

REPORT OF
THE UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS

OCTOBER 17, 2016

ON OCTOBER 16, 2016, THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT THE AUSTIN MARRIOTT NORTH HOTEL IN ROUND ROCK, TEXAS. BASED UPON ITEMS CONSIDERED, THE COMMITTEE TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS DURING ITS BUSINESS MEETING.



**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This amendment would change the language for the 6A football home field advantage pilot program. The current language provides for home field advantage based on seed. The change in language would give home field advantage based on district finish. The current pilot language also does not address when opposing teams are tied in their district finish. The recommendation is that the language be adjusted to account for home field advantage based on district finish and account for scenarios with ties in district finish.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

The current 6A football home field advantage pilot is based on playoff seeding. The higher seed in some scenarios may finish lower in their respective district standings than their opponent. The adjustment in language rewards the team with the highest district finish. The suggested language would also clarify what occurs in the event of a game between two teams with the same district finish.

C. Proposed Recommendation

Section 1250 (i) (3) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1250: FOOTBALL PLAN

(i) SITE AND DAY OF GAME.

- (3) *Playoff Games.* Unless mutually agreeable otherwise, the place for playing a playoff game shall be determined on a "home and home" basis for the past two football seasons.
Exception: State championship games. The team that was the visiting team the last time the two teams met on a home field in a post-district playoff game may require the game be played at its home field. In case of disagreement between two teams who have not played a post-district playoff game during the past two football seasons, the game site shall be decided by a coin toss. A school cannot be required to flip for a playoff site that is not large enough to accommodate the fans from both schools. **Exception:** As a pilot study for the 2016 football season in 6A only, for the first round of the playoffs only, ~~the higher seed~~ THE OPPONENT WITH THE HIGHER DISTRICT FINISH will determine whether the game is played on its home field or mutually agree to play the game at a neutral site. IF THE OPPONENTS HAVE THE SAME DISTRICT FINISH, THE TWO TEAMS WILL FLIP A COIN OR AGREE ON A NEUTRAL SITE.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This proposal will have limited to no additional fiscal impact to schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This amendment provides an exception to the restrictions travel during the winter holiday period when safety concerns exist related to travel.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

The current restrictions do not provide for flexibility when weather creates a safety concern. This proposal provides for that flexibility if specific elements are present.

C. Proposed Amendment

Section 1206 (l) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

According to section 1206 (l) of the Constitution and Contest Rules:

- (l) HOLIDAY RESTRICTION. A school shall not conduct contests or practices, use school facilities, personnel or equipment during five consecutive days of December. Any organized or required practice will be a violation of this regulation. Schools may choose any five consecutive days, which include December 24, 25 and 26, with the following exceptions.
- (1) When December 26 falls on a Thursday schools may participate in a tournament game on December 26.
 - (2) When December 26 falls on a Thursday, schools must still follow a five consecutive day restriction, including December 24 and 25.
 - (3) No practice shall be permitted on any of the five consecutive days.
 - (4) Travel is not permitted on December 25.
 - (5) Travel is permitted on the 26th if a tournament game is scheduled on December 27; however, no practice shall be permitted on the 26th.
 - (6) A team that has a game on December 23 could travel home on December 24 and still be in compliance with this section.
 - (7) A SCHOOL MAY REQUEST AN EXCEPTION TO THESE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS WHEN SAFETY CONCERNS EXIST RELATIVE TO TRAVEL. THE UIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, MAY GRANT THE EXCEPTION ONLY WHEN THE SCHOOL HAS CLEARLY PROVIDED EVIDENCE OF THE TRAVEL SAFETY CONCERNS AND DETERMINES THE SCHOOL CANNOT REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO COMPLY WITH THESE RESTRICTIONS.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This proposal has no fiscal impact to schools, except to the extent that travel costs may be impacted.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This amendment would amend Section 1310(g) of the team tennis playoff structure and Section 1208(p) of athletic regulations.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

Team tennis would be aligned with other team sports with post season play being completed through a playoff bracket format.

C. Proposed Amendment

Section 1310(g) and Section 1208(p) of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules* would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1310: TEAM TENNIS PLAN

(g) CHAMPIONSHIP STRUCTURE.

(1) *District Tournaments.*

(A) *Format.* The District Executive Committee will make arrangements and set format to determine the district representatives.

