents, and other persons and groups identified with the school or its program.

**B.** The winner of the trophy will be determined by vote of the Alliance Council at the last meeting of the year. In the event that no school receives a majority of the votes, a second vote will be taken among the three schools receiving the greatest number of votes. If a second vote is needed, a plurality of votes will determine the winner of the trophy.

**C.** The following criteria will be used, at the discretion of each voting member, in considering candidates for the trophy:

1. Positive participation and effective control of players, teams, spectators, personnel, and all other groups and persons representing the school.

2. Demonstrated respect for the person and authority of sport officials, league representatives, and school personnel.

3. Conduct, language, and attitudes consistent with the stated Alliance philosophy and the educational nature of interscholastic competition.

4. Recommendations accompanied by supporting statements from officials' organizations and sport commissioners.

5. School's support for and contribution to the Alliance.

**D.** Schools whose program(s), personnel or students) have been subjected to disciplinary action by the Council or Executive and Evaluation Committee during the current school year will not be eligible for the trophy.

**E.** Schools which are on disciplinary probation will not be eligible for the trophy.

#### **BY LAW 36. ALL-ALLIANCE AND OTHER INDIVIDUAL SELECTIONS**

**A.** All-alliance selections will be made in volleyball, football, basketball, soccer, softball, baseball, and indoor-soccer the weekend of the termination of the scheduled games of the respective sport.

1. Schools which do not submit either all-alliance or all-star nominations or do not indicate a response that they have no nominations shall not vote for these selections.

2. Schools which do not vote for all-alliance or all-star selections shall have their nominees dropped from the list of nominations.

**B.** All-alliance selections will be made in the following manner:

1. Each coach or athletic director will nominate players of his team for all-alliance honors.

2. Each coach or athletic director will then vote by preference for nominees and/or non-nominees, not of his school, making a selection providing:

**a)** for football, of three (3) backs, two (2) ends, two (2) guards, and one (1) center for the offense; and four (4) backs, two (2) ends, and two (2) guards for the defense.

**b)** for baseball, of four (4) outfielders, five (5) infielders, two (2) pitchers, and two (2) catchers per division.

**c)** for basketball, of ten (10) players per division.

**d)** for volleyball, of eight (8) players per division.

**e)** for softball, of thirteen (13) players per division.

**BY LAW 36. ALL-ALLIANCE AND OTHER INDIVIDUAL SELECTIONS (Cont.)**

- f) for soccer, of twelve (12) players per division: one (1) goalie, four (4) defense men, three (3) midfielders, and four (4) strikers per division.
- g) for indoor soccer, of eight (8) players per division.

3. The number of all-alliance selections for each sport will be as outlined in a-g above.

4. Points by preference will be calculated for each position or division as outlined in a-g above in the following manner: one point for last choice, two points for second from last choice, three points for third from last choice, etc.

5. If a tie results for the last berth of any position or division, a revote will be taken for that berth.

6. By unanimous opinion of the coaches, or their representative, an additional player, or players, may be chosen for all alliance selection.

**C.** The best wrestler selection will be made by the coaches of teams participating in that sport.

1. Each team will have one vote for a wrestler not of the same team.

2. If a tie results, the referees will have one collective vote to resolve the tie.

**D.** The track and field high scoring varsity and junior varsity male and female selections will be made based on the total points won by the individual at the Alliance Championship Meet. If a tie results, duplicate awards will be made.

**E.** Varsity all-star team selections shall be made in the following manner: Volleyball - 12 players/division (20 if only one) Soccer - 18 players/division (30 if only one) Football - 22 players Basketball - 12 players per division Baseball - 18 players per division Softball - 18 players per division Indoor Soccer-12 players per division (24 if only one)

**BY-LAW 37. MATTERS NOT COVERED**

*On any matter not covered by this Constitution and By-Laws, the Council may take any action that it deems in the best interest of the Alliance and/or in the best interests of athletic competition.*

**BY-LAW 38. AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

**A.** These By-Laws may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Council members present, provided that the proposed amendment be presented to the members of the Council in writing by way of the president, at least thirty (30) days prior to the MAY meeting, at which the proposed amendment will be considered.

**B.** Amendments to the By-Laws shall go into effect immediately on approval by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the Council members present at the January meeting.

## **BY-LAW 39. APPEALS COMMITTEE OF THE PRHSAA**

### **A) General Provisions**

#### **R-1 Application of the Rules**

These Procedural Rules apply whenever the parties have agreed to refer a sports-related dispute to the Appeals Committee of the Puerto Rico High School Athletic Alliance. Such disputes involve an appeal against a decision given by the Executive Committee of the PRHSAA with regards to Disciplinary, Individual Sanctions and Eligibility Rules exclusively.

