



# NHIAA Today

## New Apparel Vendor and Logo to Debut for 2009-10 Season

Starting in the fall of 2009, the exclusive vendor for tournament apparel at all NHIAA Tournament Events will be **Team I/P Sports**. We anticipate they will enhance and expand clothing and apparel options at our tournaments. One enhancement that they will provide is an on-line store for NHIAA apparel. As part of their contract, they have engaged the services of a design firm to help design a new logo for the NHIAA in an effort to develop a clearer identity and branding of the NHIAA.

Team I/P has worked to design a logo that would be more easily recognizable and duplicated. You should start seeing the new logo by mid summer. Preliminary response has been very good and we hope you will agree:



NEW HAMPSHIRE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

**Winning is for a day,  
Sportsmanship is for a lifetime.**

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**Something “Bruin” at the NHIAA** In recent weeks, the amount of black bear sightings in Concord have been numerous, and here at the NHIAA we have had our fair share. It is not unusual to find a staff member or two peering out their car windows before entering the building, as they look for the neighborhood’s newest resident. Often seen crossing the

street, our resident bear pays no real attention to us, but rather the garbage cans lined up in front of our driveway, and those of our neighbors. When calling NH Fish and Game, they instructed us not to worry unless the bear “does something exciting.” Thus far, the bear has not, leaving us no real reason to worry. For more information about bear sightings in the area and ways to help prevent bears from being in your yard, please visit <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/>.



## Executive Director's Report

Another year has concluded and this year we were the beneficiaries of the best weather in recent years; even the day tournament events were cancelled due to weather, it didn't rain. Congratulations to all of the participants who took part in spring sports this season. Special thanks to the many volunteers who gave of their time to make the tournament events the success they were this year. There were as many stories as events surrounding teams this year. We had expected victors and unexpected upsets. Certainly, however, the story that captured most people's imagination was the Class S Baseball State Championship which was won by our most northern school, Pittsburg High School.



With only 37 students in the school, including their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, Pittsburg captured its first ever State Baseball Championship on Super Saturday at MechantsAuto.com Stadium. From the fine efforts of their starting eighth grade pitcher, to three consecutive stolen bases including a rare home base steal, to the towering home run made by their first baseman to seal the 3 – 1 victory, the game was what movies are made off and certainly created memories for the student athletes, coaches, and the entire Pittsburg community.

One would be remiss if they did not mention the outstanding play of their opponents, Newmarket High School. Although they came in second, they had every reason to be proud of their play on that Saturday morning. The fans were treated to some spectacular defensive plays on the part of a very talented Newmarket team. This was a game that represented what high school sports can and should be in the best sense of the competition. There were no losers at this game!

## Assistant Director's Notes



There are several activities going on in member schools that involve stimulating greater participation of student athletes. These initiatives involve increasing participation in life-long athletic activities beyond high school, and enhancing leadership within the classroom.

Berlin High School, under the direction of Athletic Director Craig Melanson, is teaching a one semester course entitled "Sports Coaching and Officiating." The course reviews coaching philosophies, rules and techniques, and the mechanics of officiating. The students engage in various activities where they put into practice their knowledge of both coaching and officiating.

Mr. Melanson teaches approximately twenty students per semester, and is proud of the fact that many of his students engage in coaching and officiating in youth leagues within their community. This hopefully will pique student interest in athletic involvement as coaches and/or officials beyond their high school years.

Mike Ackerman, Athletic Director at Woodsville High School stated when his students returned from the NHADA and NHIAA Student Leadership Conference in March, they were excited about implementing what they learned within their school. Mr. Ackerman and the students developed a "Student-Athlete Leadership Council" at Woodsville where promoting communication between student leaders, their peers, and staff is their main focus.

The NHIAA is in the process of developing a "Student Athlete Ambassador Program" to increase student participation in the NHIAA with details to be released later this summer.

## Eligibility FAQ

**Question:** A school has a student athlete/coach disqualified from an interscholastic event. Because it is a holiday weekend, the NHIAA doesn't send notification of the disqualification until the following Tuesday. The team has a game on Saturday, so absent the disqualification sheet from the Supervisor of Officials and the Executive Director of the NHIAA, can the student participate in the weekend event?

**Answer:** No, the student athlete/coach must serve their penalty at the **next** NHIAA event(s) per By-Law Article 8, Section 6: Disqualification from an Interscholastic Athletic Event (Page 68 in the 2008-09 Handbook). The coach would have been informed of the disqualification and has an obligation to immediately notify the athletic director and/or principal and to impose the penalty. Playing in an event at any level without serving the mandatory non-participation at the level the disqualification is received will result in a forfeit of the game(s) in which the person participated.

**Note:** Language reinforcing this procedure will be placed in the next Handbook per action taken by the Sportsmanship Committee.



Stay tuned for more updated features to be released soon.



Many thanks to  
Coca-Cola of  
Northern New England.

