
~ UIL & SPORT RULE CHANGES ~

2021-2022 UIL Changes and Amendments

GENERAL

- **Section 1204 – Officials Pay**- Effective the 2021-22 school year the portal- to-portal travel reimbursement for the UIL Officials Fee Schedule (1204) removes the last mileage range (91-120.9 miles) initiating travel reimbursement at 91 miles in place of the original 121 miles.
- **Section 1207 Rules, Violations and Penalties**- Changes to this section of the constitution more clearly reflects the authority of the District Executive Committee and the State Executive Committee to suspend a school or team when a member of that team commits an assault on a sports official. This amendment would also require schools to develop policies for suspending a spectator who commits an assault on a sports official from future events.
- **1A Basketball** – A referendum ballot for 1A basketball will be sent to 1A superintendents regarding the addition of a fourth qualifier for post season in girls and boys basketball. If the ballot passes, this change will be effective for 2021-22.
- **Softball/Baseball Practice dates** – Softball and baseball practice dates will be a date set forth on the UIL calendar and will be two weeks prior to the first scrimmage.
- **Broadcast of UIL Events**– Webcasts for football, streamed over the internet and in accordance with UIL Broadcast Guidelines will be allowed by mutual agreement. Other live telecasts including over-the-air television broadcasts will still be prohibited.
- **Assault of an Official -33.081 E-1 of the Texas Education Code** – As a result of the passage of HB 2721 a participant who assaults an official will be suspended from participation for a minimum of two years.
- **Spectator Policies** – Schools shall develop policies for preventing any spectator who commits assault of a sports participant, inclusive of officials, from attending future events in activities sanctioned by the UIL.
- **Practice Regulations**–Sessions for strength & conditioning instruction may be conducted by school coaches for students in grades 7-12 from that coaches attendance zone starting the first day of school. A strength and conditioning session shall be no more than one hour per day outside the school day, Monday through Friday, and a student shall attend no more than one session of supervised instruction per day.
- **Home Schooled Student -Section 33.0832 of the Texas Education Code** – As a result of the passage of HB 547 homeschool students are allowed eligibility for UIL activities, if approved by the local school district.

- Schools that allow homeschool participation must notify their DEC and UIL by August 1st. (This will occur in UIL portal, and direction will be sent at a later time.)
- For non-enrolled (homeschool students), if the public independent school district where the parent/guardians of the students reside decide not to allow home schooled students to participate, the student could petition to participate at a charter school within the boundaries of the independent school district where the parent/guardian of the student reside, if allowed by charter school administration.
- The parent or person standing in parental relation to a home schooled student participating in a UIL activity on behalf of a public school must, in accordance with the school's grading calendar, provide written verification to the school indicating that the student is receiving a passing grade in each course or subject being taught.
- Home schooled students may not participate unattached.
- Home schooled students may not participate in an athletic activity offered by the UIL in and in a non-school league under auspices of any other sanctioning organization.
- Home schooled students that have moved into an attendance zone within the past 12 months will require a full hearing of the DEC.
- A home schooled student seeking participation for the first six weeks must demonstrate grade-level academic proficiency on any nationally recognized, norm referenced assessment instrument.
- A home schooled student shall participate in no more than one athletic class period per school day, not to exceed 60 minutes per day.
- Home schooled students are not authorized to participate in a league activity during the remainder of any school year during which the student was previously enrolled in a public school.
- Home schooled students that reside outside of the attendance boundaries of a school or ISD are not eligible to for a parent residence waiver.

SPORT SPECIFIC CHANGES:

FOOTBALL CHANGES:

- Updated Language to UIL Exception to NCAA Rules #17 Concerning Legal Jerseys.
- Updated Language to UIL Exception to NCAA Rules #46 Concerning Official's Jurisdiction prior to a contest. NOTE: Players must be dressed in a way they can be identified, either by a number or their personal name during pre-game activities. Game Jerseys do not have to be worn, but players must be identifiable in the case there is an incident during pre-game activity.

