

Unified Sports / Including students with disabilities

- 23.5.8 Red Cross Safety Training for Swim Coaches or Lifeguard Certification is required for all swim coaches. Red Cross Safety Training for Swim Coaches, U.S. Diving Safety certification or Lifeguard Certification is required for diving coaches.
- A. Each team must have a certified swim coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to participate in swimming.
- B. Each team must have a certified dive coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to participate in diving.
- Q&A** 23.5.9 “Hands on” Pole Vault Coaches Training is required for pole vault coaches. Coaches must be recertified every two (2) years with “hands on” training to be required the first two (2) two-year cycles and either the “hands on” training or completion of WIAA-approved online courses during the next two-year cycle.
- Each team must have a certified pole vault coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to participate in pole vault.
- Q&A** 23.5.10 “Hands on” stunt Certification is required for cheer coaches who intend to have their cheer squad(s) perform stunts. The certification program must be approved by the Washington State Cheer Coaches Association, and the WIAA. Coaches must be recertified every two (2) years with “hands on” training
- Each team must have a stunt certified coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to stunt.
- Q&A** 23.5.11 “Hands on” lift Certification is required for dance/drill coaches who intend to have their squad(s) perform lifts. The certification program must be approved by the Washington State Dance/Drill Coaches Association, and the WIAA. Coaches must be recertified every two (2) years with “hands on” training.
- Each team must have a stunt certified coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to stunt.
- Q&A** 23.5.11 All Middle School and High School football coaches must complete school-district approved technique specific safety training similar to “Heads Up Football”. The training must include, but is not limited to, “hands on” Safer Tackling Techniques and Drills, Helmet and Shoulder Pad fitting, Concussion management with Return to Play Protocols following a concussion, Heat and Hydration training and Sudden Cardiac Arrest training. Football coaches will be required to repeat this training every two (2) years.
- 23.5.12 Washington State Patrol Criminal History Information – The employing school district is required by RCW 43.43.830 to file the Washington State Patrol Criminal History Information for paid and/or volunteer coaches.
- 23.6.0 SHARED COACHING - A school district** may approve shared coaching in diving, pole vaulting and gymnastics that have been determined to pose a safety or health concern for student athletes due to the qualifications or lack thereof of available coaching staff. Prior to approval the following criteria must be documented or verified:
- 23.6.1 The school district has determined no qualified coaching is available, and the shared coach is qualified and approved (employed) by the local school district in compliance with Coaching Standards as set forth by the WIAA.
- 23.6.2 The “specialized” program must be made available to all athletes in that event (e.g., under the safety purposes of this permissive rule, if a school sends one pole vaulter to a shared coach, the school must send all pole vaulters from the school).
- 23.6.3 Coaching will be only during the WIAA adopted season for the sport.
- 23.6.4 Each team must have a certified swim coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to participate in swimming.
- 23.6.5 Each team must have a certified dive coach on site during practice and competition in order for an athlete(s) to be eligible to participate in diving.
- 23.7.0 NEGATIVE COMMENTARY BY COACHES AND/OR OFFICIALS** - The WIAA prohibits negative commentary or statements to the media or general public in any form relative to officiating prior to, during, or following any interscholastic activity or athletic event. This rule applies equally to members of the Washington Officials Association relative to coaching tactics or administrative responsibilities.

24.0.0 OFFICIALS

The control, supervision and regulation of school officials shall be under the direction of the Washington Officials Association or any other voluntary nonprofit entity.

- 24.1.0 REGISTERED OFFICIAL** - A registered official is properly enrolled with the Washington Officials Association, has paid the appropriate association/board dues and is eligible to officiate sub-varsity interscholastic contests only.