**2008 - 09 Sportsmanship Report:** The Sportsmanship Committee at its June meeting reviewed the disqualification data for the 2008 – 2009 school year. Although we can always do better, it is important to note that overall this was a good year for NH Interscholastic Athletics with respect to sportsmanship. 31 schools went the entire year with no disqualifications, a number 30% higher than last year. Of the remaining schools, 15% had only one disqualification, 16% had two, 16% had three, and 12 % had four. These are impressive statistics when you consider the number of programs some schools have and the sports they provide which generally have a high disqualification rate. Congratulations to all involved!

**Classification Update:** The NHIAA Council recently rejected a set of rather sweeping reforms adopted and recommended by the Classification Committee. Concern was raised as to whether or not the proposed changes were sufficient to meet the direction set by the Strategic Plan. An Ad-Hoc Committee has been established to work with members of the Classification Committee and come up with a plan that will meet the expectations of the Strategic Plan. Interestingly enough, the proposed changes I believe will eventually be seen as meeting the intent of the Council but the changes will certainly create much more debate. Key to the proposal is a recommendation to allow petitioning up (and in very limited cases down) in all classes and divisions on a sport by sport basis. The Committee will be making a presentation to the membership at the annual meeting in the fall.

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### New Look for 2009-10 Handbook and School Directory:

This year the Handbook and School Directory will be combined into one publication. Additionally, we are planning to have the Handbook available on-line so that changes that may occur as the result of Council actions during the school year will be immediately available to member schools.

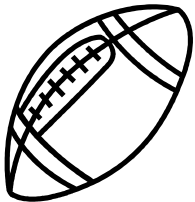


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Meeting Minutes to go On-Line: One goal of the Strategic Plan and the Council is to improve communication with our various constituency groups. Ms. Jobin is working with our web site host to develop a system whereby committee meeting minutes will be posted on-line. It is anticipated that this capability will be in place by fall of 2009. The minutes will be made available for viewing by using the Administrative Login.

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Football Playoffs: The NHIAA will be providing footballs that must be used for the tournaments as part of our ball contract with Spalding. No one is mandated to use the Spalding football during the regular season; however, they must be utilized in all tournament games.



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Class I Heal Point Rating System Moves Forward: The trial use of a weighted ranking system for sports organized by class in Class I is ready for fall implementation. Known as the Heal Point Rating System (Mr. Heal was the individual who developed the system in Maine over 30 years ago), this will promote cross class/divisional play by not only weighting wins by school size but also by the quality of the competition. Under this system, a school could conceivably get more points for playing a school in a smaller class that is a strong competitor as opposed to a weak school in their own class. Stay tuned!

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## Coaches Education Classes Available

### NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching

Tuesday, July 28, 2009 - NHIAA Office at 4:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, August 1, 2009 - Keene High School at 9:00 a.m.  
 Monday, August 3, 2009 - Londonderry High School at 5:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, August 6, 2009 - Bow High School at 5:30 p.m.

### ASEP Sports First Aid

Tuesday, August 4, 2009 - NHIAA at 5:00 p.m.  
 \*Saturday, August 15, 2009 - John Stark High School at 1:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, August 20, 2009 - Hanover High School at 5:30 p.m.

\*CPR Training may be available after this class upon pre-registration. Contact Mark Searles at [m\\_searles@jsrhs.net](mailto:m_searles@jsrhs.net) for information.

## 2009-10 Corresponding Dates for Basketball

Basketball	Schedule Due	First Practice	First Contest	Last Date To Schedule	Last Date To Play
Boys L	9-15	11-30	12-18	2-25	2-27
I	9-15	11-30	12-14	2-25	2-27
M, S	9-15	11-23	12-11	2-18	2-20
Girls L	9-15	11-30	12-18	2-25	2-27
I	9-15	11-30	12-14	2-25	2-27
M	9-15	11-23	12-11	2-18	2-20
S	9-15	11-16	12-4	2-11	2-13

## Congratulations Spring Champions!

Sport	Class L	Class I	Class M	Class S
Baseball	Keene	Portsmouth	Franklin	Pittsburg
Softball	Concord	Portsmouth	Franklin	Colebrook

Sport	Class L	Class I	Class M-S
Outdoor Track - Boys	Man. Memorial and Nashua South	Lebanon	Franklin
Outdoor Track - Girls	Manchester Central	Lebanon	Hopkinton
Tennis - Boys	Exeter	Hanover	Derryfield
Tennis - Girls	Manchester Central	Portsmouth	Derryfield

Sport	Division I	Division II	Division III
Boys Lacrosse	Hanover	Bow	Kearsarge
Girls Lacrosse	Londonderry	Bow	Hollis/Brookline

Sport	Singles	Doubles
Tennis - Boys	Connor Hyde, Con-Val	Corwin/Kelley - Hanover
Tennis - Girls	Julia Keenan, St. Thomas	Zohdi/MacKenzie - Derryfield



Lifetouch is the official photographer of the NHIAA. Action photos will be available for sale from certain events.



The NHIAA Offices are located in Concord NH easily accessible for the 33 Committees that meet 3-5 times a year.