(B) *Entries.* Each school shall enter the district meet by certifying entries to the district director by the entry deadline set by the District Executive Committee. If a round- robin format is utilized in lieu of a district tournament, the District Executive Committee shall specify entry and team roster regulations prior to the entry deadline.

~~(C) *Area Qualifiers.* The top four teams from each district shall advance to the area tournament. The district meet director shall certify area tournament entries.~~

~~(D) *Regional Qualifiers.* The first and second place team finishers in each area tournament shall advance to the regional tournament. The third place school from each area shall be the alternate. Regional tournament entries shall be certified by the area meet director.~~

~~(2) *Area Tournaments.*~~

~~(A) District winners shall be matched against fourth place finishers from the corresponding district; second place shall be matched against the third place finishers from the corresponding district.~~

~~(B) Results of the final match shall determine area winners, runners up and alternates. **EXCEPTION:** By mutual consent, teams can exclude the area championship and/or third place matches.~~

~~(C) Regional tournament entries shall be certified by the area meet director.~~

(3 2) *Regional Tournaments.*

(A) REGIONAL QUALIFIERS. REGIONAL QUARTERFINAL WINNERS WILL ADVANCE TO A REGIONAL TOURNAMENT. REGIONAL TOURNAMENT ENTRIES SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY REGIONAL QUARTERFINAL WINNERS TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

~~(B) Each regional director shall be authorized to use a seeding procedure.~~

~~(C) Area winners shall be matched against runners up from another area.~~

~~(D) Results of the final match shall determine regional winners, runners up and alternates.~~

(DB) State tournament entries shall be certified by the regional meet director.

(4-3) *State Tournament.*

(A) The first place team from each region will advance to the state tournament.

(B) Pairings will be made based on season records.

Section 1208: ATHLETIC REGULATIONS

(p) MID-POINT SITES. Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post district contests in the team sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, TEAM TENNIS and volleyball shall be at a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

The fiscal impact to schools is difficult to determine; however, many schools will see a decrease in expenditures for these activities.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This amendment alters Subchapter C, Sections 1220 – 1240, 1260 – 1290, and 1300 – 1340 related to allowable number of tournaments/meets.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

This amendment would restore the allowable number of tournaments/meets for all sports with the exception of football.

C. Proposed Amendment

The listed sections of the Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows, to be effective immediately, if passed on a referendum ballot and approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1220: BASEBALL PLAN

(a) ATHLETIC PURPOSE, CODE, PLAN APPLICABLE. Rules in Sections 1200-1209 also apply to the Baseball Plan.

(b) NUMBER OF GAMES, TOURNAMENTS AND SITES.

- (1) *Violations/Penalties.* The District Executive Committee shall determine the penalty for violations of the regulations below.
- (2) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than ~~two~~ THREE invitational tournaments plus 17 baseball games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Three games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of three games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1230: BASKETBALL PLAN

- (3) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than THREE ~~two~~ invitational tournaments plus 21 basketball games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games and games played in pre-scheduled district tournaments. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of two games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1240: CROSS COUNTRY PLAN

(e) MEET LIMITATIONS.

- (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ meets during the school year, excluding one district meet, the regional meet and the state meet. Each meet a school team enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee. Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.

Section 1260: GOLF PLAN

(e) INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS.

- (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments during the school year, excluding one 36-hole maximum district tournament, the regional tournament and the state tournament. Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee. Tournaments which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a tournament for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.

Section 1270: SOCCER PLAN

- (3) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than THREE ~~two~~ invitational tournaments plus 15 soccer games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games and games played in pre-scheduled district tournaments. If the district champion has a bye for the first round of the play-offs, that school may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of two games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1280: GIRLS' SOFTBALL PLAN

- (2) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than ~~two~~ THREE invitational tournaments plus 17 softball games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time, but may not be played as an exception to the school week limitation. Three games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of three games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1290: SWIMMING PLAN

(f) NUMBER OF MEETS.

- (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ meets during the school year, excluding one district meet, the regional meet and the state meet. Each meet a school team enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee. Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.

Section 1300: TENNIS PLAN (INDIVIDUALS AND DOUBLES)

(e) INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS.

- (1) *Number of Tournaments.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments (total for tennis and team tennis combined) during the school year, excluding one district tennis tournament, the regional tournaments and the state tournament. (Note: The team tennis district tournament counts as one of the EIGHT ~~seven~~ allowable tournaments if school time is lost.) Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

Section 1310: TEAM TENNIS PLAN

(f) NUMBER OF MATCHES AND TOURNAMENTS.

