

PROPOSAL 1

CAMERON

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): <i>David Price</i>		
School: Cameron High School	Daytime Phone: 304-686-3336	Evening Phone: [Redacted]

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10.	Rule Number: 10.1-10.7	Page: 65
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p> <p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p> <p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p> <p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p> <p>10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics.</p> <p>10.6. No member school shall, based on the classification, be compelled to play more than one class up from where it would be classified in a three class system based strictly on enrollment.</p> <p>10.7. The WVSSAC Board of Directors is authorized to grant a waiver to a classification assignment when it determines the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended.</p>		
<p>Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation. Keep what was voted on before, almost unanimously.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule [Redacted]	Section [Redacted]	Page [Redacted]
Rule [Redacted]	Section [Redacted]	Page [Redacted]
Rule [Redacted]	Section [Redacted]	Page [Redacted]

PROPOSAL 2
**DODDRIDGE/
WILLIAMSTOWN**

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): <i>John Wald</i> <i>Don OR Mayga</i>		
School: Williamstown High School	Daytime Phone: (304) 375-6151	Evening Phone: (304) 488-9696
School: Doddridge County High School		

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10	Page: 62
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
§127-3-10 Classification		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economies <u>the total enrollment of students</u>. The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd-numbered year preceding the classification.</p> <p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four-year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p> <p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four-year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p> <p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p> <p>10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economies <u>enrollment</u>.</p> <p>10.6. No member school shall, based on the classification, be compelled to play more than one class up from where it would be classified in a three class system based strictly on enrollment.</p> <p><u>10.6. In a four class system for AAAA, AAA, and AA classifications, the lowest calculated total enrollment score must be at least 60% of the highest total enrollment score within that classification. For football playing Class A schools with a total enrollment score below 60%, they should explore options like 8-man football or a Junior Varsity schedule to create a safer environment for their student-athletes. In</u></p>		

a three class system AAA and AA classifications, the lowest calculated total enrollment score must be at least 50% of the highest total enrollment score within that classification.

10.6Z. The WVSSAC Board of Directors is authorized to grant a waiver to a classification assignment when it determines the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended.

Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.

This proposal not only streamlines the classification process by using enrollment as the sole criterion, but also ensures transparency. It introduces a safeguard: the lowest enrollment must be at least 60% of the highest within each classification in a four class system and 50% in a three class system. Furthermore, it responds appropriately to the WV Review Board's emphasis on player safety (due to large enrollment gaps), especially in contact sports like football, and addresses their concern about 'inadequate justification' for classification line cutoffs. Importantly, this information is readily accessible, enabling us to promptly update classifications for member schools to adapt.

Other Rules Affected

Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSALS

3,4,5

FAIRMONT SENIOR

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): James Green		
School: Fairmont Senior HS	Daytime Phone:304-367-2150	Evening Phone:304-657-7927

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10 Classification	Rule Number:10.1	Page:65
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. enrollment of the student body as listed in WVEIS. The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1. <u>The total number of schools participating in the WVSSAC will be evenly divided by 4, with the largest schools placed in AAAA, the next largest in AAA, the next in AA, and the smallest schools in A.</u></p>		
Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.		
<p>The use of the competitive balance model was a lot of work for not much reward. Take out the 20% of the equation that does not add value to determining competitiveness. First, SES levels are not specifically indicative of the school's ability to produce competitive teams. Secondly, proximity to a city of 10,000 also doesn't indicate any increased or decreased ability for a school to produce competitive teams. For example, Fairmont is a city of 10,000 but offers no advantages in facilities or recreational leagues that one assumes will exist for a "large" city. Even division of classifications removes confusion or controversy about how schools were placed for competition. Top athletes are anomalies in the general student population, therefore large schools have a greater total number of anomalies than a smaller school. Alignment by school enrollment maximizes the reliability of equality of competition due to similar student populations from which to draw athletes.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule Appendix 1	Section 	Page 115
Rule 	Section 	Page
Rule 	Section 	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): James Green		
School: Fairmont Senior HS	Daytime Phone: 304-367-2150	Evening Phone: 304-657-7927

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127CSR3	Rule Number: Appendix 1	Page: 115
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and <u>strike through</u> any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>This considers the following factors: enrollment, location and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways: • The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1. • The location score is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1. • The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1. o For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score. o For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average. Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competition Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps.</p>		
<p>Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.</p>		
<p>The use of the competitive balance model was a lot of work for not much reward. Take out the 20% of the equation that does not add value to determining competitiveness. First, SES levels are not specifically indicative of the school's ability to produce competitive teams. Secondly, proximity to a city of 10,000 also doesn't indicate any increased or decreased ability for a school to produce competitive teams. For example, Fairmont is a city of 10,000 but offers no advantages in facilities or recreational leagues that one assumes will exist for a "large" city. Even division of classifications removes confusion and controversy about how schools were placed for competition. Top athletes are anomalies in the general student population, therefore large schools have a greater total number of anomalies than a smaller school. Alignment by school enrollment maximizes the reliability of equality of competition due to similar student populations from which to draw athletes.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): James Green		
School: Fairmont Senior HS	Daytime Phone: 304-367-2150	Evening Phone: 304-657-7927

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10 Classification	Rule Number:10.4	Page:65
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport. All sports shall follow the approved classification system and all sports at each school will compete in the classification assigned to that school.</p>		
Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.		
<p>The previous rule allowed for decisions to be made for classification and competition by a committee of individuals with no defined parameters for setting classification participation. Prime example of golf, cross-country, track, soccer, wrestling and tennis. The delineations were made for participation without use of the then approved competitive balance formula.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSALS

6,7,8

FRANKFORT

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign):		
School: Frankfort High School	Daytime Phone: 304-726-4767	Evening Phone: 304-579-5300

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.1	Page: 60
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. The designation shall be done after of grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 using West Virginia Department of Education enrollment figures at the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification.</p> <p>10.1.a. Sports using the four classifications shall be separated using the following model:</p>		
<u>AAAA</u>	<u>16 Schools</u>	
<u>AAA</u>	<u>30% of the total number of member schools in AAA, AA, and A. If a number ends with a decimal, round down.</u>	
<u>AA</u>	<u>30% of the total number of member schools in AAA, AA, A. If a number ends with a decimal, round down.</u>	
<u>A</u>	<u>The remaining member schools</u>	
<i>Example: 124 Member Schools</i>		
<u>AAAA</u>	<u>16</u>	
<u>AAA</u>	<u>32</u>	
<u>AA</u>	<u>32</u>	
<u>A</u>	<u>44</u>	
Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.		
<p>This model returns to classifications being determined by enrollment only. This establishes a system that is void of data that could be inaccurate, misleading and/or fails to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended. We believe that this system will prevent conflict and future litigation which keeps control of athletics in the hands of the WVSSAC and the principals rather than the courts and/or legislatures. This model has established cut lines for each classification which provides transparency to all member schools. Using percentages rather than set numbers in classes AAA, AA, and A allows the system to remain fair and change as the number of member schools' changes over time. A set number has been implemented for AAAA because of the large gap in both enrollment and athletic success between the largest schools in the state and all other member schools.</p>		

