

NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can TWO school coaches schedule a contest (non-school) between their schools?

A: No. TWO school coaches cannot schedule matched games with each other for a non-school contest.

Q: Can THREE or more school coaches assist each other with organization of a non-school league to include, but not limited to: assignment of players, assignment of coaches, assignment of officials, helping to secure facilities, development of schedules, scheduling of facilities, assisting with registration process, helping to secure equipment?

A: Yes. THREE or more coaches may assist each other in setting up a non-school league. EXAMPLE: 7 on 7, Spring Basketball, Summer Volleyball

Q: Can a school coach instruct a student-athlete in his/her sport in a non-school league?

A: No. According to Section 1209 (g), school coaches shall not coach or instruct any 7-12 grade students from their school attendance zone in team sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball or volleyball.

Q: Can a school coach serve as a facility supervisor for non-school activities?

A: Yes, provided they are there to monitor, supervise, and open and close the facility.

Q: Can a school coach distribute information regarding the details of the non-school event for informational purposes?

A: Yes. Distribution of such materials should be in accordance to the policies and procedures of the local school district regarding non-school activities.

Q: Can a school coach collect registration fees for non-school competition?

A: Yes. No checks may be made payable to the school and no funds shall be deposited in any school account.

Q: Can a school coach officiate for non-school activities?

A: Yes, however it is recommended they not officiate students in grades 7-12 from their own attendance zone.

Q: Can a school coach speak with the non-school coach during a competition about players and/or strategy?

A: Yes, provided the school coach does not instruct any 7-12 grade students from their school attendance zone.

Q: Can an athlete receive a scholarship or collect donations for participation in a non-school activity?

A: Yes, provided these funds are not from school funds or booster club funds.

Q: Can student-athletes raise funds for non-school activities?

A: Yes, provided the fundraising activities are not related to the school and the student-athletes do all of the fundraising on their own or with their parents.

Q: Can schools or school booster clubs contribute to any of the athlete's expenses or equipment associated with a non-school activity?

A: No. Schools and booster clubs are limited to providing assistance for school activities and items for use in school competitions.

Q: Can a local business contribute to a student-athlete's expense for a non-school activity?

A: Yes, a local business can provide money to cover expenses for a non-school activity.

Q: Can coaches or school employees contribute to a student's non-school fundraiser?

A: Yes, provided the contributions are from their own personal funds and not from booster funds, activity accounts, school soft drink accounts or any other accounts associated with the school.

Q: Can student-athletes in grades 9th-12th serve as volunteers/paid workers for non-school sponsored camps or leagues?

A: Yes, as long as their school coaches are not giving instruction. Students can't receive direct instruction from their school coach.

Q: Can student-athletes be provided with equipment by non-school organizations? (For example, equipment companies that provided tennis rackets or apparel to athletes who are ranked in a sport).

A: Yes, if receipt of these items is based on rankings and not specifically on winning or placing in a competition. It would be a violation for an athlete to accept merchandise for winning or placing in a specific tournament or competition.

Q: Can a school coach instruct a student-athlete in his/her sport in a non-school activity if that student has no remaining eligibility in that particular sport?

A: No. According to Section 1209 (g), school coaches shall not coach or instruct any 7-12 grade students from their school attendance zone in team sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball or volleyball.

Q: Are athletes permitted to play in non-school all-star contests?

A: Yes. Student athletes who are selected for all-star teams based on non-school competition may have things such as lodging, meals, transportation, game jerseys, and shoes, etc. provided by the non-school league for all-star team participation. All non-school groups should be structured to protect the amateur status of student athletes in grades 9-12. Student athletes in grades 9-12 may only accept symbolic awards (medal, trophies, plaques) for winning, placing, or finishes based on performance. UIL member schools may not participate in sponsoring these all-star contests nor provide transportation for such events.

Q: May students who have completed their high school eligibility in a particular sport compete in other all-star contests such as TABC, TGCA, and THSCA?

A: Yes. Students who are selected for all-star may have things such as lodging, meals, transportation, game jerseys, shoes, etc. provided for all-star team participation. Students who have completed eligibility in the involved sport, with school superintendent approval, may also use school individual player protective equipment in any all-star game.

Q: When can students take private instruction?

A: A student may take a private lesson anytime except during the school day, including the athletic period or during school practice sessions. Schools shall not pay for these private lessons.