- (1) *Number of Tournaments.* No student or team representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments (total for tennis and team tennis combined) during the school year, excluding one district tennis tournament, the regional tournaments and the state tournament. Note: The team tennis district tournament counts as one of the EIGHT ~~seven~~ allowable tournaments if school time is lost. Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for the team and one tournament for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

Section 1320: TRACK AND FIELD PLAN.

(m) INVITATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD MEETS.

- (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ meets during the school year, excluding one district meet, the area meet, the regional meet, a regional qualifiers meet and the state meet. Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time. Each meet a school enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

Section 1330: GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL PLAN.

- (3) *Total Number of Games, Matches, Tournaments.* No team or student shall compete in more than THREE ~~two~~ invitational tournaments plus 23 matches in a season, including all matches prior to the first playoff match. This shall include non-district and district matches. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up match in addition to the match limits. This additional match shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Two matches may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of two matches. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1340: WRESTLING PLAN.

(d) MEETS AND TOURNAMENTS.

- (1) *Number of Tournaments.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments during the school season excluding one district tournament and the regional and state tournaments. Each tournament the school team enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This proposal will have a fiscal impact only on schools who choose to participate in these restored contests. Of those schools that do play additional games, the fiscal impact could vary due to travel and other costs.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective immediately, if approved on a referendum ballot of member school superintendents and the Commissioner of Education.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This amendment establishes pitch count limitations as required by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) baseball rules.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

NFHS has mandated a requirement for all states who participate under the NFHS baseball rule structure to implement a requirement for a pitch count restriction effective for the 2016-17 school year.

C. Proposed Amendment

The UIL Baseball Manual would be amended immediately, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Pitching Limitation. A pitcher may pitch one game each day in an unlimited number of innings. If he pitches in more than one game during a day, he will be limited to a total of ten innings each day. It is strongly recommended that a player who has pitched a full game the previous day not be used as a pitcher the following day.

HIGH SCHOOL PITCHERS WILL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 110 PITCHES PER DAY. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PITCHERS WILL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 85 PITCHES PER DAY. REQUIRED REST DAYS BETWEEN PARTICIPATION AS A PITCHER ARE AS OUTLINED IN THE CHARTS BELOW.

Rest Chart

High School Pitch Count (Grades 9 through 12):

0-30 pitches	0 days rest
31-45 pitches	1 day rest
46-65 pitches	2 days rest
66-85 pitches	3 days rest
86-110 pitches	4 days rest

Junior High Pitch Count (Grades 7 and 8):

0-20 pitches	0 days rest
21- 35 pitches	1 day rest
36 - 50 pitches	2 days rest
51 - 65 pitches	3 days rest
66 - 85 pitches	4 days rest

General Expectations

During regular season, pitch count total is determined after each single game appearance

Only official game pitches will count. (not warm up pitches)

Rest is defined as not using a pitcher in a contest.

Rest days are counted for the full day regardless of appearance start time. (ex: Varsity Pitcher throws 95 pitches on Friday. Rest days are Sat, Sun, Mon, and Tues. He is eligible to pitch on Wednesday, not Tuesday night.)

A pitcher will be allowed to complete current at-bat even if they hit pitch count max during the at-bat, but must exit game as a pitcher after that hitter regardless of recording an out or number of outs in inning.

There are no restrictions on allowing any game day pitcher (starter or reliever) from resuming play in the field after being removed as a pitcher, regardless of pitch count.

There will be NO change to regulations in post-season play. (i.e.: no increase in pitch count max or leeway in rest days)

Tournaments or Series:

In multi game series or tournaments, pitch count can be divided into separate appearances as long as combined total does not exceed appropriate pitch count max. Days of rest will be determined by final pitch count of the series or tournament.

(ex: In post season series, starter goes (X) innings for a total pitch count of (X) (amount not exceeding max count) in first game of 3 game series. That same athlete can be used as short reliever in either of next 2 games of the same series, up to combined total pitch count max (85/110). At conclusion of series, combined total number of pitches will determine days of rest based on chart.)

Back to Back Games due to postponement:

In the case of games that are rained out, and rescheduled on consecutive nights, pitch counts will follow the series protocol.