Other Rules Affected		
Rule 10.5	Section §127-3-10	Page: 65
Rule 10.6	Section §127-3-10	Page: 65
Appendix 1		Page: Appendix 1

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX-1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign):		
School: Frankfort High School	Daytime Phone: 304-726-4767	Evening Phone: 304-579-5300

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.1	Page: 60
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. The designation shall be done after of grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 using West Virginia Department of Education enrollment figures at the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification.</p> <p>10.1.a. Sports using the four classifications shall be separated using the following model:</p>		
<u>AAAA</u>	<u>20 % of the total number of member schools. If a number ends with a decimal, round down.</u>	
<u>AAA</u>	<u>25% of the total number of member schools. If a number ends with a decimal, round down.</u>	
<u>AA</u>	<u>25% of the total number of member schools in AAA, AA, A. If a number ends with a decimal, round down.</u>	
<u>A</u>	<u>The remaining member schools</u>	
<i>Example: 124 Member Schools</i>		
<u>AAAA</u>	<u>24</u>	
<u>AAA</u>	<u>31</u>	
<u>AA</u>	<u>31</u>	
<u>A</u>	<u>38</u>	
Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.		

This model returns to classifications being determined by enrollment only. This establishes a system that is void of data that could be inaccurate, misleading and/or fails to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended. We believe that this system will prevent conflict and future litigation which keeps control of athletics in the hands of the WVSSAC and the principals rather than the courts and/or legislatures. This model has established cut lines for each classification which provides transparency to all member schools. Using percentages rather than set numbers allows the system to remain fair and change as the number of member schools' changes over time.

Other Rules Affected		
Rule 10.5	Section §127-3-10	Page: 65
Rule 10.6	Section §127-3-10	Page: 65
Appendix 1		Page: Appendix 1


Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): 		
School: Frankfort High School	Daytime Phone: 304-726-4767	Evening Phone: 304-579-5300

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.2	Page: 60
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four <u>two</u> years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four <u>two</u> year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p>		
Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.		
We believe that changing the reclassification period to two years vs four allows for more accuracy within the system. We understand that enrollment come in waves. This change prevents member schools from being classified (both up or down) where they do not belong for a long period of time.		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule 10.3	Section §127-3-10	Page: 65

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSAL 9

**GEORGE
WASHINGTON**

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Jim J. Crawford Jr.		
School: George Washington High School	Daytime Phone: 304-348-7729	Evening Phone: 304-415-6975

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127	Rule Number: 3-10.1	Page: 65
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the following enrollment figures: AAAA (1000+), AAA (650-999), AA (400-649), A (399 and below). location, and economics. The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p>		
<p>Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.</p>		
<p>The present rule has spawned a series of appeals to classification, which has resulted in a Board of Review mandate to move schools down a classification. This affected the landscape immediately in football. This proposal would encompass all sports, and simplify the classification of all schools and sports across the state.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		

Rule127	Section10-3.5	Page65
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSALS 10-14

LINCOLN

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024.

Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): 10/7/24		
School: Lincoln High	Daytime Phone: 304-326-7408	Evening Phone: 304-904-2862

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.1	Page: 60															
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.																	
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either using the Classification Chart:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 10px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Minimum Number of Schools</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Division of Classifications</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Range of Schools in each Class</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">48</td> <td style="text-align: center;">II</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24-36</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">72</td> <td style="text-align: center;">III</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24-32</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">98</td> <td style="text-align: center;">IV</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24-31</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">124</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24-30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd-numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1. based upon the AVERAGE Daily Attendance as certified by principals on the WVEIS EOY Attendance Collection. Member schools who are exempt from WV §18-8-1. Compulsory school attendance shall be classified based upon EOY enrollment. The classification rankings shall be distributed to member schools prior to week 5 of the odd numbered year preceding the classification (immediate for this cycle).</p>			Minimum Number of Schools	Division of Classifications	Range of Schools in each Class	48	II	24-36	72	III	24-32	98	IV	24-31	124	V	24-30
Minimum Number of Schools	Division of Classifications	Range of Schools in each Class															
48	II	24-36															
72	III	24-32															
98	IV	24-31															
124	V	24-30															
<p style="text-align: center;">Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.</p> <p>Rationale: Classification should not be an arbitrary designation decided by the Board of Directors. Each classification should be ranked and equally divided based upon the number of schools participating. The AVERAGE Daily Attendance is a more accurate assessment of students who are available to participate in activities.</p>																	
Other Rules Affected																	
Rule 127-3-10	Section 10.1	Page 60															
Rule	Section	Page															
Rule	Section	Page															

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): 10/7/2024		
School: Lincoln High	Daytime Phone: 304-326-7408	Evening Phone: 304-904-2862

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.2	Page: 60
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four <u>two</u> years on the odd numbered years and will remain in effect for a four <u>two</u> year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p>		
Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.		
Rationale: Two years is a more appropriate duration of time and is the length of typical home and home game contracts.		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule 127-3-10	Section 10.3	Page 60
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign):		
School: Lincoln High	Daytime Phone: 304-326-7408	Evening Phone: 304-904-2862

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.3	Page: 60
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 7 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four <u>two-year</u> period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p>		
<p><u>Rationale:</u> Align with 10.1 and 10.2.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule 127-3-10	Section 10.2	Page 60
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): <i>David W. Price</i> 10/7/2024		
School: Lincoln High	Daytime Phone: 304-326-7408	Evening Phone: 304-904-2862

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.4	Page: 60															
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.																	
<p>10.4. The Board of Directors may shall structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAA-AAA-AA-A) as outlined in the chart below: Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 10px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Minimum Number of Schools</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Division of Classifications</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Range of Schools in each Class</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">48</td> <td style="text-align: center;">II</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24-36</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">72</td> <td style="text-align: center;">III</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24-32</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">98</td> <td style="text-align: center;">IV</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24-31</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">124</td> <td style="text-align: center;">V</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24 -30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The minimum number of participating schools to conduct a state championship shall be 24 schools. The number of participating schools will be divided by the number of classification divisions to establish cut lines for each classification. If each classification is not balanced, the Board of Directors shall use 127-3-10.1 to balance the range of schools in each class. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p> <p><u>Rationale:</u> The Board of Directors' discretion needs to have a clear and outlined limit as defined by the Board of Control. This is evident by the decision of the Board of Review to remand classification back to membership. A published procedure with defined numbers prior to the release of classification rankings will provide clarity and limit implicit bias that currently is unchecked within rules 10.1 and 10.4.</p>			Minimum Number of Schools	Division of Classifications	Range of Schools in each Class	48	II	24-36	72	III	24-32	98	IV	24-31	124	V	24 -30
Minimum Number of Schools	Division of Classifications	Range of Schools in each Class															
48	II	24-36															
72	III	24-32															
98	IV	24-31															
124	V	24 -30															
Other Rules Affected																	
Rule: 127-3-10	Section: 10.3	Page: 60															
Rule	Section	Page															
Rule	Section	Page															

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSAL 15

MARTINSBURG

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Trent Sherman		
School: Martinsburg HS	Daytime Phone: 3042673530	Evening Phone: 3046768592

