

## **Permissible Awards for Invited Schools**

**AL:** With the approval of the principal the athlete may accept an award that costs \$50.00 or less. No award of any kind having a monetary value of more than \$50--other than medals, trophies, plaques or AHSAA championship rings--shall be made to students. Violation of this rule on the part of school officials shall subject the school to suspension for one year. Acceptance of awards exceeding these limitations shall disqualify a student. Cash awards or merchandise for athletic performances or participation may not be given.

### **CA: COACHES AWARD LIMITATIONS**

No tournament will be sanctioned if an award of over \$20.00 in value is made to coaches.

### **STUDENT AWARD LIMITATIONS**

A. A high school student may not receive, from any and all sources, athletic awards totaling more than \$100.00 in value for:

(1) Accomplishments in any regular season CIF high school competition event;

**NOTE:** Typical examples of a "regular season CIF high school competition event" include, but are not limited to, any non-league dual contest, league dual contest and/or individual tournaments held prior to any season-culminating League, Section, Region and/or State Playoff competition.

B. The dollar value of an award shall be determined by the following criteria:

(1) The retail price paid by the last purchaser in the acquisition of the award;

(2) If the host school or League purchases the award, the retail price paid by the host school or League;

(3) If the award is donated by another entity, the retail price paid by or cost to that entity, exclusive of engraving.

C. Such award cannot be cash, a gift certificate or merchandise alone. It may be merchandise, badge, medal, plaque, ribbon, picture, certificate or trophy, if it is suitably engraved or designated as an award.

**CO:** In any approved CHSAA interscholastic competition, athletics and activities, no awards of any kind other than awards by the school, the Association, or a group approved by the school or the Association and limited in value to \$50.00 (exclusive of engraving) shall be made to participants.

**CT:** The awards should be symbolic in nature, i.e. letters, sweaters, jackets, pins, trophies, other similar type awards, and rings or watches which are properly inscribed. Cash awards including U.S. Savings Bonds are prohibited.

**DE:** Non-symbolic competition awards shall have a value of not more than \$150.00 per recipient and shall require the prior approval of the Executive Director.

**FL:** Permissible Awards, Gifts, or Other Compensation. A student-athlete will not forfeit his/her amateur status for accepting:

- (a) Symbolic awards such as school letters, medals, trophies, ribbons, plaques, pins, keys, or ribbons of small monetary value purchased from an established awards company.
- (b) Rings, sweaters, jackets, or award blankets provided that they are presented by the school which they represent and do not exceed the value of the purchase price from an established awards company.
- (c) Remuneration of “essential expenses” for any game in which he/she participates as a player; limited to meals, lodging, and transportation;
- (d) A college scholarship offer.

9.9.3.1 Amateur Sports Guidelines. The FHSAA uses the guidelines of the national governing body of a particular sport, when applicable, to determine the types and amounts of benefits an amateur may receive.

**GA:**

1. No cash awards to individual students other than standard reimbursement for expenses (travel, meals, housing)
2. No awards that have intrinsic cash value (i.e., cash, gift cards, etc.) -- all awards must be symbolic in nature (i.e., plaques, trophies, medals, commemorative shirts, etc.)
3. Exceptions:
  - a) Member schools may purchase (through school financial channels) commemorative gifts (i.e., championship rings, watches, etc.) up to an aggregate expenditure of \$250.00 per student per school year.
  - b) In accordance with USGA rules, students may accept merchandise awards whose value does not exceed \$750.00
  - c) In accordance with USTA rules, students may accept merchandise awards whose value does not exceed \$250.00

**IL:** For winning or placing in actual athletic competition, a student in a member school may accept a medal, cup, trophy or plaque, from the sponsoring agent regardless of cost. A student in a member school may accept any other award for participation in an athletic contest, or for athletic honors or recognition, which does not exceed \$75 in fair market value.

**KS:** Students may not be awarded cash or merchandise prizes. Medals, ribbons and certificates may be awarded. Scholarships payable to the educational institution of the student’s choice are acceptable. T-shirts shall not be considered merchandise as long as every participant entered receives one. School teams may be awarded trophies or plaques, not students. Coaches and directors may not accept gifts from any source(s), accumulative per year, valued at more than \$100.

**LA:** No policy.

**MD:** "Awards from outside the school may be given to individual athletes or school teams provided the awards are approved by the local superintendent, meet MPSSAA guidelines, and the presentation is made at a school approved function."

MPSSAA Guidelines: Awards presented by non-school organization(s) to the school and/or athlete, excluding scholarship(s), must display the school name or insignia and team or

individual accomplishment and not exceed a dollar limit of \$60. Commercial messages may not be displayed on awards such as articles of clothing, jewelry, luggage, etc.