Double Header:

In the case of a doubleheader, the second game will not serve as a rest day for pitchers who threw in the first game. However, pitch count max can be split up between both games and total pitches after second appearance will determine rest day period.

****If pitcher is used twice in 3-day series, the rest day start period will begin after the second appearance even if there was a day of rest in between.

Pitch Count Accountability and Reporting

UIL Pitching Regulations and procedures apply to all levels of play. (Junior High, Freshman, JV, and Varsity)

Each game will need an official pitch counter provided by the home team. The official pitch counter will not be allowed to be in the dugout. Coaches/team representative will meet between innings to verify counts. Pitch counts will be verified at the conclusion of the game with a signature on a verification form.

DEC will establish the means for the record of tracking pitches and the protocol for game reporting for both pre-season and district play. DEC will maintain record of pitch counts and establish procedures accordingly

The home team is responsible for getting the signed form to their District Chair within 48 hours of the end of the contest for filing.

District Chairs are responsible for keeping the Certification and providing access to those numbers when requested.

In post season, official pitch counts MUST be entered in Max Preps after each game. The home team will provide the official pitch counter (the same as in regular season games).

Should any dispute arise, the primary source for final pitch count will be the official scorebook/count of the home team.

Umpires will NOT have any kind of jurisdiction or involvement in pitch count.

Penalties

Alleged violations of the Pitch Count Rule occurring during the regular season will be handled by the District Executive Committee in accordance with section 29 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

Alleged violations of the Pitch Count Rule occurring during the post season will be handled by the State Executive Committee in accordance with section 27 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This proposal has no fiscal impact.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective immediately, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This proposed recommendation amends Section 1204, SPORTS OFFICIALS, of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, to account for situations in which there is a dispute related to the assignment, scratching, and/or pay of a sports official.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

This proposal amends section 1204 by adding language to grant authority to the UIL Executive Director (or designee) to settle the dispute in the short term after consulting with the Chair of the UIL Sports Officials Committee. **This proposal has been recommended to the Legislative Council by the UIL Sports Officials Committee.**

C. Proposed Recommendation

Section 1204 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1204: SPORTS OFFICIALS

- (V) DISPUTES RELATED TO ASSIGNMENT, SCRATCHES, AND/OR PAY OF SPORTS OFFICIALS. IN SITUATIONS WHERE THERE IS A DISPUTE REGARDING THE ASSIGNMENT, SCRATCHING, AND/OR PAY OF A SPORTS OFFICIAL, A RECOGNIZED CHAPTER OR ASSOCIATION, AND TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE IN RESOLVING THE DISPUTE, AS DETERMINED BY THE UIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (OR DESIGNEE), THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE CHAIR OF THE UIL SPORTS OFFICIALS COMMITTEE, MAY TAKE ANY REASONABLE, NECESSARY ACTION NOT IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE UIL CONSTITUTION AND CONTEST RULES TO ADDRESS THE SITUATION IN THE SHORT TERM AND REFER ANY SUCH MATTER TO THE UIL SPORTS OFFICIALS COMMITTEE FOR ANY FINAL RESOLUTION THAT MAY BE NECESSARY.

IN SITUATIONS WHERE TIME IS NOT OF THE ESSENCE BUT THE SITUATION INVOLVING THE ASSIGNMENT, SCRATCHING, AND/OR PAY OF A SPORTS OFFICIAL, A RECOGNIZED CHAPTER OR ASSOCIATION IS NOT ADDRESSED IN THE UIL CONSTITUTION AND CONTEST RULES, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REFER THE MATTER TO THE UIL SPORTS OFFICIALS COMMITTEE FOR RESOLUTION THROUGH THE COMMITTEE'S HEARING PROCESS.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Passed the Following Proposals**

- a. A proposal to alter the language for the 6A football home field pilot program
- b. A proposal to adjust the language for the holiday restriction to allow for travel
- c. A proposal to create a bracket playoff structure for team tennis
- d. A proposal to establish pitch count limitations
- e. A proposal to adjust language regarding officials dispute resolution

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Passed the Following Proposals to be Placed on a Referendum Ballot**

- a. A proposal to restore the allowable number of tournaments/meets for all sports except football to be placed on referendum ballot

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Authorized the Staff to Study The Following Proposal**