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127	Rule Number: 3-10.4 & 3-10.7	Page: 65
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (Division 1, 2, 3, 4. 1 being the smallest schools and 4 being the largest schools) (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p> <p>10.7 The WVSSAC Board or Directors is authorized to grant a waiver to a classification assignment when it determines the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended.</p>		
<p>Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.</p>		
<p>Simplify language for classes. Simplify dual class sports Remove appeal for classification.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule 	Section 	Page

Rule		Section		Page	
Rule		Section		Page	

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSAL 16

MIDLAND TRAIL

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Richard Petitt		
School: Midland Trail High School	Daytime Phone: 304-658-5184	Evening Phone: 304-663-6937

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: Appendix 1	Rule Number: 	Page: 19-20
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>This considers the following factors: enrollment location and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:</p> <p>The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location score is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1. • The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z <u>the</u>-score of the county's poverty rate <u>level</u> and the sum is normalized between 0-1. <p>For all schools, located within single high school counties the county economic score <u>poverty level</u> serves as the school economic score.</p> <p>For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score.</p> <p>The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average.</p> <p>Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competition Balance Committee. <u>The formulas will be weighted to reflect 80% for enrollment and 20% for county economic score.</u> All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate level) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's</p>		

Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps-SAIPE (Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates).

Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.

- Location score by finding distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more was excluded. West Virginia schools are spread out. Being a certain distance from a city of 10,000 offers no competitive benefit for rural schools. For example, Midland Trail being 25 miles from Beckley offers us no benefits or competitive advantages. Most kids are further distances than that away.
- Median Household Income and Free and Reduced Lunch were taken out of our proposal. Many counties have moved to Universal Feeding, and therefore, data is not accurate or reflective of population. If we all are not using the same system across the state, then this is flawed. Median Household Income was also taken out of our proposal. For example, Prince, West Virginia in Fayette County is listed as one of the wealthiest towns in West Virginia. Out of state occupants and vacation homes located on the New River should not be factored into median household incomes.
- Poverty Level is the only thing used for economic score. It is quite simple, the more money you have, they more opportunities you have. Each school's poverty level can be pulled off of the SAIPE and given a value between 0-1. For example, McDowell County has the highest poverty rate, so all schools in McDowell County would be given a poverty score of .01. Jefferson County has the lowest poverty rate, so all schools in Jefferson County would be given a poverty score of .55. There are 55 counties in the state so the poverty scores would range from .01 - .55.
- The Competitive Balance Committee was removed because it is perceived that that numbers were manipulated to gain desired results through a bias lens. Classifications should be determined using clear data that everyone can interpret removing any bias.
- SAIPE (small area income and poverty estimates) were used for poverty levels because it produces estimates of income and poverty for states, counties, and school districts.

Other Rules Affected

Rule 127-3-10	Section 10-1	Page 65
Rule [redacted]	Section [redacted]	Page [redacted]
Rule [redacted]	Section [redacted]	Page [redacted]

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSAL 17


NITRO

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): 		
School: Nitro High	Daytime Phone: 304 755 4571	Evening Phone: 304 553 9281

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.1	Page: 63
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A <u>for all sports that contain four classifications based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics on enrollment.</u> The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1 based on October, 2024 enrollment and become effective for the 2025-2026 school year. Classes shall be <u>divided as evenly as feasible with some discretion afforded to the Board of Directors. Given that no school shall be classified with a school that has a difference of more than 1000 students. There shall be no appeals of classification granted.</u></p> <p>If this proposal passes, Section 127-3-10 Rule 10.7 would be struck through.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation. The current structure related to appeals renders the competitive balance formula ineffective. Appeals are untenable. They have a yearly impact on classification, conference alignment, scheduling, playoff points, and playoff seeding.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule 10.7	Section 127-3-10	Page 63
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSAL 18

PIKEVIEW

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign):		
School: PikeView High School	Daytime Phone: 304-384-7586	Evening Phone: 304-952-4273

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: Appendix 1	Rule Number: n/a	Page: 20
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>APPENDIX 1 This considers the following factors: enrollment, location and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways: The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1. The location score is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1. The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1. For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score. For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average. Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competition Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAAA, AAAA, AA, or A based enrollment figures in grades 9,10,11, and 12 at the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. <u>The cutoff numbers are explained in §127-3-10.</u></p>		
<p>Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.</p>		
<p>The former classification rule included both an economic score and a location score that didn't serve all students equitably as it was intended to do. PikeView High students are not benefitted by their proximity to Beckley. Travelling to Beckley requires a trip up Interstate 77 which is a toll road and our students rely much more on their proximity to Princeton and other areas south of our school that do not offer near the opportunities that Beckley supposedly has. The economic score that was assigned to our area was also a concern as it had us with a score higher than many more urban and obviously more affluent, resource rich areas. We feel that the fairest way to determine classification is by enrollment numbers, especially considering the new transfer rule. We also feel that as a result of the transfer rule that reclassification should take place every other year. The enrollment number should not include students that are expelled or in alternative school as they are not eligible to participate in athletics.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule 127	Section 3-10	Page 62

Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSALS 19, 20
SISSONVILLE

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): 		
School: Sissonville High School	Daytime Phone: 304 348 1954	Evening Phone: 304 951 1009

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.1 – 10.7	Page: 62
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. <u>Schools in the AAAA classification will be assigned to the top 16 teams in the AAAA Classification.</u> The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p>		
<p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four <u>two</u> years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four <u>two</u> year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p>		
<p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four <u>two</u> year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p>		
<p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p>		
<p>10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics.</p>		
<p>10.6. No member school shall, based on the classification, be compelled to play more than one class up from where it would be classified in a three class system based strictly on enrollment.</p>		

* The **enrollment score** takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1.

* The **location score** is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1.

* The **economic score** is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1.

* **Enrollment:** Total number of students attending as determined by the second month report.

* **Socioeconomics:** Total number of Direct Certified Students, labeled as low SES and eligible for free and/or reduced lunch attending that school multiplied by .5

* For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score.

* For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average.

Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competition Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps.

* Using a one(enrollment)-to-one half (Low SES population) scale the total number of Direct Certified students in a school will be subtracted from the student body population (as determined by the second month report).

* Assigned scores will be used to rank schools to create a competitive balance.

* Example – Enrollment = 500 Low SES = 150 x .5 = 75 (500 – 75 = Total score = 425)

W. Va. Code R. agency 127, tit. 127, ser. 127-03, app 1

Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.