- 24.2.0 CERTIFIED OFFICIAL** - A Certified official is a registered official who has attended a WIAA/WOA rules clinic for that sport, has attended the required number of association/board meetings, passed the sport rules test, has an acceptable criminal history background check form on file, and is eligible to officiate ANY and all levels of interscholastic competition.
- 24.3.0 REQUIRED NUMBER OF OFFICIALS** - The WIAA Executive Board supports the number of officials required by the National Federation Rulebook for that sport. If a league elects to use less than the required number of officials, each school in that league assumes all liability and responsibility as such.
- 24.4.0 USE OF REGISTERED OFFICIALS** - The Washington Officials Association registers officials in baseball, basketball, football, gymnastics, soccer, softball, spirit, volleyball and wrestling. Only officials registered with the Washington Officials Association or have reciprocity through another state officials association are eligible to officiate regularly scheduled contests for all sports and at all levels of play sanctioned by WIAA.
- 24.4.1 School representatives do not have the authority to solicit officials directly for contests. All assignments must be made by and through the appropriate assigning secretary for the respective officials' association/board.
- 24.4.2 **STUDENTS AS OFFICIALS** - A student shall not be used as an official unless the student is a member of the Washington Officials Association in that sport.
A student may be employed by his/her school, a recreational department, or community as a sport official without jeopardizing his/her amateur standing.
- 24.5.0 PROCEDURE TO USE NON-REGISTERED OFFICIALS** - After all attempts to reschedule a contest have failed, should schools find it necessary to use non-registered officials, permission may be granted. In such event, application must be made to the WIAA Executive Director well in advance of the date of the contest.
- 24.5.1 The required procedure for requesting use of non-registered official is as follows:
- A. Date of contest(s) and officials to be used should accompany the request.
 - B. Documented consent of the other school approving the officials to be used should be obtained in advance of the contest(s).
 - C. Request sent to the WIAA Executive Director in advance of the contest.
- 24.5.2 In emergency situations when (1) An official's association/board is unable to supply officials for a particular schedule or individual contest, or (2) the scheduled official fails to show up, an official may be selected from a pool of individuals who have met the following criteria:
- A. Passed the current WOA rules test for that particular sport; or
 - B. Completed the WIAA/WOA online rules clinic for that particular sport.
- 24.5.3 Requests to use non-registered officials will not be approved when rationale for such a request is based solely on finances. The responsibility and liability for selection and use of any non-registered official, as an employee of the school, become that of the school.
- 24.5.4 After all attempts to reschedule a contest have failed, middle level schools may request permission to utilize non-registered officials. The request must be approved by both the WIAA and WOA Executive Boards.
- A. If approved by the WIAA, the WOA and the league, individual schools may opt to schedule non-registered officials for any contest.
- 24.6.0 OFFICIALS REFUSING TO SERVE** - An association/board that refuses to serve member schools of their service area shall be disqualified from consideration for tournament assignments.
- 24.7.0 OFFICIALS ELIGIBLE FOR STATE TOURNAMENTS** - A certified official is eligible to be nominated to a state tournament during any given year.
- 24.7.1 Any official nominated for a state tournament must meet the following criteria:
- A. Must be recommended by the local association/board.
 - B. Must have officiated the minimum number of high school varsity contests during the regular season as established for that sport.
 - C. Must officiate a post season event in that sport prior to the state tournament.
 - D. Must be available to officiate throughout the duration of the tournament.
 - E. Meet all WOA objective criteria and training requirements.
- 24.8.0 COMMUNICATION BETWEEN LEAGUES AND OFFICIALS ASSOCIATIONS/BOARDS** - The WIAA and WOA expect that athletic leagues have meetings prior to the opening of their seasons to which they invite representatives of the officials association/board that serves them so that they might discuss mutual areas of concern.
- 24.9.0 WIAA DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON OFFICIALS** - The WIAA and WOA Executive Boards require that each WIAA District have a standing committee consisting of three (3) school personnel and three (3) members from the local officials association/board to work on mutual areas of concern.

- 24.10.0 AGREEMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE** - The Agreement Review Committee is comprised of four (4) board members from the Washington Officials Association and four (4) board members from the WIAA Executive Board approved by the respective boards.
- 24.10.1 Recommendation for changes in officiating fees, expenses or any other regulation for any or all sports must be submitted to the Agreement Review Committee in writing by October 1. The Committee will review, act on the request(s) and submit recommendation(s) to the WIAA and WOA Executive Boards.
- 24.10.2 Recommendation for changes in fees, expenses or other regulations for any sport(s) may be initiated by member school, leagues, WIAA districts, and WOA associations/boards.
- 24.10.3 All statewide supplemental fees or expenditures must be first submitted to the Agreement Review Committee.
- 24.11.0 DETERMINING OFFICIALS' FEES** - There shall be a re-examination of the established fee schedules every two (2) years by the Agreement Review committee to coincide with the classification/allocation cycle.
- 24.11.1 The recommendations of the Agreement Review Committee shall be reported to the WIAA Executive Board.
- 24.11.2 Changes in officials' fee schedule are to be approved by the WIAA and WOA Executive Boards.
- 24.12.0 OFFICIALS MILEAGE**
- 24.12.1 For standing and special committee members, and state tournament assignments, round-trip mileage will be paid at the rate established by the WIAA Executive Board. Mileage for any school year shall be consistent with the allowed amount set by the IRS at the beginning of the fiscal year.
- 24.12.2 Mileage reimbursement for regular season contests will be based upon the WIAA/WOA agreement.
- 24.13.0 OFFICIALS' FEES** - Established fees for middle level and high school regular season and high school state tournament/meets are listed in Appendix 14.1.

25.0.0 QUALIFYING EVENTS AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 25.1.0 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS** - State championships for member schools shall be permitted only in those varsity sports that have been approved by a 60 percent (%) majority vote of the Representative Assembly.

25.1.1 Equitable entry into the postseason

1. *The size of the number of entries into the state tournament would be determined by the number of schools that offer that sport in that classification*
2. *An approximate ratio of 4:1 (schools in the classification to number of entries into the state tournament) would be used to determine the size of the state tournament.*
3.

<i>Number of Schools</i>	<i>Number of State Tournament Entries</i>
<i>84+</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>69-83</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>50-68</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>37-49</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>20-36</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>19 or less</i>	<i>Combined with the smallest classification above or below</i>

- 25.1.2 Once approved, a state tournament will be held for both years of an allocation period.
- 25.1.3 The number of state tournaments may be reduced when the number of participating schools decreases and the proper number of state tournaments reassigned.
- 25.1.4 The number of schools participating in a sports activity during the first year of the classification/allocation cycle will be the basis for determining the number of tournaments.
- 25.1.5 **ALLOCATION FORMULA** - The number of schools in a given classification statewide is divided by the number of tournament entries. This figure is then divided into the number of schools in the classification in each WIAA District. The result is the allocation for that district.
- 25.1.6 **APPLICATION OF THE ALLOCATION FORMULA** - The Allocation Formula shall be applied each even-numbered year. The WIAA Executive Board is empowered to make decisions regarding the fractional allocations.
- A. The Allocation Formula is applied by the WIAA Executive Board to the WIAA Districts for all post-season tournament events except for wrestling, where the state shall be divided into regions for each classification.
 - B. The Allocation Formula is the basis for allotting representatives from WIAA Districts to the Representative Assembly.