- a. Creating three additional events (discus, 800m, 200m) for the track and field wheelchair pilot program and return with historical information comparative to other states
- b. Creation of area golf meet
- c. Awarding points for adaptive track and field events
- d. Creating an ambulatory event pilot program for track and field

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Referred the Following to the Football Rules Committee**

- a. Allow the use of electronic devices on the sidelines and in the press box
- b. Allow class 1A six-man football to use composite footballs during regulation play in addition to leather footballs

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Referred the Following to the Sports Officials Committee

- a. Officials travel and mileage reimbursement in Section 1204**

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposal with a Survey

- a. Officials travel and mileage reimbursement in Section 1204**

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Denied, Rejected, or Took No Action on the Following Proposals

- a. Allowing for a double-elimination tournament for 5A and 6A baseball in the first and second round of the playoffs**
- b. Allowing for a double-elimination format for the 6A baseball state tournament**
- c. Allowance for a Unified Team participation and inclusion to the track and field state meet**
- d. Allow the top two representatives to host a first round playoff game in all football conferences**
- e. One game exception to the season limit for teams with a bye in the first round of the playoffs**
- f. Require area track and field meets**
- g. Allow 6th graders to compete in cross country and track and field**
- h. Allow coaches in Title I schools to coach their students in UIL activities during the summer and /or offseason**

REPORT OF
THE UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY

OCTOBER 17, 2016

ON OCTOBER 16, 2016, THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT THE AUSTIN MARRIOTT NORTH HOTEL IN ROUND ROCK, TEXAS. BASED UPON ITEMS CONSIDERED, THE COMMITTEE TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS DURING ITS BUSINESS MEETING.



**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This amendment alters the Reclassification and Realignment Policies for the 2018-2020 alignment.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

With the changing landscape of schools and school configurations, there is a need to alter the policies to address needs in these areas.

C. Proposed Recommendation

UIL Reclassification and Realignment Policies would be amended as follows for the 2018-2020 alignment, with the exception of the deletion of 16(A), which shall be effective March 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

**Conference and District Assignment Policies and Procedures
2016-17 2018-19 and 2017-2018 2019-20 Realignment**

1. The League office shall obtain enrollment data on participant schools (grades 9-12).
2. The League office shall verify the enrollment figures submitted by the schools.
3. Conference AAAAAA should consist of a minimum of 220 schools and a maximum of ~~245~~ 250 schools participating in football; Conferences AA through AAAAAA should consist of a number of schools such that the enrollment ratio in grades 9-12 between the largest school and the smallest school is approximately 2.0. There should be at least 200 schools each in Conferences AA and AAAAAA. Conference A shall consist of all schools that are not in Conferences AA-AAAAAA.
4. Schools with an enrollment of 104.9 or lower may choose to participate in Conference A football (six-man football) or may opt to play in Conference AA football (eleven-man football) but remain in Conference A for other applicable activities (see #6 below). Schools desiring to participate in Conference A FOOTBALL may submit enrollment figures by any one of the following combinations of grades: grades 9, 10, 11 and 12; grades 8, 9, 10 and 11; grades 7, 8, 9 and 10; or grades 9 and 10 doubled.
5. Any school may request to be elevated one conference, provided notification is submitted to the League office simultaneously with enrollment figures.
6. Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAAA schools will be further divided by enrollment figures for football (see (e) below). Then map pins are used to represent all schools in a conference and both divisions of Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAAA football. Schools are placed into districts keeping the following criteria in mind:
 - a. Group geographically contiguous schools in groups of no more than ten, and ~~place in districts with an even number of schools, except when that action causes an extreme travel hardship~~ UNLESS APPROVED ON APPEAL TO THE DISTRICT ASSIGNMENT APPEALS COMMITTEE. Schools in a district in urban areas may not always be contiguous.
 - b. Except in ACADEMICS, WRESTLING, AND Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAAA football, there are 32 districts to facilitate the playoff procedures (except in activities that do not have enough schools).