Rationale:

1. **Resource Disparities:** Schools in wealthier areas typically have access to better facilities, equipment, and coaching staff. They may also have booster clubs that can fund additional resources like training programs, travel expenses, and enhanced infrastructure. Conversely, schools in lower-income areas may struggle to provide even basic necessities. This imbalance in resources affects the quality of athletic programs and puts less affluent schools at a competitive disadvantage.
2. **Student Participation Rates:** Socioeconomic factors influence the number of students who can participate in athletics. Students from low-income families may need to work after school, lack transportation to practices or games, or be unable to afford personal sports equipment or participation fees. This limits talent pools for schools in economically disadvantaged areas, which in turn affects their ability to compete with wealthier schools.
3. **Training and Development:** Athletes from affluent backgrounds often have access to private coaching, club sports, and specialized training programs that give them an advantage. In contrast, students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds might only rely on school sports for development, leading to unequal preparation and performance on the field.
4. **Physical and Nutritional Differences:** Students from low-income families are more likely to face issues such as food insecurity, lack of healthcare, and limited access to fitness resources, which can impact their physical development, stamina, and overall athletic potential. Wealthier students, on the other hand, are often in a better position to maintain healthy lifestyles, giving them an inherent advantage in athletics.
5. **Mental and Emotional Health:** Socioeconomic status also influences the emotional and mental well-being of students. Students from lower-income families may experience higher levels of stress due to financial instability or difficult home environments, which can affect their focus and

performance in sports. Wealthier students might have access to counseling, support services, and a stable environment that fosters better mental health, contributing to their overall athletic success.

6. **Creating a Fair Playing Field:** The core principle of classifying teams by school size is to ensure fair competition, but size alone doesn't account for these significant disparities. Including socioeconomic factors in classification models would create a more equitable framework, ensuring that schools with similar access to resources compete against each other. This adjustment would promote a level playing field where success is more reflective of talent, effort, and strategy, rather than economic advantage.

7. **Fostering Inclusivity:** Accounting for socioeconomic factors in athletic classifications can foster inclusivity and give schools in disadvantaged areas a better chance to succeed. This not only improves the competitive nature of high school sports but also ensures that students from all backgrounds have equal opportunities to participate, thrive, and benefit from the values that athletics instill, such as teamwork, discipline, and leadership.

In summary, ignoring socioeconomic factors perpetuates inequality in high school athletics, where wealthier schools consistently dominate. By considering these factors, athletic classifications can better reflect fairness, providing all students with an equal opportunity to compete and succeed.

Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

10.7. The WVSSAC Board of Directors is authorized to grant a waiver to a classification assignment when it determines the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended. The Board of Directors will provide in writing the decision of appeal. This will include a rationale behind the decision that underscores the reasons for approval and/or denial of the waiver. Each member's vote will be recorded and made public knowledge. The burden of explanation to determine if the rule accomplishes its purpose falls to the Board of Directors, and it will be their responsibility to articulate their reasoning in writing to the school requesting a waiver.

W. Va. Code R. § 127-3-10

Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.

Rationale:

1. **Resource Disparities:** Schools in wealthier areas typically have access to better facilities, equipment, and coaching staff. They may also have booster clubs that can fund additional resources like training programs, travel expenses, and enhanced infrastructure. Conversely, schools in lower-income areas may struggle to provide even basic necessities. This imbalance in resources affects the quality of athletic programs and puts less affluent schools at a competitive disadvantage.
 2. **Student Participation Rates:** Socioeconomic factors influence the number of students who can participate in athletics. Students from low-income families may need to work after school, lack transportation to practices or games, or be unable to afford personal sports equipment or participation fees. This limits talent pools for schools in economically disadvantaged areas, which in turn affects their ability to compete with wealthier schools.
 3. **Training and Development:** Athletes from affluent backgrounds often have access to private coaching, club sports, and specialized training programs that give them an advantage. In contrast, students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds might only rely on school sports for development, leading to unequal preparation and performance on the field.
 4. **Physical and Nutritional Differences:** Students from low-income families are more likely to face issues such as food insecurity, lack of healthcare, and limited access to fitness resources, which can impact their physical development, stamina, and overall athletic potential. Wealthier students, on the other hand, are often in a better position to maintain healthy lifestyles, giving them an inherent advantage in athletics.
 5. **Mental and Emotional Health:** Socioeconomic status also influences the emotional and mental well-being of students. Students from lower-income families may experience higher levels of stress due to financial instability or difficult home environments, which can affect their focus and performance in sports. Wealthier students might have access to counseling, support services, and a stable environment that fosters better mental health, contributing to their overall athletic success.
 6. **Creating a Fair Playing Field:** The core principle of classifying teams by school size is to ensure fair competition, but size alone doesn't account for these significant disparities. Including socioeconomic factors in classification models would create a more equitable framework, ensuring that schools with similar access to resources compete against each other. This adjustment would promote a level playing field where success is more reflective of talent, effort, and strategy, rather than economic advantage.
 7. **Fostering Inclusivity:** Accounting for socioeconomic factors in athletic classifications can foster inclusivity and give schools in disadvantaged areas a better chance to succeed. This not only improves the competitive nature of high school sports but also ensures that students from all backgrounds have equal opportunities to participate, thrive, and benefit from the values that athletics instill, such as teamwork, discipline, and leadership.
- In summary, ignoring socioeconomic factors perpetuates inequality in high school athletics, where wealthier schools consistently dominate. By considering these factors, athletic classifications can better reflect fairness, providing all students with an equal opportunity to compete and succeed.

Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission Rule Change Proposal Form Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): 		
School: Sissonville High School	Daytime Phone: 304 348 1954	Evening Phone: 304 951 1009

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: Appendix	Rule Number: Appendix I	Page: 113
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p> <p>Appendix 1 This considers the following factors: enrollment, location and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways: These factors are used to calculate a score from which school will be ranked for classification. Calculations will be conducted in the following ways:</p>		

PROPOSAL 21
SOUTH HARRISON

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign):		
School: South Harrison High School	Daytime Phone: 304-326-7440	Evening Phone: 304-203-7448

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127-3-10	Rule Number: 10.1, 10.4, 10.5	Page: 62-63
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p> <p>10.1 Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location and economics. The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p> <p>10.4 The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of stucture of any given sport.</p> <p>10.5 If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics.</p>		
<p>Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.</p> <p>The main purpose of a classification system is competitive balance within each class. By basing classification on enrollment numbers, this ensures there is not an imbalance competitvely amongst schools in the same classification. A school cannot be competitive against schools with 2 to 2.5 times more student athletes to choose from, the location of the school or the socio-economic status of the school should not matter. Classification should be solely based on total enrollment as it has been for years.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

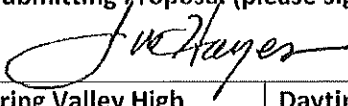
PROPOSAL 22
SPRING VALLEY

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign):		
		
School: Spring Valley High School	Daytime Phone: 304-429-1699	Evening Phone: 304-544-3433

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10. Classification.	Rule Number: 10.1 – 10.2 – 10.3 – 10.5 – 10.8 and Appendix 1	Page: 64-65 and 115 (Appendix 1)
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underline</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>§127-3-10. Classification.</p> <p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics <u>modified enrollment, which is calculated by calculating each school's enrollment and the number of Direct Certified students. Each student receiving Direct Certification services will only count as 50% towards the modified enrollment.</u> The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p> <p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four <u>two</u> years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four <u>two</u> year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p> <p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four <u>two</u> year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p> <p>10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics and direct certification.</p> <p><u>10.8 Each member school will receive all direct certified data, leading up to the re-classification process</u></p>		

APPENDIX 1

This considers the following factors: enrollment location and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:

- The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1.
- The location score is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1.
- The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1.