Such disputes may involve activity related or connected to rules and/or procedures of the PRHSAA and its school members. Nevertheless, this Committee of Appeals does not have jurisdiction over the subject matter addressed in By Law Number 16 of the Constitution of the PRHSAA.

#### **R-2 Language**

The AC-PRHSAA working languages are Spanish and English. In the absence of agreement between the parties, and taking into account all pertinent circumstances, the President of the Committee shall select one of these two languages as the language of the arbitration at the start of the proceedings before the Committee.

#### **R-3 Representation and Assistance**

The parties (member schools) may be represented or assisted by persons of their choice. The names, addresses, telephone and facsimile numbers of the persons representing the parties (i.e. School Administrator, Director of the Athletic Department and/or a Full/Time member of said Department) shall be communicated to the PRHSAA Office, the other party and the Committee after its formation.

#### **R-4 Notifications and Communications**

All notifications and communications that the AC-PRHSAA or the Panel intend for the parties shall be made through the PRHSAA. The notifications and communications shall be written in Spanish or in English and sent to the address shown in the statement of appeal, or to any other address specified at a later date. All decisions and/or orders made by the AC-PRHSAA and the Committee shall be notified by any means permitting proof of Committee.

All communications from the parties intended for the AC-PRHSAA or the Committee, including statement of appeal, as well as the reply shall be sent to the PRHSAA in as many copies as there are parties and committee members, together with one additional copy for the PRHSAA itself.

#### **R-5 Time-limit**

Upon application on justified grounds, either the President of the Committee or, failing him, the President PRHSAA may extend the time-limits provided in these Procedural Rules, if the circumstances so warrant.

#### **R-6 Independence and Qualifications of Members of the Appeals Committee**

Every member of the AC-PRHSAA shall be and remain independent of the parties and shall immediately disclose any circumstances likely to affect independence with respect to any of the parties. Every member of the AC-PRHSAA shall appear on the list drawn up by the Executive Committee of the PRHSAA shall have the availability required to expeditiously complete the appeal.

**BY-LAW 39. APPEALS COMMITTEE OF THE PRHSAA (Cont.)**

The Executive Committee of PRHSAA shall appoint yearly a permanent Panel of no less than three (3) committee members and two (2) alternates to form the AC-PRHSAA for that school year.

**R-7 Challenge**

A committee member may be challenged if the circumstances give rise to legitimate doubts over his/independence. The challenge shall be brought immediately after the ground for the challenge has become known. The challenge shall be brought by way of a petition setting forth the facts giving rise to the challenge. The Executive Committee of the PRHSAA shall rule on the challenge after the other parties, the challenged committee member and the other members have been invited to submit written comments.

**R-8 Removal**

A committee member may be removed by the Executive Committee of the PRHSAA if he or she refuses to or is prevented from carrying out his duties.

**R-9 Replacement**

In the event of resignation, death, challenge or removal of a committee member, such member shall be replaced by the Executive Committee of the PRHSAA. The proceedings shall continue without repetition of the procedure which took place prior to the replacement.

**R-10 Provisional Measures**

No party may apply for provisional/equitable or conservatory measures under these Procedural Rules before the statement of appeal, which implies the exhaustion of internal remedies, has been filed according to the statutes of the PRHSAA.

In agreeing to submit to these Procedural Rules any dispute subject to the appeal proceedings, the parties expressly waive their rights to request such measures from state authorities.

**R-11 Expedited Procedure**

With the consent of the parties, the AC-PRHSAA may proceed in an expedited manner for which it shall issue appropriate directions.

**R-12 Law Applicable to the Merits**

The AC-PRHSAA shall decide the dispute according to the laws of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

**R-13 Decision**

The decision shall be made by a majority vote. The decision shall be written, dated and signed by the Chairperson of the Committee. The decision shall be final and binding upon the parties. It may not be challenged by way of an action for setting aside the decision.

**B) Special Provisions Applicable to the Appeal Proceedings**

**Proceedings:**

**R-14 Appeal**

A party may appeal from the decision of the Executive Committee PRHSAA, insofar as the statutes or regulations of the said body so provide with regards to the rules of eligibility and disciplinary actions taken by the Executive Committee, in which the penalty/sanctions rendered by the

**BY-LAW 39. APPEALS COMMITTEE OF THE PRHSAA (Cont.)**

Executive Committee includes suspension of a student/player of two (2) or more games and insofar as the appellant has exhausted the remedies available prior to the appeal, in accordance with the statutes or regulations of said sports body.

**R-15 Statement of Appeal**

The appellant shall submit to the AC - PRHSAA a statement of appeal containing:

- a brief statement of the facts and legal arguments on which the application is based;
- a copy of the decision appealed from where applicable;
- the appellant's request for relief;
- if applicable, an application to stay the execution of the decision appealed from, together with reasons.
- a copy of the provisions of the statutes or regulations providing for appeal to the AC-PRHSAA.

