

IV. COOPERATIVE SHARING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN MEMBER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

If a member junior high school does not offer a particular athletic program, it is permissible for them to enter into a cooperative sharing agreement with another member junior high school that does offer the program. The schools involved in the agreement must share attendance boundaries unless schools that do share attendance boundaries do not offer the program or refuse to enter into a sharing agreement. A school may have a cooperative sharing agreement with only one other school, ~~unless all schools involved agree to separate sharing agreements.~~ A school may have a cooperative sharing agreement with only one other school district for a particular sport. The procedure to be followed is that the Board of Education of each member junior high school must formally agree to the combining of teams. Each school should keep a copy of the agreement on file for reference. There is no need to file these agreements with the Athletic Association. If the high school cooperative sharing agreement, which is signed by chairpersons of Boards of Education involved in the agreement, stipulates it is effective for grades 7-12, that may act as the formal agreement.

V. COOPERATIVE SHARING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN PRIVATE, NON-MEMBER SCHOOLS & PUBLIC, MEMBER SCHOOLS

The Board of Control policy grants permission for a private, non-member junior high school in the state to enter into a cooperative sharing agreement with a public, member junior high school within the same school district to combine sports programs for their 7th and/or 8th grade students, provided there is no private high school within that school district and the private junior high school within the district does not offer that particular sports program. Teams may also combine in a specific sport, if the private high school within the district does not offer that particular sports program. A private, non-member junior high school may have a cooperative sharing agreement with only one public, member junior high school, ~~unless all schools involved agree to separate sharing agreements.~~ A school may have a cooperative sharing agreement with only one other school district for a particular sport. The procedure to be followed is that the Board of Education of the private, non-member school and the Board of Education of the public, member school must formally agree to the combining of teams. Each school should keep a copy of the agreement on file for reference. There is no need to file these agreements with the Athletic Association.

Note: If there are extenuating circumstances, an in-state, private, non-member junior high school and a public, or private, member, junior high school may choose to combine a sport program(s) even if there is a private high school within the school district, providing both Boards of Education from the private and public, member junior high schools formally agree. The IHSAA should be notified before schools enter into such an agreement. Rationale: Rather than create undue hardships (due to travel, etc.) for junior high students who want to participate, if both school districts can agree to a sharing agreement, students should be allowed and encouraged to participate.

VERY IMPORTANT: Member junior high schools and their contestants must observe the regulations and limitations applicable to member high schools and their contestants, except for those regulations and limitations which follow hereafter.

XVII. FOOTBALL REGULATIONS

13. When a single Junior High Football Contest at a specific grade level is played, the squads may either participate in a non-scoring 5th quarter ~~or a 20-play showcase, with each team getting 10 offensive and defensive plays (no kicking game),~~ may be played at each grade level for participation purposes.