- Updated Interpretation concerning Legal Knee Pads during competition. Click on the Video Link for a quick presentation concerning legal knee pads.
https://player.vimeo.com/external/478694903.sd.mp4?s=9664f2e23658276d7bf8302659c63cb9c360e164&profile_id=164
- -Scrimmage Attire – Scrimmages will be treated like a game from a uniform standpoint. No shorts will be allowed, and jersey numbers must be legal position numbers.

Team Tennis & Tennis Changes:

- According to USTA rules, a player is allowed 25 seconds between points. A coach may provide feedback during 25-second time but cannot interrupt the continuous play rule.

Volleyball Rule Changes:

- **4-1-6a, b (NEW):** Allows players to wear head coverings for religious reasons that fit securely and are made of non-abrasive or soft materials while still requiring head coverings worn for medical reasons to be approved by the state association.
 - **Rationale:** Eliminates the need for authorization from the state association for the wearing of religious headwear without data to support an increased risk while maintaining the requirement for approval of head coverings worn for medical reasons – allowing the state association to review for the purposes of risk minimization.
- **5-3-1, 5-3-1 NOTES:** Allows state associations to approve of gray and/or bright blue (cyan) in addition to the white short or long-sleeved polo-style shirts while maintaining that officials must dress in like colors. Simplifies the accommodations for varying climate conditions within the competition facility.
 - **Rationale:** Provides state associations with additional officials' uniform options while aligning with trends in the game.
- **7-1-4 PENALTIES, 9-9-1b (NEW):** Eliminates the loss of rally/point penalty for failure to submit the lineup no later than two minutes prior to the end of the timed prematch warmup and one minute prior to the end of the timed interval between sets. The penalty was changed to an unnecessary delay (administrative yellow card) with the escalation of a second unnecessary delay (administrative red card) if not submitted by the end of the timed prematch warmup or interval.
 - **Rationale:** Aligns the penalty with the late roster and lessens the severity of the penalty for a late lineup.

Basketball Rule Changes:

- **3-5-4e (NEW):** Head coverings worn for religious reasons shall not be made of abrasive or hard materials; and must fit securely so that it is highly unlikely to come off during play. NOTE: The

State Association shall be notified, after the contest, if there is a concern about a head covering worn for religious reasons.

- **Rationale:** The addition of this provision allows for religious head coverings to be permitted without state association approval provided they are secured properly and not made of abrasive or hard materials.
- **3-5-4f EXCEPTION:** Head decorations and headwear, except those specified above, are prohibited. **EXCEPTION:** State associations may on an individual basis permit a player to participate while wearing a head covering if it meets the following criteria:
 - a. In the event a participant is required by a licensed medical physician to cover the head with a covering or wrap, the physician's statement is required before the state association can approve a covering or wrap which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way that it is highly unlikely to come off during play.
 - **Rationale:** The playing rules were modified to add a provision that allows for religious head coverings to be permitted without state association approval.

Baseball Rule Changes:

- **6-1-1...**The pitcher shall pitch while facing the batter from either the windup position (Art.2) or set position (Art.3). The position of his feet determine whether he will pitch from the windup or the set position. He shall take **or simulate** taking his sign from the catcher with his pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate.

Soccer Rule Changes:

4-2-10 NEW: Head coverings worn for religious reasons shall not be made of abrasive or hard materials; and must fit securely.

Rationale: This rule addition will allow student-athletes to express their religious beliefs through the wearing of headwear without the approval from the state.

4-2-11 NEW ARTICLE: In addition to the above permitted uses, state associations (or designee) may on an individual basis permit a player to participate while wearing a head covering for medical or cosmetic reasons if it is required by a licensed physician. A physician's statement is required before the state association can approve a covering which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way it is highly unlikely that it will come off during play.

Softball Rule Changes:

PENDING...