Upon filing the appeal, the School Member shall pay the fee of **\$300.00** non refundable.

**B) Special Provisions Applicable to the Appeal Proceedings (Cont.)**

**Proceedings:**

**R-16 Time-limit for Appeal and Documents**

The time limit for appeal shall be seven (7) days from the communication of the decision which is appealed from. The appellant shall file with the AC-PRHSAA a brief stating the facts and legal arguments giving rise to the appeal, together with all the exhibits and specification of other evidence upon which intends to rely on. Failing to comply, as such, the appeal shall be deemed withdrawn.

**R-17 Number of Committee Members for the Appeal**

The appeal shall be submitted to a Committee of three (3) members, except if the appellant establishes at the time of the statement of appeal that the parties have agreed to a Committee composed of a sole arbitrator or if the President of the PRHSAA considers that the matter is an emergency and the appeal should be submitted to a sole arbitrator.

**R-18 Answer of Respondent**

Within seven working days from the receipt of the grounds for the appeal, the respondent shall submit to the AC-PRHSAA an answer containing:

- a statement of defense;
- any defense of lack of jurisdiction;
- any exhibits or specification of other evidence upon which the respondent intends to rely.

**R-19 Statement of Appeal and Answer Complete**

Unless the parties agree otherwise or the Executive Committee of the PRHSAA orders otherwise on the basis of exceptional circumstances, the parties shall not be authorized to supplement their argumentation, nor to produce new exhibits, nor to specify further evidence on which they intend to rely after the submission of the grounds for the appeal and of the answer.

**BY-LAW 39. APPEALS COMMITTEE OF THE PRHSAA (Cont.)**

**B) Special Provisions Applicable to the Appeal Proceedings (cont.)**

**R-20 Scope of Panel's Review, Hearing**

The AC-PRHSAA shall have full power to review the facts and the law. Upon transfer of the file, the President of the Appeals Committee shall issue directions in connection with the hearing for the examination of the parties, the witnesses if necessary, as well as for the oral arguments. He may also request any other communication of the file of the disciplinary tribunal or similar body, the decision of which is subject to appeal.

**R-21 Law Applicable**

The Panel shall decide the dispute according to the applicable rules & regulations of the PRHSAA and the rules of law of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

**R-22 Decision**

The decision shall be rendered by a majority vote, or in the absence of a majority, by the President of the Committee alone. It shall be written, dated and signed. The decision shall state brief reasons. The signature of the President shall suffice. The AC-PRHSAA may decide to communicate the decision to the parties, prior to the reasons. The decision shall be final from such written communication.

The decision shall be final and binding upon the parties. It may not be challenged by way of an action for setting aside the decision because the parties expressly excluded all setting aside proceedings by agreeing to this Procedural Rules or in an agreement entered into subsequently, in particular at the outset of the appeal.

The decision shall be communicated to the parties within ten (10) working days after the filing of the answer of respondent such time-limit may be extended by the Executive Committee of the PRHSAA upon a motivated request from the President of the Appeals Committee. The decision or a summary setting forth the results of the proceedings shall be filed with the PRHSAA.

**The decision shall become effective immediately.**

**BY-LAW 40: PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES**

**A. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

*The Alliance and the activities of its members shall promote equity in competition to assure that individual student-athletes and its schools will not be prevented unfairly from achieving the benefits inherent with high school athletics.*

*Eligibility requirements shall be designed to assure proper emphasis on educational objectives, to promote competitive equity among schools and to prevent exploitation of student-athletes.*

*Student-athletes shall be amateurs, and their participation should be motivated primarily by education and by the physical, mental and social benefits to be derived. Student participation in high school athletics is a pastime and a privilege, and student-athletes should be protected from exploitation and unfair competition.*

**BY-LAW 40: PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES (Cont.)**

**1. Eligibility for Interscholastic Athletics.**

Only an amateur student-athlete is eligible to participate in any and all PRHSAA athletic competition.

**2. Demarcation.**

Member schools' athletics programs are designed to be an integral part of the educational program. The student-athlete is considered an integral part of the student body, thus maintaining a clear line of demarcation between high school athletics and professional sports.

**3. Permissible Grant-in-Aid.**

A grant-in-aid administered by a member school is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations.

**B. DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATIONS**

**1. Pay**

Pay is the receipt or acceptance of any compensation (monetary or otherwise), awards or benefits in exchange for participation in any athletic event.

**2. Professional Athlete**

A professional athlete is one who receives any kind of compensation (monetary or otherwise), directly or indirectly, in exchange for participation in any athletic event, except as permitted by PRHSAA rules and regulations.