Enrollment: The enrollment score is calculated by the second month report every two years

- For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score.
- For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county

Every two years, the enrollment data will be collected from the second month count. Additionally, the direct certification data will be calculated and used to create a "modified enrollment." Students receiving direct certification services will count as 50%, while each student not receiving direct certification services will count as 100%.

Example:

Enrollment 1000 – Students receiving direct certification services 300. $300 \times 0.5 = 150$
1000 (enrollment) – 150 (half of students receiving DC services) = 850 modified enrollment.

For sports with 4 classes:

AAAA- 900+ (16 Schools)

AAA- 899-500 (30 Schools)

AA- 499-250 (37 Schools)

A- 249 and below (41 Schools)

*Must have a minimum of 16 schools in each classification or the teams from the class below get bumped up

*The same data will be used to calculate the classifications in sports that have 2 and 3 classes.

Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.

We believe that socioeconomics play a major role in competitive balance. The challenge is finding a simple way to accurately measure poverty and affluence. Socioeconomics is the driving force behind access to things like travel ball, specialized training, golf courses, tennis facilities and many other things that can make an impact on athletics. Free and reduced lunch has long been the standard used in education to measure poverty and these numbers are specific to each school. If we use only enrollment to determine classification then it ignores the major income and competitive balance disparities that exist in our state. By using predetermined brackets, it takes away the mystery that occurs in the process. Reclassifying every two years will ensure that we are using the most up to date and accurate data.

Other Rules Affected

Rule: None	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

School	Total Students Directly Certified	Total Enrolled Students	Percent Needy	Modified Enrollment	Class
Morgantown High School	558	1823	30.61%	1544	AAAA
Musselman High School	749	1780	42.08%	1405.5	AAAA
Cabell Midland High School	680	1725	39.42%	1385	AAAA
Huntington High School	1024	1747	58.61%	1235	AAAA
Spring Mills High School	675	1549	43.58%	1211.5	AAAA
Wheeling Park High School	675	1493	45.21%	1155.5	AAAA
Parkersburg High School	818	1561	52.40%	1152	AAAA
University High School	460	1375	33.45%	1145	AAAA
Jefferson High School	517	1394	37.09%	1135.5	AAAA
Washington High School	536	1384	38.73%	1116	AAAA
Hedgesville High School	655	1407	46.55%	1079.5	AAAA
Martinsburg High School	794	1466	54.16%	1069	AAAA
Parkersburg South High School	640	1384	46.24%	1064	AAAA
Hurricane High School	428	1229	34.83%	1015	AAAA
George Washington High School	392	1198	32.72%	1002	AAAA
Woodrow Wilson High School	650	1268	51.26%	943	AAAA
Preston High School	518	1119	46.29%	860	AAA
John Marshall High School	510	1101	46.32%	846	AAA
Buckhannon Upshur High School	577	1120	51.52%	831.5	AAA
Greenbrier East High School	461	1011	45.60%	780.5	AAA
Oak Hill High School	623	1090	57.16%	778.5	AAA
Riverside High School	719	1132	63.52%	772.5	AAA
Spring Valley High School	505	985	51.27%	732.5	AAA
Bridgeport High School	197	827	23.82%	728.5	AAA
Princeton Senior High School	522	967	53.98%	706	AAA
Capital High School	720	1058	68.05%	698	AAA
Winfield High School	221	792	27.90%	681.5	AAA
Saint Albans High School	517	922	56.07%	663.5	AAA
Brooke High School	385	844	45.62%	651.5	AAA
South Charleston High School	556	929	59.85%	651	AAA
Ripley High School	301	789	38.15%	638.5	AAA
Shady Spring High School	316	787	40.15%	629	AAA
Hampshire Senior High School	408	814	50.12%	610	AAA
Nitro High School	384	800	48.00%	608	AAA

Fairmont Senior High School	343	779	44.03%	607.5	AAA
Herbert Hoover High School	372	788	47.21%	602	AAA
Elkins High School	347	755	45.96%	581.5	AAA
Lincoln County High School	524	837	62.60%	575	AAA
East Fairmont High School	269	686	39.21%	551.5	AAA
North Marion High School	351	716	49.02%	540.5	AAA
Point Pleasant Junior/Senior High School	375	723	51.87%	535.5	AAA
Robert C. Byrd High School	393	731	53.76%	534.5	AAA
Grafton High School	275	666	41.29%	528.5	AAA
Lewis County High School	414	730	56.71%	523	AAA
Nicholas County High School	354	697	50.79%	520	AAA
Keyser High School	327	667	49.03%	503.5	AAA
Chapmanville Regional High School	375	666	56.31%	480.5	AA
Berkeley Springs High School	270	603	44.78%	468	AA
Pikeview High School	307	610	50.33%	456.5	AA
Weir High School	233	570	40.88%	453.5	AA
Philip Barbour High School Complex	284	589	48.22%	447	AA
Wayne High School	285	575	49.57%	432.5	AA
Bluefield High School	416	636	65.41%	428	AA
Independence High School	345	592	58.28%	419.5	AA
Sissonville High School	324	581	55.77%	419	AA
Mingo Central Comprehensive High School	410	617	66.45%	412	AA
Frankfort High School	132	476	27.73%	410	AA
Lincoln High School	244	528	46.21%	406	AA
Westside High School	316	558	56.63%	400	AA
Oak Glen High School	193	495	38.99%	398.5	AA
Scott High School	324	559	57.96%	397	AA
Roane County High School	253	518	48.84%	391.5	AA
Moorefield High School	230	492	46.75%	377	AA
Logan High School	356	554	64.26%	376	AA
Braxton County High School	278	507	54.83%	368	AA
James Monroe High School	229	477	48.01%	362.5	AA
Clay County High School	358	534	67.04%	355	AA
Liberty (Raleigh) High School	233	459	50.76%	342.5	AA

Liberty (Harrison) High School	254	464	54.74%	337	AA
Wyoming County East High School	237	452	52.43%	333.5	AA
Poca High School	227	432	52.55%	318.5	AA
Ravenswood High School	188	410	45.85%	316	AA
Petersburg High School	193	406	47.54%	309.5	AA
Williamstown High School	114	359	31.75%	302	AA
Wheeling Central	0	300	0.00%	300	AA
Buffalo High School	156	376	41.49%	298	AA
Midland Trail High School	199	396	50.25%	296.5	AA
South Harrison High School	141	356	39.61%	285.5	AA
Tyler Consolidated High School	174	369	47.15%	282	AA
Doddridge County High School	156	344	45.35%	266	AA
Summers County High School	230	381	60.37%	266	AA
Greenbrier West High School	258	390	66.15%	261	AA
Ritchie County High School	190	348	54.60%	253	AA
River View High School	288	389	74.04%	245	A
Tucker County High School	119	293	40.61%	233.5	A
Sherman High School	187	325	57.54%	231.5	A
Man Senior High School	216	337	64.09%	229	A
St. Marys High School	138	298	46.31%	229	A
Webster County High School	231	342	67.54%	226.5	A
Tug Valley High School	221	335	65.97%	224.5	A
Tolsia High School	239	342	69.88%	222.5	A
Richwood High School	209	322	64.91%	217.5	A
Mount View High School	223	326	68.40%	214.5	A
Magnolia High School	181	303	59.74%	212.5	A
Pocahontas County High School	160	291	54.98%	211	A
Wirt County High School	157	286	54.90%	207.5	A
Wahama High School	119	258	46.12%	198.5	A
Pendleton County Middle/High School	124	257	48.25%	195	A
Charleston Catholic	0	191	0.00%	191	A
Gilmer County High School	116	242	47.93%	184	A
Calhoun Middle/High School	170	265	64.15%	180	A
Tygart's Valley Middle/High School	129	238	54.20%	173.5	A
East Hardy High School	91	215	42.33%	169.5	A

