

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
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**OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR 2020 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
OHSAA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
815 OHSAA HIGH SCHOOLS – 790 HIGH SCHOOLS VOTED**

BALLOT FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE OHSAA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS (GRADES 9-12)
NOTE: ALL ISSUES HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR REFERENDUM BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HIGH SCHOOL – RESULTS – As of 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 15, 2020

<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>NEW CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 3-1-5 – MEMBERSHIP</u>
83%	17%	1 C	As a condition of membership (initial and/or continuing), any and all lawsuits commenced by or on behalf of a member school, which lawsuit, in whole or in part, challenges a duly adopted Article of this Constitution or a duly adopted Bylaw of the member schools, shall be commenced in a court of general jurisdiction in Franklin County, Ohio. EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION AND VENUE vests with the courts (State and Federal) in Franklin County, Ohio, with respect to any and all court challenges brought by or on behalf of a member school, in law or in equity, challenging the Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations and/or the interpretations or enforcement of the same by the Executive Director's Office. Issue 1 C passed, effective date August 1, 2020
96%	4%	2 C	AMEND CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 3 -SECTIONS 2 AND 3 – INITIAL AND CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP Rewrite these articles for clarity and to reflect current business practice. Eliminate any reference to single gender schools as unnecessary due to the addition of two spring sports. Reduce the penalty for failure to comply with the continuing membership requirements and provide an avenue for continued tournament participation as approved by the Board of Directors. Issue 2 C passed, effective date May 16, 2020
87%	13%	3 C	AMEND CONSTITUTION ARTICLES 5-3-1 & 5-3-3 – TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Amend to extend the term of office for a member of the Board of Directors from two to three years. Issue 3 C passed, effective date August 1, 2020
94%	6%	4 C	AMEND CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 5-6-1 – POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Amend to make slight changes to items 4,6,7 and 10 to reflect current business practices. Issue 4 C passed, effective date August 1, 2020
99%	1%	5 C	AMEND CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 5-8-1 – MEETINGS Amend to permit Board elections to take place prior to the June meeting but no later than the day of the June meeting. Issue 5 C passed, effective date August 1, 2020
76%	24%	6 C	AMEND CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 8-1-9 – AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS Amend to remove the requirement of a fine for failure to return the electronic referendum ballot and instead allow the Board of Directors to establish the penalty for this failure. Issue 6 C passed, effective date August 1, 2020
97%	3%	7 C	AMEND CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 6-1-9 – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Add a new article to permit the Executive Director's Office to temporarily suspend the strict compliance to specific Constitution Articles, Bylaws and/or Sports Regulations if the non-compliance is a direct and proximate result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting State of Ohio Executive and Department Orders, and provided that such suspension remains consistent with the underlying purpose of the Article, Bylaw or Sports Regulation being suspended. The aforementioned authority granted to the Executive Director's Office shall cease as of August 1, 2023, unless the Board of Directors extends this authority for an additional year. Issue 7 C passed, effective date May 16, 2020
96%	4%	1 B	AMEND BYLAWS 2-2-2 & 2-2-3 – DIVISIONS AND TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS Create an exception to permit a school to not roster for Competitive Balance purposes a student with significant disabilities or who has functioned as a student assistant. This student would be one who would not participate in any meaningful way, and the student shall be fully eligible. Issue 1 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020