**3. Professional Athletics Team**

A professional team is any organized team that:

(a) Provides any of its players more than actual and necessary expenses for participation on the team, except as otherwise permitted by this legislation. Actual and necessary expenses are limited to the following, provided the value of these items is commensurate with the fair market value in the locality of the player(s) and is not excessive in nature:

- (1) Meals directly tied to competition and practice held in preparation for such competition;
- (2) Lodging directly tied to competition and practice held in preparation for such competition;
- (3) Apparel, equipment and supplies;
- (4) Coaching and instruction;
- (5) Health/medical insurance;
- (6) Transportation (expenses to and from practice competition, cost of transportation from home to training/practice site at the beginning of the season and from training/practice site to home at the end of season);
- (7) Medical treatment and physical therapy;
- (8) Facility usage;
- (9) Entry fees; and
- (10) Other reasonable expenses; or
- (11) Declares himself/herself to be professional.

**4. Institutional Responsibilities**

If a member school receives any information or otherwise has cause to believe that a student-athlete's amateur status has been jeopardized, the



## **BY-LAW 40: PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES (Cont.)**

institution is responsible for promptly notifying the PRHSAA Executive Committee.

### **5. Amateur Status**

An individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for competition if the individual:

- (a) Uses his or her athletics skill (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form;
- (b) Accepts a promise of pay even if such pay is to be received following completion of high school athletic participation; (c) Signs a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics, regardless of its legal enforceability or any consideration received;
- (d) Receives, directly or indirectly, a salary, reimbursement of expenses or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization based on athletic skill or participation, except as permitted by PRHSAA rules and regulations;
- (e) Competes on any professional athletic team per Bylaw II 3 even if no pay or remuneration for expenses was received;
- (f) Enters into a professional draft;
- (g) Enters into any agreement with an agent.

### **6. Exception for Training Expenses.**

An individual ( student-athlete) may receive actual and necessary expenses [including grants but not prize money, whereby the recipient has qualified for the grant based on his or her performance in a specific event(s)] to cover developmental training, coaching, facility usage, equipment, apparel, supplies, comprehensive health insurance, travel, room and board without jeopardizing the individual's eligibility for high school athletics, provided such expenses are approved and provided directly by a National Olympic Committee, or a International Sport Federation, recognized as such, by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

### **7. Competition against Professionals.**

A student-athlete may participate individually or as a member of an amateur team against professional athletes or professional teams, without jeopardizing his/her amateur eligibility.

### **8. Competition with Professionals**

An individual shall not be eligible for any PRHSAA athletic competition, in a specific sport, if the individual has ever competed on a professional team, in that sport (per Bylaw II 3)

### **9. Professional Coach or Referee.**

Participation on a team that includes a professional coach or referee does not cause the team to be classified as a professional team.

### **10. Exception—Olympic/National Teams.**

It is permissible for an individual (student-athletes) to participate on Olympic or national teams that are competing for prize money or are being compensated by the governing body to participate in a specific event, provided the student-athlete does not accept prize money or any other compensation (other than actual and necessary expenses).

**BY-LAW 40: PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES (Cont.)**

**11. Negotiations.**

A student athlete or their legal guardian who retains an agent or a lawyer to represent his or her interest with a professional team or league shall lose amateur status.

**12. Contracts and Compensation.**

An individual shall be ineligible for participation in any and all PRHSAA athletic competition if he or she has entered into any kind of agreement to compete in professional athletics, either orally or in writing, regardless of the legal enforceability of that agreement.

An individual who signs a contract or commitment that does not become binding until the professional organization's representative or agent also signs the document is ineligible, even if the contract remains unsigned by the other parties until after the student-athlete's eligibility is exhausted.

**13. Matters Not Covered**

On any matter not covered by this By-Law, the Council may take any action that it deems in the best interest of the Alliance and/or in the best interests of athletic competition on a case by case basis.

**14. Jurisdiction and Recourse**

See By-Law 11 and By-Law 39 of the Constitution of the Puerto Rico High School Athletic Alliance.

**15- Grandfather Clause**

All current student-athletes , who at the date of approval of this By-Law, (September 04, 2008); are duly enrolled in a PRHSAA Member Institution, must cease to participate in any professional athletic competition or team, no later than **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 07, 2008**, in order to maintain their eligibility to participate in any and all PRHSAA athletic competition. All PRHSAA Member Institutions shall be responsible for informing their student-athletes and parents, the approval and implementation of this By-Law. All PRHSAA Member Institutions shall immediately certify to the PRHSAA Executive Committee, the existence or non-existence, of all student-athletes, currently enrolled in their institution, who have ceased to participate in any professional athletic competition or team, and wish to maintain their PRHSAA Eligibility. Said certification must be signed by the institutions Director and Athletic Director. This Grandfather Clause shall **ONLY** benefit those student-athletes certified by each member institution. Upon receipt, of each Member Institution's Certification, this Grandfather Clause shall cease to be valid.