**MA:** Only awards of no intrinsic value and approved by MIAA may be accepted by a high school student-athlete as a result of participation in school or non-school competition in any sport recognized by the Association. Individual interscholastic athletic awards and similar mementos to athletes shall be limited to those approved and administered by the institutions, league, or MIAA in keeping with traditional school requirements as to what constitutes an acceptable award.

**ME:** No policy.

**MN:**

Bylaw 2004.00 Cross Reference: Bylaw 201 (Amateur Status)

1. Awards presented to students shall be of a symbolic nature rather than those which have intrinsic value. School officials will make certain that awards approved conform to the letter, spirit and intent of the bylaw.

2. Acceptable awards which are not a violation include:

A. Game balls, medals, ribbons, trophies, golf balls, plaques, athletic insignia, cups and other items of little or no intrinsic value.

B. Honor banquets of a non-promotional nature, if they are held with the approval of the high school principal.

C. Free and reduced price admissions accepted from colleges or universities for their events if they have prior approval of the high school principal.

D. Awards of transportation, tickets and expense allowances, by member schools or clubs of member schools, for attendance at League-sponsored, and/or college and university events if they have prior approval of the high school principal.

E. Awards of transportation and entertainment by colleges and universities for recruiting purposes, when carried on within the limitation of NCAA, NAIA, AIAW, if they have prior approval of the high school principal.

F. A scholarship award made on the basis of a combination of two or more factors such as scholarship, character, athletics, and citizenship, made by a non-promotional type of organization to a graduating senior, if they have prior approval by the high school principal.

G. Awards for participation in non-school athletics which meet the provisions of the amateur bylaw.

H. Acceptance of a prize, including money, for a sport that is not conducted or sponsored by the League such as bowling, boxing, rodeo, free throw contests, hole in one contests, etc.

3. Awards constituting a violation include:

A. Items such as jackets, rings, jewelry, watches, merchandise, services, trips, free or reduced price admissions in which the value of the award(s) exceeds \$100 retail.

B. Awards made by individuals, business concerns, private enterprises, and service clubs, which do not conform to the limitations of 204.02 and are promotional in nature.

C. Free Tickets: The acceptance of a free ticket valued at more than \$100 is a violation of League bylaws if the ticket is presented as a result of participation in a League sponsored

activity.

D. Reduced priced tickets: The acceptance of a reduced priced ticket if the full value of the ticket less the amount charged exceeds \$100. High school athletes may purchase a \$100 ticket or receive a free one from an organization without violating the bylaw if the same privilege is available to all other students

4. Awards distributed by member schools: It will be a violation of League policy for a member school or a representative of a member school to establish, distribute or accept any awards not approved by the MSHSL for section, or state tournaments

5. Penalty:

The student shall be ineligible for all further high school competition. A school violating the bylaw is subject to suspension from membership in the League.

**NE:**

## **2.15 AWARDS TO STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS**

**2.15.1 School's Responsibility.** The school shall have the control and supervision of the giving and receiving of awards to students.

**2.15.2 Awards to Students.** Awards shall be kept within reasonable bounds.

**2.15.2.1** For each activity season sponsored by the NSAA in which a student participates, he/she may accept a symbolic or merchandise award which does not exceed the full retail value as set by the Board of Control.

**2.15.2.2** Awards to individuals for activity participation in the form of cash, merchandise certificates, or any negotiable instrument are not allowed.

**2.15.3 Awards to Schools.** No school shall accept a cash or merchandise award for participation in any interscholastic contest in activities sponsored by the NSAA except that organizations sponsoring such contest may underwrite the cost of the participants not to exceed their total expenses, and provided that all contesting schools are subsidized on an equal basis.

*Reference:*

*2.15.2.1 The current full retail value of the symbolic or merchandise awards as set by the Board of Control is \$50.*

*2.15.2 Individual sports are activities in which one person may participate and have the possibility of winning the contest.*

*2.15.2.2 Designation of a school's letter winner as a recipient of a discount in the price of athletic equipment shall not be allowed.*

*2.15.2.2 Students may participate for remuneration in the non-athletic activities.*

*2.15.2.2 Combination sports are activities in which there is a recognized individual champion and a recognized team champion made up of a specified number of people. The combination sports are boys and girls golf, and boys and girls cross country.*

*2.15.3 Team sports are activities in which there is no provision for an individual championship, and it is mandatory that a certain number of people be associated together before they are allowed to participate for the purpose of winning the contest.*

**NV: NAC 386.775 Awards: Limitation on retail value. (NRS 386.430)**

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if a pupil enrolls in a school and participates in a sanctioned sport at that school, the pupil shall not accept any medal, cup, trophy or other award for competing in an athletic event if the retail value of the medal, cup, trophy or award is more

than \$200.

