Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) regarding 2020 Proposals:

To assist with interpreting the eleven proposals, the following frequently asked questions have been created:

1. Can a student count any number of credits/units earned in summer school toward eligibility?
   Proposal No. 12  
   **Yes.** A student may count any number of credits/units earned through a board approved summer school program, ACCESS class(es) credit recovery, correspondence course, or dual enrollment course as long as the courses are completed and grades posted to transcript prior to the first fall contest date. (This year would be August 20, 2020.)

2. An amendment to Section 12, Transfer rules, allows a student to be eligible to participate in sub-varsity contests even if the transfer rules are not met. Can a student who has not met all transfer rules participate in varsity level sports?
   **No.** A student is not eligible to participate in nor dress in uniform for varsity level contests/sports until all eligibility and transfer bylaws are met.

3. Can a student complete multiple transfers within the same school year and be eligible to participate in sub-varsity contests at all schools?
   **No.** A student is allowed only one (1) transfer per school year under these circumstances. This transfer option is available one time per year at the beginning of any semester. Any additional transfer must meet all applicable transfer rules. To compete at the varsity level, all eligibility requirements, including transfer rules, must be met.

4. Does a transfer student have to meet all other eligibility requirements in order to participate at the sub-varsity level?
   **Yes.** All other eligibility requirements, including but not limited to, the academic rule, age rule, financial aid, etc. must be met in order to participate in any level of competition.

5. Are dependent children of full-time classroom teachers or administrators who accept a position in another school attendance zone eligible to participate in athletics at the new school?
   **Yes.** If the employee is hired as a full-time classroom teacher or administrator at a new school, a dependent child would be eligible to participate in athletics at the new school if all other eligibility requirements are met. However, if the student attends the old school longer than the end of the school year in which the parents’ move occurred, the student will not become immediately at the parent’s school unless the transfer is made in the summer or at the beginning of the new school year. If the transfer is made after the school year begins, the student will not become eligible until the beginning of the next school year.

6. Is the dependent child eligible at the new school even if the parent moved to the new school last year?
   **Yes!** Effective for the 2020-21 school year, any student whose parent is currently employed at a school outside the attendance zone where the family resides may
transfer to that school and be eligible at the beginning of the school year if all other eligibility requirements are met.

7. Can a passport be used to verify a student’s birth if a state issued birth certificate is not available? Proposal No. 2
   Yes. For students who are born in a foreign country, a passport can be accepted as age verification for eligibility process.

8. If a player(s) is ejected by the contest officials or by the AHSAA for unsportsmanlike conduct that causes other players to leave the bench or team box, what is the penalty?
   In accordance with Proposal No. 4, if a player is ejected by the contest officials or by the AHSAA for unsportsmanlike conduct that causes other players to leave the bench or team box, the player(s) who initiated the altercation will be charged with the same penalty as those who left the bench under National Federation rules and will also be suspended for 20 percent of the team’s total number of regular season contests. Only the individual/s from the school whose players came off the bench are affected by this rule.

9. When is the 50% rule for outside participation NOT in effect? Proposal No. 17
   The 50% rule for outside participation is not in effect from the first school day following the last date of state baseball and softball championships to the first fall sports contest date. This year that date would have been May 18 - August 20, 2020.

10. If a school holds spring football evaluations, can that school’s football program start practice a week earlier than the first Monday in August? PROPOSAL No. 19: Amends Rule III Section 17. Allow Fall sports (football, volleyball, cross country, swimming) the option of having a Spring evaluation period or starting official practice a week early.
    No. Fall sports (football, volleyball, cross country, swimming) have the option of conducting a spring evaluation period or starting official practice on the Monday before the first allowable starting date in August. A school’s football team cannot have both a spring evaluation then start fall practice a week early.

11. Do all tournaments have to be sanctioned by the AHSAA? PROPOSAL No. 22:
    No. Only tournaments that determine a champion must be sanctioned. A sanctioned tournament is defined as an organized event in a sport when 3 or more teams participate, and an overall champion is determined through multiple contests. A round robin with three or more teams must be counted as a tournament but if a champion is not determined, the round robin is not sanctioned. All other applicable AHSAA rules apply. Schools are responsible for verifying tournament play is in accordance with AHSAA bylaws.

12. Can a coach practice with players and teach sport specific skills during the off-season?
    Yes. AHSAA coaches from the school’s staff may hold organized instructions outside of the sports season during the school year a maximum of 10 weeks of the off-season with a maximum of 2 hours per week per sport. Anytime a coach works sports
specific skills with an athlete, that time counts toward the 2-hour team total for that sport that week.

Ex. If the baseball coach(es) works with pitchers and catchers in the bullpen for 45 minutes on Tuesday, they the coach(es) only have 1 hr. 15 minutes left that week to work with other players in the sport of baseball.

13. Outside the allowable dates, can a school’s softball coach coach two students from his/her school on a travel team even if the two students have not made the school team yet? Proposal No. 11

No. In accordance with the new bylaw, no administrator, coach or non-faculty coach from a school’s staff may hold organized practice or competition for its school or feeder school students (students in grades 7-12) in that sport outside the sports season.

14. What is the penalty if a coach does coach a student outside the sports season?

Any coach that coaches a student from his/her school in practice or competition outside the allowable period renders that student or the offending coach ineligible at the coach’s school in that the sport in which the violation occurred.

15. Can a student change schools within an overlapping school zone and be eligible at the new school?

No. A student who changes schools within an overlapping school zone is ineligible for varsity play for one year from the date of enrollment at the new school. However, after serving one year of ineligibility at the varsity level, if the student transfers to any school that serves the attendance zone where the family resides within the overlap, the student would be eligible to participate at the varsity level if all other eligibility requirements are met.