

Keeping your IHSAA eligibility: Know the rules on team sports

(Nov. 13, 2006) - The Indiana High School Athletic Association governs high school volleyball competition in Indiana. The excerpt below shows IHSAA rules for team sports. All junior players and coaches need to be aware of these rules as they form USA Volleyball teams. "We want to make sure all our intended junior clubs stay out of trouble," says Charles Stemm, commissioner of the Hoosier Region.

15-2.2

Team Sports (Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball)

a. Students may participate in team sport contests as members of a non-school team provided no more than the following number of students who have participated in a contest the previous season as a member of one of their school teams in that sport or any freshman who are rostered on the same non-school team, at the same time.

- Baseball – 5
- Basketball – 3
- Football – 6
- Soccer – 6
- Softball – 5
- Volleyball – 3

The following standards also must be met:

- Participation is limited to non-school time.
- Fees, if charged, must be provided solely by the student, parent or guardian. No school or athletic funds shall be used for such when students of grades 9-12 are involved.
- Participation shall be open to all students.
- Merchandise and awards, other than those of symbolic value, may NOT be accepted for athletic proficiency. Student must remain an amateur.

b. Students may not receive instruction from individuals who are members of their high school coaching staff.

c. Coaches, from a member school coaching staff, may not instruct students who have participated in a contest as a member of their school's team or any freshman. (Exception: Coaches may instruct their sons or daughters.)

d. Member schools may not organize, supervise or operate athletic practices.

e. Member schools may not provide school-owned uniforms (shorts, pants, singlets, or swimsuits, etc.) worn by the student in non-school contests.