2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to a pupil specified in that subsection who qualifies for the "Operation Gold" program sponsored by the United States Olympic Committee. (Added to NAC by Nev. Interscholastic Activities Association by R206 03, eff. 11 2 2004

**OH:** No cash money, and no merchandise award exceeding 200 dollars in value.

**OR:** A student activities participant may not accept monetary compensation in recognition of activities ability, participation and/or achievement during the Association year. A student may accept non-monetary compensation or items of value solely in recognition of activities ability, participation and/or achievement if the total value of such non-monetary compensation or items of value, including the actual value of any gift certificates (so long as they are not convertible to cash), discounts, coupons, etc., does not exceed \$300 retail value in any association year.

**PA:** Permissible Awards

A school may purchase a sweater, jacket, blazer, blanket, shirt, shorts, jersey, cap, watch, ring, scroll, photograph, medal, plaque, or similar award, with appropriate institutional insignia or comparable identification, for a student who has earned the official school letter or award, and present the same at the time the official school award is made.

The sponsor or sponsors of an Athletic Event or group of Athletic Events may purchase a sweater, jacket, blazer, blanket, shirt, shorts, jersey, cap, watch, ring, scroll, photograph, medal, plaque, or similar award, with appropriate institutional insignia or comparable identification, for a student who has earned the official award for an Athletic Event or Events, and present the same at the time the official award for the Athletic Event or Events is made. Such sponsor or sponsors may also pay the expenses for a student to participate in educational programs, tours, and field trips provided by the sponsor or sponsors in connection with the Athletic Event or Events.

A non-profit service organization approved by the school Principal, or the news media, may purchase a sweater, jacket, blazer, blanket, shirt, shorts, jersey, cap, watch, ring, scroll, photograph, medal, plaque, or similar award, with appropriate insignia or comparable identification, for a student, in recognition of the student's athletic ability or performance, and present the same at a time appropriate to such recognition.

The institutions listed above in this Section 3 may also sponsor athletic banquets to which students may be invited, without charging admission to such students.

A student may accept from an institution of higher education which the student visits in connection with the student's prospective or possible attendance there as a college student, reasonable expenses necessitated by such visit, and free admission to home Athletic Events of such institution which occur during such visit.

**RI:** Rhode Island Interscholastic League does not have a policy.

**TN:** A student may accept a medal, trophy, state championship ring, high school letter, sweater,

jacket, shirt, blazer or blanket but nothing else of commercial value. (A sweater, jacket, shirt, blazer or blanket must carry the high school letter or other appropriate award emblem.) None of the approved awards shall be accepted from an individual or a non-school organization unless the giving of such award has been approved by the principal of the school the athlete attends. Acceptance of forbidden awards will cause a student to become ineligible for 12 months in the sport in which the violation occurs.

Bowling, golf and tennis students will abide by USBC, USGA, and USTA regulations in accepting awards.

A member school that has any connection with the presentation of a forbidden award "such as assisting in the selection of the person to receive the award, permitting the award to be given at a school function, or holding the award for a student until he/she has graduated" shall be subject to suspension from tournament play in the involved sport(s) for one season.

**TX: Coach or Sponsor Award Rule** - Coach may not accept money, product or service for entering their student(s) in a contest or other activity.

**Student Athlete Award Rule** - Student athletes in grades 9-12 may only accept symbolic awards for participation in school or non school related activities. Symbolic awards student athletes may accept include medals, trophies, plaques, certificates, etc.. Student athletes may not accept t-shirts, gift certificates, equipment or other valuable consideration for participation in school or non school athletic activities.

**VT:** Vermont does not have a specific policy on this. We do state under our by-laws that students cannot receive monetary awards. If they do, they lose their amateur status.

**VA:**

**28-8-1 AMATEUR RULE**-A student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur athlete is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the physical, mental, social and pleasure benefits derived therefrom.

**28-8-2 Exception:** Accepting a fee for instructing, supervising or officiating in an organized youth or recreation, playground, or camp activities program shall not jeopardize amateur status.