- c. Multiple-high school districts with more than one school in the same conference will have those schools assigned as follows.
- (1) Multiple High School Districts with 11 or More Schools in the Same Conference: A multiple high school district with 11 or more schools in the same conference shall have its schools assigned to two or more UIL districts, UNLESS REQUESTED OTHERWISE BY THE ISD SUPERINTENDENT AND APPROVED BY THE UIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. Any UIL district resulting from this division with seven or fewer schools from the same ISD in it may have additional schools assigned to the UIL district by the League office.
 - (2) Multiple High School Districts with Seven or Fewer Schools in the Same Conference: A multiple high school district with seven or fewer schools in the same conference shall have its schools assigned to the same UIL district. Other schools may also be assigned to this UIL district by the League office.
 - (3) Multiple High School Districts with Schools in Different Conferences: A multiple high school district may opt to have one or more of its schools elevated one conference if it wants its schools to be assigned to the same UIL district.
 - (4) Multiple High School Districts with schools in more than one conference, one of which is a magnet NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE school. (SEE EXAMPLES OF THESE SCHOOLS BELOW). A multiple high school district with schools in more than one conference, one of which is a magnet NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE school, shall have the magnet NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE school placed in the same conference as the high school in that school district with the largest enrollment. ~~A magnet school is defined as a high school within a multiple high school district where all students participate in the magnet curriculum.~~ EXAMPLES OF NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS: DROP OUT PREVENTION AND DROP-OUT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, CREDIT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, SCHOOLS OF CHOICE, ISD CHARTER SCHOOLS, HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (GED) PROGRAMS, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAMPUSES, EARLY COLLEGE CAMPUSES, T-STEM CAMPUSES, MEN'S/WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES ETC.
 - (5) EXCEPTION: Exceptions to the above may be made when agreed upon by all participating schools and approved by the District Assignment Review APPEALS Committee.
- d. ~~If a school district with only one high school opens a second high school with the same attendance boundaries as its primary high school, the enrollment of both schools will be combined to determine conference placement for the primary school.~~
- D. Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA Football: Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA football schools will be divided into large schools (Division 1) and small schools (Division 2), through the state championship event, with 16 districts in each division.
 - E. There will be six (6) Conferences in the following activities: Cross Country, Football, Basketball and Spring Meet (Academics [including One-Act Play], Golf, Tennis and Track and Field). There will be five (5) Conferences in the following activities: Music, Volleyball, Baseball and Softball. There will be three (3) Conferences in the following activities: Team Tennis and Soccer. There will be two (2) Conferences in the following activities: Swimming/Diving and Wrestling.
7. There shall be no attempt made to perpetuate or avoid "old rivalries." Socioeconomic and ethnicity factors are not considered.
 8. A school may be placed in different districts for different activities to alleviate extreme travel situations.
 9. If there is a clerical error in assignment or if a school has been omitted, the staff is authorized to correct the error or omission. Schools in both districts will be notified of the correction.
 10. A school may change districts with the unanimous consent of all schools in both districts. This is the first level of appeal.

11. If the first level of appeal is denied, schools may appeal their district assignment to the District Assignment Appeals Committee. All schools will be notified of the deadline for this appeal.
12. A school may be disqualified from district honors for up to two years in that sport for contracting games prior to finalizing the reclassification and realignment by all UIL appeal committees. Athletic schedules will not be considered official until approved by the superintendent of the member school district.
13. Schools may play their first football game the last Thursday in August. Beginning practice dates will remain the same for all conferences. Schools will be limited to no more than ten regular season games.
14. Schools shall be assigned to football districts only in even-numbered years.
15. A new school may be assigned on a non-honors basis in football for one two-year assignment period **BASED ON THEIR ENROLLMENT.**
16. Charter Schools.
 - ~~a. Charter schools will be assigned to districts in team sports only prior to even-numbered years.~~
 - a. Charter schools may be reassigned to a higher conference if actual enrollment is larger than enrollment projections.
 - b. Charter schools shall not be assigned to a football district unless they have provided evidence to the UIL staff that they have participated previously.
 - c. Unless its enrollment qualifies it for a higher conference, a charter school shall have its classification determined by placing it in the conference of the lowest enrolled school from the ISD in which the charter school is physically located.
 1. This rule is applicable to charter schools located within an ISD consisting of three (3) or more high schools.
 2. Any charter school that is elevated in conference under this rule will receive an automatic appeal to UIL staff regarding their conference assignment. Additionally, any charter school who chooses may appeal the decision of UIL staff to the District Assignment Appeals Committee.
17. Schools gaining or losing students by consolidation, **WHERE TWO (2) OR MORE SCHOOLS ARE COMBINED**; may have their conference and district assignments changed during the two-year alignment period.
18. Schools will not be changed because of loss or gain within a district during growth or decline in membership after enrollment figures are certified.
19. Schools may be in different regions in different activities.
20. District numbering begins in the north or west and culminates in the southern part of the state.
21. Schools which are assigned to an athletic district and fail to participate may be suspended by the State Executive Committee in the germane activity, see section 27 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

