

December 12, 2006

TO: Athletic Director, IGHSAU/IHSAA Member Schools

SUBJECT: Academic Eligibility, Track and Field

The IGHSAU and IHSAA have received multiple questions concerning the 20-school day ineligibility period for track and field participants who must sit as a result of the new “no-pass, no-play” academic eligibility rule.

By definition, the 20-school day period of ineligibility for any sport commences with the first day which competition is allowed. For example, the first allowable competition date for girls basketball was November 20. Even though a school may not have had a game scheduled until November 25, the 20-school day clock began ticking on the first date which a school could have scheduled.

Track and field presents a unique circumstance, with the first allowable competition date for boys and girls on Monday, February 12. This date has been set to accommodate indoor meets, knowing weather conditions are not ideal for outdoor competition until late in March.

Thus, regardless of whether your school competes in an indoor meet, the date which track and field ineligibility imposed by the “no-pass, no-play” rule commences is February 12, 2007. Member schools may opt locally to withhold additional eligibility once outdoor meets begin if they believe the February 12 date does not adequately address its circumstances locally.

Feel free to contact our office should any additional question arise concerning this interpretation.

Respectfully,

Troy Dannen  
Executive Director  
IGHSAU

Rick Wulkow  
Executive Director  
IHSAA