Clay-Battelle High School	76	193	39.38%	155	A
Cameron High School	75	182	41.21%	144.5	A
Montcalm High School	131	191	68.59%	125.5	A
Hannan High School	84	158	53.16%	116	A
Madonna	0	103	0.00%	103	A
Trinity	0	102	0.00%	102	A
Valley High School (W)	78	139	56.12%	100	A
Huntington St. Joseph	0	99	0.00%	99	A
Meadow Bridge High	76	134	56.72%	96	A
Paden City High School	62	107	57.94%	76	A
Notre Dame	0	70	0.00%	70	A
Parkersburg Catholic	0	63	0.00%	63	A
Van Junior/Senior High School	63	94	67.02%	62.5	A
Hundred High School	45	77	58.44%	54.5	A
Union Educational Complex	38	66	57.58%	47	A
Greater Beckley	0	46	0.00%	46	A
Paw Paw High School	32	52	61.54%	36	A
Harman High School	16	35	45.71%	27	A
WV School for the Blind	8	26	30.77%	22	A
WV School for the Deaf	8	26	30.77%	22	A
Pickens Elementary/High School	5	9	55.56%	6.5	A

This system counts each "direct certified" students as 50% to get the modified enrollment

Predetermined ranges for classes...

For sports with 4 classes:

AAAA- 900+ (16 Schools)

AAA- 899-500 (30 Schools)

AA- 499-250 (37 Schools)

A- 249 and below (41 Schools)

*Must have a minimum of 16 schools in each classification or the teams from the class below get bumped up

*All direct certified data will be made available to each school leading up to the re-classification process

§127-3-10. Classification.

10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the ~~total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics~~ modified enrollment, which is calculated by calculating each school's enrollment and the number of Direct Certified students. Each student receiving Direct Certification services will only count as 50% towards the modified enrollment. The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.

10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every ~~four~~ two years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a ~~four~~ two year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.

10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a ~~four~~ two year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.

10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, ~~location, and economics~~ and direct certification.

10.8 Each member school will receive all direct certified data, leading up to the re-classification process

APPENDIX 1

This considers the following factors: enrollment ~~location~~ and economics. ~~These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:~~

- ~~• The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1.~~
- ~~• The location score is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1.~~
- ~~• The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1.~~

Enrollment: The enrollment score is calculated by the second month report every two years

- ~~• For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score.~~

- ~~For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct-Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct-Certified numbers of each individual school with the county~~

Every two years, the enrollment data will be collected from the second month count. Additionally, the direct certification data will be calculated and used to create a "modified enrollment." Students receiving direct certification services will count as 50%, while each student not receiving direct certification services will count as 100%.

Example:

Enrollment 1000 – Students receiving direct certification services 300. $300 \times 0.5 = 150$

1000 (enrollment) – 150 (half of students receiving DC services) = 850 modified enrollment.

For sports with 4 classes:

AAAA- 900+ (16 Schools)

AAA- 899-500 (30 Schools)

AA- 499-250 (37 Schools)

A- 249 and below (41 Schools)

*Must have a minimum of 16 schools in each classification or the teams from the class below get bumped up

*The same data will be used to calculate the classifications in sports that have 2 and 3 classes.

Rationale: We believe that socioeconomics play a major role in competitive balance. The challenge is finding a simple way to accurately measure poverty and affluence. Socioeconomics is the driving force behind access to things like travel ball, specialized training, golf courses, tennis facilities and many other things that can make an impact on athletics. Free and reduced lunch has long been the standard used in education to measure poverty and these numbers are specific to each school. If we use only enrollment to determine classification then it ignores the major income and competitive balance disparities that exist in our state. By using predetermined brackets, it takes away the mystery that occurs in the process. Reclassifying every two years will ensure that we are using the most up to date and accurate data.

PROPOSALS 23, 24
ST MARYS

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Lori Barnhart		
School: St. Marys High School	Daytime Phone: 304-682-2421	Evening Phone: 304-481-9280

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section:127-3-10	Rule Number:10	Page:62
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.		
§ 127-3-10 Classification		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics. <u>Schools in the AAAA classification will be assigned to a minimum of the top 16 teams with a maximum of no more than 20 teams in the AAAA Classification.</u> The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p> <p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every <u>two</u> four years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a two four year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p> <p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four <u>two</u> year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p> <p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p> <p>10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, location, and economics.</p> <p>10.6. No member school shall, based on the classification, be compelled to play more than one class up from where it would be classified in a three class system based strictly on enrollment.</p>		

The WVSSAC Board of Directors is authorized to grant a waiver to a classification assignment when it determines the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended.

10.7. The WVSSAC Board of Directors is authorized to grant a waiver to a classification assignment when it determines the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended. The Board of Directors will provide in writing the decision of appeal. This will include a finding of fact and conclusion of law. The Decision will be signed by each member of the Board of Directors and shall clearly state each member's vote. The burden of a clearly articulated explanation falls to the Board of Directors, and it will be their responsibility to articulate their reasoning in writing to the school requesting a waiver.

Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.

Rationale in Support of the Rule change to § 127-3-10 Classification

1. **Resource Disparity** - Schools in both affluent areas and larger communities typically have greater access to superior facilities, equipment, and experienced coaching staff. Additionally, larger schools often benefit from broader support networks, such as well-established booster clubs, that can fund enhanced resources like advanced training programs, travel expenses, and upgraded infrastructure. In contrast, smaller schools or those in lower-income areas often struggle to provide even basic athletic necessities. This imbalance in resources creates significant disparities in the quality of athletic programs, putting smaller and less affluent schools at a competitive disadvantage.
2. **Student Participation Rates:** Socioeconomic and community size factors both affect student participation in athletics. Students from low-income families may face barriers such as after-school jobs, lack of transportation to practices or games, or an inability to afford personal sports equipment and participation fees. Smaller schools, too, may face challenges in fielding teams due to fewer students overall, while larger schools with more students can easily fill rosters and create deeper talent pools. These disparities limit the competitive potential of smaller and economically disadvantaged schools compared to larger, well-resourced ones.
3. **Training and Development:** Athletes from both affluent backgrounds and larger schools have access to private coaching, club sports, and specialized training programs, which provide them with a significant edge in competition. By contrast, students from smaller schools or lower socioeconomic backgrounds may rely solely on school sports for their development, leading to unequal preparation and performance levels on the field. Larger schools can also offer more varied athletic programs, providing additional opportunities for student-athletes to improve.
4. **Physical and Nutritional Challenges:** Students from low-income families are more likely to experience issues such as food insecurity, lack of healthcare, and limited access to fitness resources, all of which can hinder their physical development, stamina, and athletic potential. Smaller schools in rural or economically challenged areas often lack the infrastructure or programs to provide nutritional support and fitness resources, while students in wealthier or

larger schools are more likely to maintain healthy lifestyles, providing them with a competitive advantage.

