

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This recommendation amends Section 28 (a), (f), (j), *District Executive Committee*, UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

This recommendation adds clarifying language regarding the DEC hearing process, voting on cases and scope of investigations.

C. Proposed Recommendation

Section 28: DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (a) JURISDICTION. The district executive committee, OR ITS EQUIVALENT COMMITTEE, shall rule on protests and reports of violations concerning eligibility and other violations of the *Constitution* and/or *Contest Rules* that occur within its district. A person who represents a school involved in a protest or a report may not participate in the committee's decision. The district executive committee's ~~has final jurisdiction~~ DECISION IS FINAL AND THERE IS NO APPEAL in cases occurring within its district when schools are publicly reprimanded.
- (b) COMPOSITION. The district executive committee is composed of the superintendents of participant schools competing in the assigned UIL playing district. The superintendent may designate administrators to represent participant schools in a multi-high school district. The superintendent may designate an administrator to represent more than one participant school and vote in turn for each school on matters brought before the committee. The superintendent may appoint an alternate to serve in the event the superintendent or the designated representative cannot attend a meeting.
- (c) DISTRICT ORGANIZATION.
 - (1) *Organizational Meeting*. The district executive chair shall call a UIL business meeting to organize the district. Subsequent regular and special business meetings shall be called by the chair, or by the chair upon the request of a member of the committee.
 - (2) *New District*. In each new district a temporary chair shall be appointed by the UIL Director. This temporary chair shall serve until the district executive committee elects a chair.
 - (3) *Temporary Chair*. Until a chair for the current school year's contest plan has been elected, the chair of the previous district executive committee or the person appointed by the UIL Director shall serve as temporary chair and be authorized to call meetings of the participant schools.
 - (4) *Vice Chair*. The district executive committee shall elect a vice chair to serve when the chair is not in attendance or in the event the district chair represents a participant school involved in a matter which would prevent the chair from casting a vote.
 - (5) *Vacancies*. In the event a chair or vice chair has been elected by the committee and becomes for any reason unable to serve, the district executive committee shall elect

another chair or vice chair. The vice chair shall serve in the capacity of acting chair until the committee elects a new chair.

- (d) MEETINGS. In accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution*, a district executive committee may hold meetings.
- (e) CONDUCT OF BUSINESS. The chair of the district executive committee shall direct the work of the committee pursuant to the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules*.
- (f) HEARINGS – SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE PROCESS FOR DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HEARINGS SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HANDBOOK.
- (#G) VOTES. Each participant school in the assigned district shall have one vote. ALL VOTES SHALL BE TAKEN IN OPEN SESSION.
- (#H) VOTING ON BUSINESS ITEMS. In order to take binding actions on items of business, the committee must vote in accordance with the provisions of Section 23 of the *Constitution*.
- (#I) VOTING ON QUESTIONS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.
 - (1) *Inquiry Concerning Involvement*. Prior to calling for a vote, the chair of the committee shall ask each member if he or she or the participant school represented is involved in the question.
 - (2) *Determination of Involvement*. Involvement in a question shall be determined on a factual, case-by-case, basis.
 - (3) *Involved Not Entitled to Vote*. A member of the committee shall not be entitled to vote in a case in which he or she or the participant school represented is involved. This includes the representative from the school:
 - (A) that is presenting a formal protest or presenting evidence and argument as an informal protest;
 - (B) that is making a report of violation;
 - (C) that is being charged with a violation;
 - (D) the student in question is leaving; or
 - (E) to which the student in question is changing.
 - (4) *Transferal of Case*. If the chair determines that fewer than three members of the committee remain entitled to vote in the case, the chair may immediately transfer the case to the State Executive Committee for disposition.
- (i) RESPONSIBILITIES. In addition to those responsibilities found elsewhere in the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules*, a district executive committee shall have the following responsibilities:
 - (1) *Enforcement*. The district executive committee shall enforce all rules contained in the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules*. This includes assessing a penalty for every rule violation.
 - (2) *Investigations*. The district executive committee shall investigate ALL ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS OF THE UIL CONSTITUTION AND CONTEST RULES REGARDING A DISTRICT'S SCHOOLS, SCHOOL EMPLOYEES OR STUDENTS, INCLUDING the eligibility of contestants.
 - (3) *Assist Other Participant Schools*. The district executive committee shall furnish, upon the request of participant schools in the district, a list of eligible players submitted by each participant school.
 - (4) *Disputes; Eligibility Questions*. The district executive committee shall try to settle within the district all disputes and shall decide all questions of eligibility according to the

Constitution and Contest Rules.

- ~~(5) *Notification of Appeals.* The district executive committee shall make appeals in writing to the chair of the State Executive Committee, through the UIL Director.~~
- (65) *Determination of Tie Breaker Process.* The district executive committee shall determine in writing prior to a contest's season the method to determine the district representatives in the event two or more schools are tied in win-loss percentages.
- ~~(76) *Other Required or Desirable Actions.* The district executive committee shall take such other action that is reasonable, necessary or desirable, and consistent with the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules*, the rules of the State Board of Education and the law.~~
- ~~(87) A district executive committee does not have the authority to require a school to purchase equipment which is not required by rules stated in the *Constitution and Contest Rules*.~~
- (j) PERMISSIBLE ZONES. The district executive committee, by majority vote, may subdivide for contest purposes into geographic zones. The zones of a district shall contain an equal number of teams, or as nearly equal as possible. For example: a 16-team district shall be divided 8-8; a 14-team district shall be divided 8-6 unless by majority vote the district wants a 7-7 division. The district executive committee may not subdivide into zones for contest purposes according to the size of the schools, previous success or win-loss records. Note: This rule does not apply to One-Act Play.
- (k) SETTING ASIDE RULES PROHIBITED. The district executive committee does not have the authority to vote a student eligible when that student does not meet the requirements of Subchapter M of the *Constitution*.
- (l) CONSEQUENCES OF UNAUTHORIZED COMMITTEE ACTION. The State Executive Committee shall have the authority to reject for post-district competition any participant school or its representative contestant whose district executive committee is found to have failed to comply with any rule of the *Constitution and Contest Rules*, or order of the Waiver Review Board or State Executive Committee.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This recommendation should not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Policy moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2016, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.