Swim & Dive Rule Changes:

- **3-2-5:** Changes protocol for declaration of the lead-off swimmer in a relay to be submitted prior to the start of the event.
 - Rationale: The lead-off swimmer must be declared at the specified time and place prior to the start of the event, which is consistent with entry procedures for identification of all relay participants.
- 3-3-5b,c,d: Permits the application of temporary adhesives for divers.
 - Rationale: Allows divers to protect themselves from hand slippage, minimizing risks for the diver.
- **5-4-3 NOTE:** Clarifies protocol for conducting swim-offs and what purposes the time can be used.
 - Rationale: Updated language clarifies the impact of the swim-off time on future seedings.
- **9-2-1:** During championship meets, new language establishes when diving boards should be open for practice if breaks between sessions extend longer than ten minutes.
 - Rationale: Defines when diving boards shall be made available for practice during the break between sessions of a championship meet unless the meet director establishes specific guidelines prior to the start of competition
- **9-3-7 PENALTIES, 9-5-2, 9-5-5, 9-7-4f, 9-7-5k, 9-8-2c:** Permits standing forward takeoffs, clearly defining the proper procedure for performing a standing forward takeoff and the protocol for application of the mandatory two-point deduction.
 - Rationale: The standing forward takeoff is a critical part of the educational process in teaching new dives. This provision allows divers to participate in competition sooner and encourages growth in the sport.
- **9-5-4b:** Clarifies that only four oscillations are permitted before the diver leaves the board.
 - Rationale: The removal of vague language clarifies the number of oscillations a diver may take while on the diving board.
- **9-6-4:** Defines process to rectify announcing errors that occur during diving competition.
 - Rationale: Language establishes protocol when an announcer error occurs. The diver should not be penalized for the error of meet personnel; the referee retains broad discretion to resolve such problems in the most equitable and efficient way possible.

Wrestling

- **1-4-3** - . . . No wrestler shall represent the school in more than one weight class in any meet or wrestle in more than five matches (championship or consolation), excluding forfeits in any one day of competition. Exception: No wrestler shall wrestle in more than six matches (championship or consolation), excluding forfeits in any one day of a tournament conducted by the state high school association for qualification to the state high school championships or the championships themselves.
- **4-5-7** - . . . All contestants shall weigh-in wearing a legal uniform (4-4-1) and a suitable undergarment that completely covers the buttocks and the groin area. Contestants shall not weigh-in wearing shoes or ear guards. Female contestants shall also wear a suitable form-fitted compression undergarment that completely covers their breasts. Contestants may wear ~~low-cut~~ socks that cannot be removed or added if the wrestlers do not make weight.

- **5-1-1e** - . . . Bad time is wrestled with the wrestlers in the wrong position or the wrong wrestler being given choice of position: Sub-articles a.– d. remain the same. ~~e. on the next restart after opponent receives a two-point stalling penalty.~~

5-1-3f (NEW), 5-28-3, 5-28-6, 6-4-3, 8-2-4b1 & 2, 8-2-6, 8-2-9: HEAD, NECK AND CERVICAL ART. 3 . . . Any points, penalties, or injury time that occurred during bad time shall be voided with the following exceptions:

ART. 3 . . . Recovery time. If a contestant is injured as a result of an illegal hold/maneuver, unnecessary roughness, unsportsmanlike conduct during the match or the result of a false start (by the opponent) in the neutral position, the wrestler is entitled to two minutes of recovery time, which is not deducted from the injured wrestler's injury time allowance nor shall it constitute an HNC timeout. (5-28-6, 6-4-3, 8-2-2)

ART. 6 . . . Head/Neck/Cervical Column (HNC). If a contestant is injured, ~~and~~ the onsite appropriate health-care professional (AHCP) ~~determines that additional time is needed~~ will have up to five (5) minutes (maximum) to evaluate the wrestler's head and neck involving the cervical column and/or nervous system. ~~the wrestler is entitled to five (5) minutes, minus the elapsed injury time.~~ A second occurrence of injury to the head and neck involving the cervical column and/or nervous system in the same match shall require the wrestler to default the match. (8-2-4a, 8-2-4b1 & 2)

ART. 3 . . . If a wrestler is injured due to legal or illegal action, the referee shall stop the match under these certain conditions: a) injury time; b) blood time; c) recovery time; d) referee's time; e) Head/Neck/Cervical Column (HNC) injury time. (5-28-3, 5-28-6, 8-2-4a, 8-2-4b1 & 2)