5. **Mental and Emotional Health:** Both socioeconomic status and school size can impact students' emotional and mental well-being. Students from lower-income families often face stress from financial instability or difficult home environments, affecting their focus and performance in sports. Similarly, students in smaller schools may lack access to mental health resources and counseling services. In contrast, wealthier students or those in larger schools may have access to more robust support systems that foster better mental and emotional health, contributing to their success in athletics.
6. **Creating a Fair Playing Field:** While classifying teams only by school size is intended to promote fair competition, it fails to account for the disparities that arise from both socioeconomic factors and the resources available in larger communities. Adjusting classification models to consider not only school size but also socioeconomic factors would create a more equitable framework, ensuring that schools with similar access to resources—whether economic or community-based—compete against one another. This would help create a level playing field where success is based on talent, effort, and strategy rather than economic or community size advantages.
7. **Fostering Inclusivity:** Including both socioeconomic factors and school size in athletic classifications would foster greater inclusivity and give schools in disadvantaged areas or smaller communities a better chance to succeed. This adjustment would not only enhance the competitive balance of high school sports but also ensure that students from all backgrounds and school sizes have equal opportunities to participate, thrive, and benefit from the values of teamwork, discipline, and leadership that athletics promote.

In summary, ignoring both socioeconomic and school size disparities perpetuates inequality in high school sports, where wealthier and larger schools tend to dominate. By considering these factors in athletic classifications, the system can better reflect fairness, offering all students—regardless of their school's size or resources—a more equal opportunity to compete and succeed.

Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Lori Barnhart		
School: St. Marys High School	Daytime Phone: 304-694-2421	Evening Phone: 304-481-9280

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: 127CSR3	Rule Number:	Page: 113
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p> APPENDIX 1</p>		
<p>This considers the following factors: enrollment, location and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:</p> <p>The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location score is calculated by find the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1. • The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1, normalizing on a scale of 0-1 the direct certified numbers of each individual school that is verified by the West Virginia Department of Education. • For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school's economic score. • For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunches are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average. <p>Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competitive Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five-Year Estimates <u>West Virginia Department of Education's numbers</u> and the distances are determined using Google Maps.</p>		

Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.

Rationale in support of the revisions to Appendix 1:

1. **Resource Disparity** - Schools in both affluent areas and larger communities typically have greater access to superior facilities, equipment, and experienced coaching staff. Additionally, larger schools often benefit from broader support networks, such as well-established booster clubs, that can fund enhanced resources like advanced training programs, travel expenses, and upgraded infrastructure. In contrast, smaller schools or those in lower-income areas often struggle to provide even basic athletic necessities. This imbalance in resources creates significant disparities in the quality of athletic programs, putting smaller and less affluent schools at a competitive disadvantage.
2. **Student Participation Rates:** Socioeconomic and community size factors both affect student participation in athletics. Students from low-income families may face barriers such as after-school jobs, lack of transportation to practices or games, or an inability to afford personal sports equipment and participation fees. Smaller schools, too, may face challenges in fielding teams due to fewer students overall, while larger schools with more students can easily fill rosters and create deeper talent pools. These disparities limit the competitive potential of smaller and economically disadvantaged schools compared to larger, well-resourced ones.
3. **Training and Development:** Athletes from both affluent backgrounds and larger schools have access to private coaching, club sports, and specialized training programs, which provide them with a significant edge in competition. By contrast, students from smaller schools or lower socioeconomic backgrounds may rely solely on school sports for their development, leading to unequal preparation and performance levels on the field. Larger schools can also offer more varied athletic programs, providing additional opportunities for student-athletes to improve.
4. **Physical and Nutritional Challenges:** Students from low-income families are more likely to experience issues such as food insecurity, lack of healthcare, and limited access to fitness resources, all of which can hinder their physical development, stamina, and athletic potential. Smaller schools in rural or economically challenged areas often lack the infrastructure or programs to provide nutritional support and fitness resources, while students in wealthier or larger schools are more likely to maintain healthy lifestyles, providing them with a competitive advantage.
5. **Mental and Emotional Health:** Both socioeconomic status and school size can impact students' emotional and mental well-being. Students from lower-income families often face stress from financial instability or difficult home environments, affecting their focus and performance in sports. Similarly, students in smaller schools may lack access to mental health resources and counseling services. In contrast, wealthier students or those in larger schools may have access to more robust support systems that foster better mental and emotional health, contributing to their success in athletics.
6. **Creating a Fair Playing Field:** While classifying teams only by school size is intended to promote fair competition, it fails to account for the disparities that arise from both socioeconomic factors and the resources available in larger communities. Adjusting classification models to consider not only school size but also socioeconomic factors would create a more equitable framework, ensuring that schools with similar access to resources—whether economic or

community-based—compete against one another. This would help create a level playing field where success is based on talent, effort, and strategy rather than economic or community size advantages.

7. **Fostering Inclusivity:** Including both socioeconomic factors and school size in athletic classifications would foster greater inclusivity and give schools in disadvantaged areas or smaller communities a better chance to succeed. This adjustment would not only enhance the competitive balance of high school sports but also ensure that students from all backgrounds and school sizes have equal opportunities to participate, thrive, and benefit from the values of teamwork, discipline, and leadership that athletics promote.

In summary, ignoring both socioeconomic and school size disparities perpetuates inequality in high school sports, where wealthier and larger schools tend to dominate. By considering these factors in athletic classifications, the system can better reflect fairness, offering all students—regardless of their school's size or resources—a more equal opportunity to compete and succeed.

Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSALS 25-30

WEIR

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Edson Arneault		
School: Weir High School	Daytime Phone: 304-748-7600	Evening Phone:

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section:	Rule Number:	Page: 113
§127-3-10. Classification.		
<p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, <u>and out of area attendance location, and economics.</u></p> <p>The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p> <p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four <u>two</u> years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four two year period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year.</p> <p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four two year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p> <p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p> <p>10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, <u>out of area attendance location, and economics.</u></p>		
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and underscore any new words, phrases or sentences.		

127CSR3
APPENDIX 1

This considers the following factors: enrollment, location and out of area attendance and economics.

These factors are given

individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:

- ▲ The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1.
- ▲ The location score is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1.
- ▲ The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1.
 - For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score.
 - For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average.

Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC

Competition Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps.

A School enrollment shall be determined using the following formula:

- 1) School enrollments will be collected every 2 (two) years using information available through WVDE and WVEIS
 - A) A student residing in the attendance area of the school they are competing for will be assigned a value of 1 (one).
 - B) A student residing outside of the designated attendance area, but in the same county shall be assigned a score of 1.25
 - C) A student residing outside of the county shall be assigned a score of 1.5
 - D) A student residing outside of the state shall be assigned a score of 2

The total number of students in each category shall then be totaled and a number calculated. Classifications shall be based on this number.

