

**CONSTITUTION
NEW HAMPSHIRE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association, Incorporated.

Article II – Purpose

Sect. 1: To increase the value of interscholastic athletic programs throughout the State.

Sect. 2: To assist in the regulation of competition so that the athletic program fits into the high school curriculum.

Sect. 3: To regulate the interscholastic program so as to safeguard the physical welfare of the participants.

Sect. 4: To insure a greater degree of fitness to high school students by providing opportunities for participation in vigorous competitive athletics.

Sect. 5: To foster and promote athletics as an integral part of the total school program.

Sect. 6: To insure a constant evaluation of all interscholastic programs.

Article III – Structure

The basic purpose of the NHIAA is to serve the interests of member schools and to act for them in all matters pertaining to interscholastic athletics. The NHIAA's responsibility is directly and immediately to the NHIAA member school through its Principal. Principals are granted majority representation on the NHIAA Council.

Superintendents, school boards, athletic directors, coaches, and the State Department of Education are represented by voting membership on the Council.

Article IV – Membership and Classification

Sect. 1: Any New Hampshire secondary school, approved by the State Department of Education may become a member of the Association when the principal agrees in the name of the school to abide by the rules of the Association as set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Sect. 2: The Council shall have the sole power to classify schools for competition in interscholastic athletics.

Article V – Annual Assembly

Sect. 1: The annual meeting of the Association shall be held between the 2nd week of September and the 3rd week of October each year.

Sect. 2: The annual assembly shall be held for the purpose of receiving reports from officers of the Association and to conduct business matters of the Association.

Sect. 3: Each member school shall be entitled to one vote cast by the principal or a school representative so authorized in writing by the Principal to the Executive Director.

Sect. 4: One third of the membership of the Association shall constitute a quorum.

Sect. 5: A special meeting may be called by the President of the Association with the approval in writing of a majority of the member schools.

Article VI – The Council

Sect. 1: The Council shall consist of twenty one (21) members.

Sect. 2: Eleven members of the Council shall be representatives from the New Hampshire Association of School Principals', two from the New Hampshire School Administrators' Association, two from the New Hampshire Interscholastic Coaches' Association, one from the New Hampshire School Boards' Association, four from the New Hampshire Athletic Directors' Association (one from each classification), and one representative from the State Department of Education.

Sect. 3: The members of the Council shall hold office for three (3) years or until such time as their successors are appointed.

Sect. 4: A vacancy on the Council occurs when a representative becomes ineligible to represent his group. Such vacancies shall be filled by the group concerned.

Article VII – Meetings of the Council

Sect. 1: Meetings of the Council shall be held at least three times a year.

Sect. 2: Meetings of the Council may be called by the Commissioner of Education, by the President of the NHIAA, by any three members of the Council, or by a petition of the majority of member schools.

Article VIII – Duties of the Council

Sect. 1: It shall have control of interscholastic athletic policies.

Sect. 2: It shall make rules of eligibility for players.

Sect. 3: It shall make regulations for the administration of interscholastic contests.

Sect. 4: It may discipline member schools and athletes for violation of rules and regulations.

Sect. 5: It shall provide for the hearing of appeals from decisions of the Executive Director and all standing committees of the Association.

Sect. 6: It shall be responsible for the election, appointment, and determination of salaries of all employees of the Association.

Sect. 7: It may delegate to the Executive Director such powers as it may deem advisable.

Sect. 8: It shall act on behalf of the member schools on all matters pertaining to sports officials.

Sect. 9: It shall exercise all other functions necessary for carrying out the spirit and purpose of this Constitution.

Article IX – Officers of the NHIAA

Sect. 1: The Officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice President, and Executive Director. The President and Vice President shall be elected by the membership of the Council. The Executive Director is an employee.

Sect. 2: The President and the Vice President for the ensuing fiscal year shall be elected by ballot at the final meeting of the Council in each fiscal year. They shall perform the usual duties pertaining to their respective offices.

Sect. 3: The Executive Director, subject to appeal, shall rule on all questions which may be raised relative to interscholastic athletics.

Sect. 4: All committees, whether standing or special, shall be appointed by the President. Whenever possible, a member of the Council shall be chairman of each committee. A person may be chosen from outside the Council to chair a committee. All appointments must be confirmed by the Council.

Article X – Finances

Sect. 1: The finances of the Association shall be the responsibility of the Council. Insofar as possible the expenses of the NHIAA shall be paid from funds made available from dues and revenue from state tournaments.

Sect. 2: All income derived from dues, tournaments, championship games, and other sources become the property of the NHIAA.

Sect. 3: NHIAA dues shall be determined by the Council.

Sect. 4: The fiscal year will begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the following year.

Article XI – Dissolution

No part of any income, revenue, and grants of, or to the Association shall inure to the material or pecuniary benefit of any member, officer, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered in connection with one or more of its purposes); and no officer, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the assets of the Association on its dissolution or liquidation. In any event of such dissolution or liquidation, the assets of the Association shall be transferred to an organization(s) with Federal Tax exemption for charitable and educational uses and purposes similar to those of this Association, which exempt organization(s) shall be designated by the final Executive Meetings of the Association.

Article XII – By-Laws

The Council shall make such By-Laws and amend at any time as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Constitution.

Article XIII – Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at any annual meeting of the Association, provided notice of any proposed amendment shall have been given to all members of the Association not less than two weeks previous to the date of the meeting.

NOTE: Principal, as used in this Constitution, may mean duly authorized school personnel.