**28-8-3 Interpretations:**

(1) An individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for interscholastic competition in a particular sport if the individual:

- (a) Uses his or her athletics skill (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that sport;
- (b) Accepts a promise of pay for participation in that sport even if such pay is to be received following completion of interscholastic athletics participation;
- (c) Signs a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics, regardless of its legal enforceability or any consideration received, in that sport;
- (d) Enters into a professional draft or an agreement with an agent or other entity to negotiate a professional contract in that sport;

- (e) Accepts payment for expenses beyond actual and necessary travel, room and board expenses for practice and competition in that sport;
  - (f) Accepts preferential treatment, benefits or services (e.g., loans with deferred pay-back) because of the individual's athletics reputation or skill or pay-back potential as a professional athlete in that sport. An award of a country club or sports club membership is prohibited. Receipt of a benefit by student-athletes or their relatives or friends is not a violation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to students or their relatives or friends determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability;
  - (g) Accepts merchandise, prizes or awards having a retail value greater than that permitted by the amateur athletic governing body regulating amateur status in that sport. If that governing body has no limit, the maximum value of merchandise, prizes or awards shall be \$500 per event.
  - (h) Received compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture and/or personal appearance, as an athlete in that sport, or provides endorsement, as an athlete in that sport, in the promotion of a commercial or profit-making event, item, plan or service;
  - (i) Plays in any contest (school or nonschool) in that sport under a name other than his/her own name.
- (2) Road Racing-"Road racing" is essentially the same as cross country or track competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for the purposes of this rule. Therefore, a student-athlete who accepts pay in any form for participation in such a race is ineligible for interscholastic cross country or track competition.
- (3) Institutional Fund-Raising Activities involving the Athletics Ability of Student-Athletes-Institutional fund-raising activities that involve the use of athletics ability by student-athletes to obtain funds (e.g., "swim-a-thons") are permitted only if:
- (a) The total money is contributed to the institution; and
  - (b) The student-athletes receive no compensation or prizes for their participation.
- (4) Scholarships to institutions of higher learning may be accepted provided the amount of the scholarship is paid by the donor(s) directly to the college/institution of choice.

**28-8-4 Penalty:** A pupil who has lost his/her amateur standing through violation of this rule shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition. Such student may be reinstated as an amateur by the Executive Committee, provided his/her principal requests in writing his/her reinstatement as an amateur and certifies that the student has not during that one-year period violated this rule, and that the student is not now under contract to, or owned by, any professional athletic organization.

**28-10-1 AWARDS RULE-**Students may accept permissible awards presented or approved by the student's school.

**28-10-2 Interpretations:**

- (1) It is intended by this rule that control of awards to school athletes be in the hands of the school principal. Outside agencies or organizations which desire to present awards or recognitions to students for achievement in some phase of the school's activities program must first secure the concurrence of the school principal or the executive director.

(2) Permissible awards include trophies, medals, plaques, certificates, cups, ribbons, pins, letters, pictures, event T-shirts, event hats, game balls, jackets and suitably inscribed rings or watches which are symbolic (no intrinsic value) in nature.

(3) Cash or any other type of negotiable document or other monetary compensation are not permissible awards. Gift certificates may not be exchanged for cash, even in part.

(4) A banquet for a school team (or seniors, letter winners, etc.), sponsored by other than the school, shall not constitute a violation if arranged with the approval of the school.

**28-10-3 Penalty:** A student who accepts an award in violation of this regulation shall be ineligible in the specific sport from the date of discovery for the number of contests listed below. Such numbers shall include all contests in which the school participates subsequent to the date of violation. The penalty as applied to the student involved under this rule shall be applied and shall be counted consecutively from the date of discovery. The penalty as applied to the school under Section 30-5-1 (1) of this Handbook shall be effective from the date of violation. The penalty may extend into the next school year, but in no case will the penalty extend beyond one calendar year.

**WA:** In order to maintain amateur standing in those activities under WIAA jurisdiction, the student-athlete may not:

- A. Accept merchandise or in-kind gifts of more than \$300 in fair market value per sport during any one calendar year August 1 through July 31. Reduced membership fees or reduced user fees from an athletic club, recreation center, golf courses, etc., do not count toward this \$300 limit.
- B. Accept cash awards.
- C. Enter competition under a false name.
- D. Accept payment of expense allowances over the actual and necessary expenses for the athletic trip (NOTE: Entry fees are not considered a reimbursable expense.)

**WI:** Any award presented or permitted by the school must be symbolic (no intrinsic/utilitarian value) in nature. Examples of awards which are not acceptable include such items as: Shirts, jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, jerseys, warm-ups, watches, rings, billfolds, equipment, balls, duffel bags, backpacks, coupons, gift certificates, e.g., regardless of the monetary value of the item.

**WY:** \$100 maximum for any kind of award, per event.