FORMULAS

A participant school shall be classified for assignment to a conference on the basis of enrollment on a date from the previous October. The formulas used to determine enrollment shall be:

1. Schools with four high school grades (9-12) or three high school grades (10-12) which will receive incoming tenth graders from specific, identifiable schools:

Enrollment = Grades 9 + 10 + 11 + 12

2. Schools with only grades 10-12 when it cannot easily be determined which schools the ninth graders will attend as tenth graders:

Enrollment = Grades (10 + 11 + 12) x 1.33

3. Schools with only grades 11-12 when it cannot easily be determined which schools the tenth graders will attend as eleventh graders:

Enrollment = Grades (11 + 12) x 2

4. New schools:

Schools opening or entering competition in the first year of an alignment period will have their conference placement determined by the following procedure:

- a. Opening or entering with 1 grade: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 2
- b. Opening or entering with 2 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 1.33
- c. Opening or entering with 3 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 1.33
- d. Opening or entering with 4 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual)

Schools opening or entering competition in the second year of an alignment period will have their conference placement determined (for varsity activities in which they participate) by the enrollment (projected or actual, with no multiplier applied) with which they open.

Existing schools affected by the opening of a new school (which will open or did open in the first or second year of an alignment) will have their conference placement determined ~~by taking the current~~ **BASED ON THEIR PROJECTED enrollment in grades 9-11 + projected number of 8th graders entering that high school the following school year FOR THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR.**

5. **COUNTING STUDENTS IN 'ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS'** ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS ~~COULD INCLUDE (BUT MAY NOT BE LIMITED TO):~~ DISCIPLINE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS, JUVENILE JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS, JUVENILE DETENTION CENTERS, COUNTY JAILS, DROP OUT PREVENTION AND DROP-OUT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, CREDIT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, SCHOOLS OF CHOICE, ISD CHARTERS, HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (GED) PROGRAMS, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAMPUSES, EARLY COLLEGE CAMPUSES, T-STEM CAMPUSES, MEN'S/WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES, OR OTHER ISD SCHOOLS THAT DO NOT HAVE DEFINED ATTENDANCE ZONES FROM WHICH THEY DRAW THEIR STUDENTS, ~~ETC.~~

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS WHERE THE STUDENTS REMAIN ENROLLED IN THEIR ORIGINAL SCHOOL AND ARE COUNTED IN THE ENROLLMENT OF THAT SCHOOL SHOULD NOT BE COUNTED MORE THAN ONCE.

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS THAT ARE PARTICIPATING MEMBER SCHOOLS IN UIL WILL HAVE ALL OF THEIR STUDENTS COUNTED TOWARD THE ENROLLMENT AT THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL.

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT PARTICIPATING MEMBER SCHOOLS IN UIL ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT STUDENTS TOWARD THE ENROLLMENT FIGURES OF THE 'TRADITIONAL' SCHOOL EACH STUDENT WOULD HAVE ATTENDED BASED ON THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARENTS OF SAID STUDENT OR TO THE SCHOOL THE STUDENT WOULD ATTEND BY ISD POLICY IF THEY WERE NOT ENROLLED IN THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL.

MEMBER SCHOOLS THAT ALLOW STUDENTS ATTENDING NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN UIL ACTIVITIES AT THEIR SCHOOL MUST COUNT ANY SUCH STUDENT TOWARD THEIR ENROLLMENT FIGURES.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Policy moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective for the 2018-2020 alignment, with the exception of the deletion of 16(A) above, which shall be effective March 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This amendment would extend the current exception for graduating seniors in baseball and softball to continue to participate after the end of the school year to additional activities.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

With the change in school calendars reflecting minutes of instruction, rather than days of instruction, it is possible that school years could end sooner than they do currently thus impacting additional activities.