<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-4-3- SCHOLARSHIP Allow a school that can secure and verify grades from the preceding grading period to grant eligibility to a student coming off the "ineligible" status no sooner than <u>five calendar days</u> after the conclusion of the preceding grading period. If that verification is not possible, the student's ineligible status continues until such time as grades can be verified. Issue 2 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
90%	10%	2 B	
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	NEW BYLAW 4-5-6 – CONDUCT
87%	13%	3 B	Any student who is subject to a penalty or consequences for violations of a school's Board-adopted Code of Conduct (Student, Athletic) shall be declared ineligible in the event the student transfers to another school before the penalty or consequence has been fully served. It is the responsibility of an administrator at the new school to inquire from the administrator at the student's former school of any violation of this nature that would affect the student's eligibility in interscholastic athletics and duration of the suspension for that violation. Issue 3 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-7-2 – TRANSFER
98%	2%	4 B	There are no substantive changes in this bylaw. The rewrite is provided for better clarity. Issue 4 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-7-2 – EXCEPTION ONE – TRANSFER – BONA FIDE MOVE
94%	6%	5 B	This amendment, which addresses non-enrolled students as codified in exceptions 4 and 6 of Bylaw 4-3-1, permits the use of exception one at a member school where the student is not enrolled provided the bona fide move exception is met, and the student's participation is in accordance with OHSAA business rules and with Bylaw 4-7-3. Issue 5 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-7-2 – EXCEPTION TWO – TRANSFER – CHANGE OF CUSTODY TO A NON-PARENT
98%	2%	6 B	In cases of a court-ordered custody or guardianship change to a non-parent as a result of the death or incarceration of the prior custodian, the intervention of child protective services, social services or similar state agency, and the new custodian/guardian lives in a different school district than the previous custodian/guardian, the Executive Director's Office may waive all or part of the period of ineligibility for one or more sports/sport seasons provided the student continues to live with the new custodian/guardian in order to support the approval of the transfer to the new high school. Issue 6 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-7-2 – EXCEPTION NINE – TRANSFER TO THE RESIDENTIAL PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL
94%	6%	7 B	This amendment, which addresses non-enrolled students as codified in exceptions 4 and 6 of Bylaw 4-3-1, permits the use of exception nine at a member school where the student is not enrolled provided the conditions of exception nine are met, and the student's participation is in accordance with OHSAA business rules and with Bylaw 4-7-3. Issue 7 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-7-2 TO ADD NEW EXCEPTION 12 – TRANSFER – RETURN TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL FROM A DOMESTIC EXCHANGE PROGRAM
90%	10%	8 B	This exception appeared in the transfer bylaw over a decade ago. It is being reintroduced and is proposed to permit a student to take advantage of a domestic exchange program and then return to the same high school without loss of transfer eligibility provided the program's academic focus is the primary purpose, the student receives credit toward graduation, the program has a specific beginning and ending and the student understands that he or she must meet all academic requirements in the grading period immediately preceding the return to the same high school. Each semester in this program shall count toward the eight permitted. Issue 8 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-7-3 – TRANSFER DURING A SPORTS SEASON
90%	10%	9 B	This amendment references the precise definition of a transfer, which includes changing schools. The implication for a student transferring from the public residential high school into a community school or home school during a sports season means that that student is subject to this bylaw and its consequence even though the participation placement has not changed. Issue 9 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAWS 4-7-6 & 4-7-7 – INTRA-DISTRICT/SYSTEM TRANSFER
87%	13%	10 B	This amendment indicates that the transfer for academic reasons is available just one time in the two times that would be permissible, from 9 th to 10 th grade or from 10 th to 11 th grade. In addition, these bylaws apply to students who desire access to another school with an IB (International Baccalaureate) Program. The change to an IB Program requires junior status and full participation in the program, which is consistent with the inter-district transfer exception in Bylaw 4-7-2 #8. Issue 10 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>	AMEND BYLAW 4-8-1 – INTERNATIONAL AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS – DELETE EXCEPTION ONE AND RENUMBER 2-4 AS 1-3.

<u>92%</u>	<u>8%</u>	11 B	The amendment and deletion of exception one removes the requirement for an eligibility ruling for any international student who lives in Ohio with a parent. Such international students may need a ruling under residency bylaw 4-6-2 if they do not have a parent living in Ohio. <u>Issue 11 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020</u>
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	ISSUE	AMEND BYLAW 9-2-1 – CONTESTS REQUIRING SPECIAL ATTENTION
<u>84%</u>	<u>16%</u>	12 B	This change will continue to limit the amount of travel to any location outside the contiguous boundaries to Ohio to <u>one trip</u> but will eliminate the requirement that NO SCHOOL TIME be missed, leaving that decision to the discretion of the member school. <u>Issue 12 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020</u>
<u>FAVOR</u>	<u>OPPOSE</u>	ISSUE	AMEND BYLAWS 9-1-1 AND 9-2-4 – CONTESTS REQUIRING SPECIAL ATTENTION
<u>97%</u>	<u>3%</u>	13 B	These changes address a potential conflict in these two bylaws. The change in Bylaw 9-1-1 clarifies that competition <u>in Ohio</u> with non-interscholastic programs and non-member schools shall follow all eligibility rules, sports regulations and the Board-adopted playing rules just as is required when competing with member schools. The change to 9-2-4 stipulates that when playing <u>outside Ohio</u> , all OHSAA eligibility rules and both general and sports-specific regulations remain in effect. The only item that may change is the playing rules adopted by the host state Association, which shall be either NFHS playing rules or those used by another national governing body. <u>Issue 13 B passed, effective date August 1, 2020</u>