There shall be 4 classifications in the following sports:
Football, Basketball, Cheer, Volleyball, Baseball, Softball

There shall be 3 classifications in the following sports:
Golf, Cross Country, Wrestling, Track, Soccer

There shall be 2 classifications in the following sports:
Tennis, Swimming

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Edson Arneault		
School: Weir High School	Daytime Phone: 304- 748- 7600	Evening Phone:

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10. Classification.	Rule Number: 10.1	Page:
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and underscore any new words, phrases or sentences.</p> <p>10.1. Each member high school shall be classified as either AAAA, AAA, AA, or A based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, <u>and out of area attendance location, and economics.</u></p> <p>The designation shall be done after the end of the second school month of the odd numbered year preceding the classification. For an explanation of the classification model, and how scores are assigned, see Appendix 1.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Edson Arneault		
School: Weir High School	Daytime Phone: 304- 748- 7600	Evening Phone:

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10. Classification.	Rule Number: 10.2	Page:
Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and underscore any new words, phrases or sentences.		
<p>10.2. Classification of member high schools shall be determined every four <u>two</u> years on the even numbered years and will remain in effect for a four <u>two year</u> period unless the school experiences a 20% change in enrollment using WVDE enrollment figures at the end of the second school month. Classification changes due to a 20% change in enrollment becomes effective next academic year</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Edson Arneault		
School: Weir High School	Daytime Phone: 304- 748- 7600	Evening Phone:

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10. Classification.	Rule Number: 10.3	Page:
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and underscore any new words, phrases or sentences.</p> <p>10.3. A school may choose to compete in WVSSAC tournaments in any class above its classification providing proper notification is made to the WVSSAC prior to Friday of week 27 after classification has been approved by the Board of Directors. Approval of this option will be for a four two year period and will be effective for individual sports sponsored by the school.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Edson Arneault		
School: Weir High School	Daytime Phone: 304- 748- 7600	Evening Phone:

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section : APPENDIX 1	Rule Number:	Page:
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and underscore any new words, phrases or sentences.</p>		
<p>127CSR3 APPENDIX 1</p>		
<p>This considers the following factors: enrollment, location and out of area attendance and economics. These factors are given individual scores, which are then given a weighted aggregate total. All individual scores (scores for enrollment, location and economics) are normalized using maximum-minimum normalization using feature scaling, wherein their values fall between 0-1. Individual scores are calculated in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ The enrollment score takes enrollment data and normalizes it on a scale from 0-1. ▲ The location score is calculated by finding the distance from the school to the closest city with a population of 10,000 or more, then normalized between 0-1. ▲ The economic score is determined by first calculating a county score where the z-score of the county's median household income is added to the z-score of the county's poverty rate and the sum is normalized between 0-1. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For all schools located within single high school counties, the county economic score serves as the school economic score. ○ For all schools located within multi-high school counties, Direct Certified numbers on students eligible for free or reduced lunch are used to scale the county economic score. The scaling is accomplished by comparing the Direct Certified numbers of each individual school with the county average. <p>Weights are applied to each score that are determined based on qualitative assessment by the WVSSAC Competition Balance Committee. All county data (population, median household income, and poverty rate) are from the most recent US Census American Community Survey's Five Year Estimates and the distances are determined using Google Maps.</p> <p><u>A School enrollment shall be determined using the following formula:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <u>School enrollments will be collected every 2 (two) years using information available through WVDE and WVEIS</u> 		

- A) A student residing in the attendance area of the school they are competing for will be assigned a value of 1 (one).
- B) A student residing outside of the designated attendance area, but in the same county shall be assigned a score of 1.25
- C) A student residing outside of the county shall be assigned a score of 1.5
- D) A student residing outside of the state shall be assigned a score of 2

The total number of students in each category shall then be totaled and a number calculated. Classifications shall be based on this number.

There shall be 4 classifications in the following sports:
Football, Basketball, Cheer, Volleyball, Baseball, Softball

There shall be 3 classifications in the following sports:
Golf, Cross Country, Wrestling, Track, Soccer

There shall be 2 classifications in the following sports:
Tennis, Swimming

Other Rules Affected		
Rule		Page
Rule		Page
Rule		Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Edson Arneault		
School: Weir High School	Daytime Phone: 304- 748- 7600	Evening Phone:

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10. Classification.	Rule Number: 10.5	Page:
<p>Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and underscore any new words, phrases or sentences.</p> <p>10.5. If a consolidation of two or more member schools occurs during the classification period, the new member school will be reclassified based on the total score given by the classification model that considers the factors of enrollment, <u>out of area attendance</u> location, and economics</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.

PROPOSALS 31
WIRT COUNTY

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission

Rule Change Proposal Form

Deadline for Submitting Proposal: October 9

Proposed changes in the WVSSAC Rules and Regulations Handbook, whether by revision, addition or deletion, must be emailed to david.price@wvssac.org by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. Only rules pertaining to CLASSIFICATION and/or APPENDIX 1 may be submitted.

Principal Submitting Proposal (please sign): Elizabeth Smith and Eric Cheeseman (AD)		
School: Wirt County High School	Daytime Phone:304-275-4241	Evening Phone:304-481-9223

Directions:

1. Only one proposal per page. If additional sheets are needed please copy.
2. All proposals must be stated clearly and concisely.
3. Word the proposal exactly as you want it to appear in the Rule Book.
4. Write a short rationale stating the problem, why the rule should be changed/added, etc.

Section: §127-3-10	Rule Number:10.4	Page:62
Classification		
<p style="text-align: center;">Type the recommendation or proposal, using the exact wording desired. Type the present wording of the rule and strike through any deletions and <u>underscore</u> any new words, phrases or sentences.</p> <p>10.4. The Board of Directors may structure the WVSSAC tournament series in each sport by classification (AAAA-AAA-AA-A). Each sport will be structured according to the level of interest and accommodation for tournament alignment. The WVSSAC will conduct a survey of the membership prior to any change of structure of any given sport.</p> <p>Wrestling will be classified by 2 classes while following the 4 class system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A and AA will wrestle together - AAA and AAAA will wrestle together. <p style="text-align: center;">Rationale: Be very clear in your explanation.</p> <p>Wrestling is arguably the most unbalanced sport in regards to competition and the size of classes. In a sport where 4 qualifiers come from each region, having a region of only 6 teams in AAA while there are regions 3 times the size of this in A/AA provides an unfair advantage to larger schools.</p> <p>There are currently 66 Schools wrestling in A/AA. Regional numbers are as follows: Region 1- 18, Region 2- 17, Region 3- 14, Region 4-17.</p> <p>There are currently 32 Schools wrestling in AAA. Regional numbers are as follows: Region 1- 9, Region 2- 6, Region 3- 10, Region 4-7.</p> <p>By using the same classifications for Wrestling as Boys and Girls Basketball, Baseball, Softball, and Volleyball we will be able to have more balanced competition in one of the fastest growing sports.</p> <p>This change would move 19 schools from A/AA to AAA/AAAA. This would put 47 Wrestling Schools in A/AA and 51 in AAA/AAAA, creating a much more balanced classification in regards to wrestling.</p>		
Other Rules Affected		
Rule: Appendix 1	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page
Rule	Section	Page

Only member school principals may submit changes.