C. Proposed Amendment

Sections 405, 1220 (f) and 1280 (g) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows immediately, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 405: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

- (a) COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL. A person is considered a high school graduate if that person received a diploma or other certificate signifying successful completion of high school from a high school or other institution of equal or higher rank, participated as a graduate in the graduation exercises of a high school, or complied with the requirements for graduation during a four-year program, whether or not the student participated in the graduation exercises. However, a student who has accumulated enough credits to satisfy graduation requirements prior to the end of four years, but remains in school as a full time student, is not considered a high school graduate under this rule.
- (b) GED TESTING PROGRAM. A student who receives an equivalency credential based on the General Education Development Testing Program is not considered a high school graduate, if that student remains in or returns to high school, and has not otherwise met the requirements for high school graduation.
- (c) THIS SECTION SHALL NOT DISQUALIFY A CONTESTANT WHO IS ELIGIBLE IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS AT THE TIME OF SPRING GRADUATION. THIS EXCEPTION REFERS ONLY TO CONTESTANTS WHOSE UIL COMPETITION EXTENDS INTO THE SUMMER FROM THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

Section 1220: BASEBALL PLAN

- ~~(f) GRADUATING SENIORS. Sections 400 (a) and 405 of the Constitution shall not disqualify a contestant during the baseball season, who is eligible in all other respects at the time of spring graduation. This exception refers only to contestants whose playoff competition extends into the summer from the end of school.~~

Section 1280: GIRLS' SOFTBALL PLAN

- ~~(g) GRADUATING SENIORS. Sections 400 (a) and 405 of the Constitution shall not disqualify a contestant during the softball season who is eligible in all other respects at the time of spring graduation. This exception refers only to contestants whose playoff competition extends into the summer from the end of school.~~

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This amendment would create a split conference alignment for 5A football, similar to what is currently utilized in 1A-4A football.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

The UIL Legislative Council directed staff to survey this topic. This proposal is being submitted for the Council to consider along with the survey results. In football only, all 5A schools will be divided evenly with the upper half of enrolled schools being placed in sixteen (16) Division 1 districts and the lower half of enrolled schools placed in sixteen (16) Division 2 districts prior to the season. One state champion is crowned in Division 1 and one state champion is crowned in Division 2.

C. Proposed Recommendation

UIL Reclassification and Realignment Policies would be amended as follows effective for the 2018-2020 alignment, pending approval by a referendum ballot of member school superintendents and the Commissioner of Education:

Conference and District Assignment Policies and Procedures

6. Conference A, AA, AAA, and AAAA AND AAAAA schools will be further divided by enrollment figures for football (see (e) below). Then map pins are used to represent all schools in a conference and both divisions of Conference A, AA, AAA, and AAAA AND AAAAA football. Schools are placed into districts keeping the following criteria in mind:
 - b. Except in Conference A, AA, AAA, and AAAA AND AAAAA football, there are 32 districts to facilitate the playoff procedures (except in activities that do not have enough schools).
 - e. Conference A, AA, AAA, and AAAA AND AAAAA Football: Conference A, AA, AAA, and AAAA AND AAAAA football schools will be divided into large schools (Division 1) and small schools (Division 2), through the state championship event, with 16 districts in each division.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Policy moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective for the 2018-2020 alignment, if approved on a referendum ballot of member school superintendents and the Commissioner of Education.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY
Passed the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to amend the Reclassification and Realignment Policies for the 2018-2020 alignment.
- b. A proposal to extend the current exception for graduating seniors in baseball and softball to continue to participate after the end of the school year to additional activities.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY
Passed the Following Proposals to be Placed on a Referendum Ballot

- a. A proposal to create a split conference alignment for 5A football.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY
Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposal with a Survey

- a. A proposal to add Gymnastics as a UIL sanctioned sport.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY
Authorized the Staff to Continue to Monitor the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to add Water Polo as a UIL sanctioned sport for 5A and 6A.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY
Tabled, Rejected or Took No Action on the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to add Lacrosse as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- b. A proposal to allow 2A schools to participate in soccer.
- c. A proposal to create a Super 6A Classification for schools with an enrollment of 3,500 students and above.
- d. A proposal to provide medals for all cross country team members, manager, and coaches at Regional and State cross country meets.
- e. A proposal to provide medals and recognition for the 4th place team and individual qualifiers at Regional cross country meets.
- f. A proposal to allow in-district home school students to participate in UIL activities.
- g. A proposal to allow homeschoolers to participate in athletics.
- h. A proposal to allow home school students to participate in band activities.
- i. A proposal to add Table Tennis as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- j. A proposal to add Boxing as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- k. A proposal to add Bass Fishing as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- l. A proposal to add Cooking as a UIL sanctioned activity.