

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Code **JJI** Issued **10/22**

Rules of the South Carolina High School League govern interscholastic athletics.

Districts should periodically refer to guidance from the South Carolina High School League.

District athletic directors and their designees are responsible for administration and supervision of local athletic programs, including the conduct of fans at athletic events.

Rules and regulations of the league cover the age, health, transfer, scholarship, amateurism, etc. of students engaging in interscholastic athletic contests; the qualifications of head coaches; the sponsorship, supervision, and number of games; practice and playing seasons; the fulfillment of interscholastic contracts; the employment of game officials; and other matters important to sound administration of high school interscholastic athletics.

The requirements for participation in interscholastic activities set out in policy JJ/JJA, *Student Activities and Organizations*, will also govern participation in interscholastic athletics.

Dual Sports Participation

During the season for any High School League sport, except football, a student who is a member of a school team may participate on an independent team under the following conditions:

- Participation does not interfere with the scheduled league games or practices of the school squad or team.
- A signed statement is on file with the school's athletic director to include parent/legal guardian permission for the student to participate in dual sports as well as signed acknowledgement by the independent coach that the student's participation will not interfere with scheduled league games or practices.

A school or student will not be declared ineligible for participation in an interscholastic High School League sport, except football, because of dual sports participation under this policy.

Middle School Participation

Students in the seventh grade, eighth grade, and the first semester of the ninth grade are eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics if they meet the following academic standards:

- To participate during the first semester, a student must be academically promoted from the previous grade level.
- To participate during the second semester, a student must meet the requirements in the promotion policy requirements at the end of the first semester (second semester ninth grade students must meet the League academic regulations).

A seventh or eighth grade student who is repeating the grade level is not eligible during a school year if academic requirements for promotion were met during the previous year. A student who previously failed the seventh or eighth grade is eligible during the second semester if he/she has satisfactorily passed the first semester.

Second semester eligibility begins when the first semester ends and the student is added to the certificate of eligibility form signed by the principal.

Cf. JJ/JJA

Latta School District

Adopted 8/13/91; Revised 11/12/02, 6/14/05, 10/14/08, 10/11/22

Legal References:

- A. United States Code of Laws, as amended:
 - 1. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C.A. Section 701, *et seq.*
 - 2. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C.A. 12132.
 - 3. Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C.A. Section 2000c, *et seq.*
 - 4. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C.A. Section 2000d, *et seq.*
 - 5. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C.A. Section 1681, *et seq.*
- B. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
 - 1. Section 59-38-10 - South Carolina Education Bill of Rights for Children in Foster Care.
 - 2. Section 59-39-160 - Requirements for student participation in interscholastic activities.
 - 3. Section 59-63-70 - High school student participation in independent organized sports teams.
 - 4. Section 59-63-100 - Equal Access to Interscholastic Activities Act.
 - 5. Section 59-63-425 - Transfer of high school students who are victims of physical abuse, harassment, or stalking by a classmate when restraining order is violated.
- C. S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:
 - 1. R43-244.1 - Interscholastic activities: academic requirements for participation.