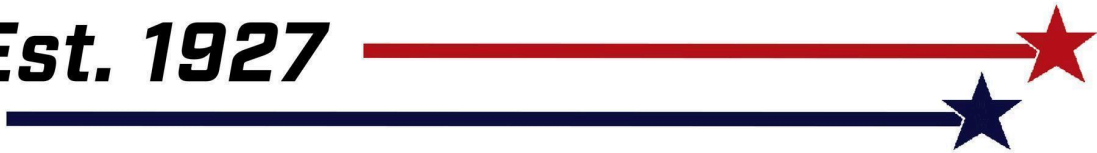


Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

ESDAA

Est. 1927



Policy Handbook 2024-2025

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) is to provide all member schools and respective athletes with challenging tournaments and guidelines for competitions. These competitions will center on good sportsmanship, ethical behavior, and integrity as advocated by the National Federation of State High Schools Athletics Association.

As advocates for the Deaf, the ESDAA will provide:

Member Schools:

- Leadership, stability, structure, and uniform standards for athletes participating in ESDAA sponsored tournaments.
- Opportunities to participate in tournaments with guidelines for safe, equitable, and fair competition that includes all eligible students to the maximum extent possible.
- Communication and administrative support by keeping appropriate administrators informed and involved.

Student Athletes:

- Provide opportunities for leadership, recognition, problem solving, decision making, and goal setting in order to enhance their ability to be successful in society.
- Opportunities to enhance peer relationships and develop lasting friendships.
- Significant lifetime learning experiences that are not duplicated in other areas of the educational program.

Association tournaments serve as an integral part of member schools' educational programs. Tournaments will operate in support of the entire curriculum providing motivational opportunities and unique learning experiences.

Constitution

Preamble

This organization shall be known as the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association or ESDAA. Its purpose shall be to secure uniformity of rules and regulations to govern all forms of athletic competition between members of the association.

Article 1 **Membership**

Section 1: Members

- a. Original Membership was limited to schools for the Deaf located north of the latitude 36 degrees and east of longitude 80 degrees, 30 minutes (west of Greenwich). This was waived when Ohio School for the Deaf joined in 2015.

- b. The eleven charter members of this association are: American (West Hartford, CT), New York (Fanwood - White Plains, NY), Kendall (Washington, DC), Lexington (East Elmhurst, NY), New Jersey (Trenton, NJ), Maryland (Frederick, MD), Pennsylvania (Mt. Airy, PA), Rhode Island (Providence, RI), St. Joseph's (Bronx, NY), Virginia (Staunton, VA), and Western Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh, PA) Schools for the Deaf.
 - i. Additional membership as of Sept. 1981 was as follows: Model Secondary (Washington D.C.), St. Mary's (Buffalo, N.Y.), West Virginia (Romney, WV), Pennsylvania State School for the Deaf (Scranton, PA), Governor Baxter (Portland, ME), New York State School for the Deaf (Rome, N.Y.), Mill Neck Manor (Mill Neck, NY), Austine (Brattleboro, VT), and Rochester School for the Deaf (Rochester, NY).
 - ii. In the early 1980's Kendall, St. Joseph's, Virginia, and Western Pennsylvania withdrew for various reasons
 - iii. The Penn. School for the Deaf (Mt. Airy campus) was granted a leave of absence (suspended their HS program) in 1984 and became an active member again in March of 2002.
 - iv. The Boston School for the Deaf (Boston, MA) was admitted in March 1985 and withdrew in Nov. 1994 (school closed)
 - v. Model Secondary School for the Deaf withdrew in June 1987

- vi. The Learning Center for Deaf Children (Framingham, MA) was admitted in Nov. 1990. The school changed their name to Marie Philip School in 2015 before being renamed as Marie Philip & Walden Schools in 2022.
- vii. Delaware School for the Deaf (Newark, DE) was admitted in Nov. 1994 and Western Pennsylvania was readmitted at the same time.
- viii. Public School 47: the English and ASL School (Manhattan, NY) was admitted in March 1999 and withdrew in March 2004
- ix. Austine School closed in 2014 and thus withdrew from the association.
- x. Ohio School for the Deaf (Columbus, OH) was admitted in 2015 and thus changed the geographical coordinates of the original ESDAA.
- xi. Governor Baxter withdrew from the ESDAA in April 2019 with hopes of rejoining at a later time.
- xii. Virginia was readmitted to the ESDAA in November 2020 after officially departing the Mason-Dixon Athletic Conference.

Section 2: Dues

- a. At the start of each school year, each member will pay a fee for dues. This fee should be paid by October 1st of the ongoing school year and sent to the ESDAA Treasurer. The Treasurer will submit a bill to each school in August of the said school year for dues and tournament fees according to the following schedule:

ESDAA Dues	\$200
Boys' Basketball	\$650
Girls' Basketball	\$650
Cheerleading	\$550
Boys' Track and Field	\$350
Girls' Track and Field	\$350
Volleyball	\$550
Soccer	\$550

(Fees as of 2024-25 School Year)

*Track Tournaments will incur an additional charge on the traveling schools either for their own hotel rooms or on-campus dorm supervision dependent on the site of the tournament. All schools may also be responsible for their own dinner on Friday night and Breakfast on Saturday morning.

Article II

Officers and Meetings

Section 1: Election of Officers

- a. The election of officers shall be held bi-annually as the final part of the Spring business meeting.
- b. The President and Vice President shall serve 2-year terms with the Vice President assuming the office of the President upon the end of the President's two-year term. A new Vice President shall be elected every two years.
- c. A nominating committee of two, appointed by the President, shall name not more than two candidates for the office of Vice President.
- d. Officers of the ESDAA are not required to be current/active Athletic Directors.

Section II: Officers and Their Duties

- a. The officers of the Association shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Executive Committee will consist of the President, Vice President, and past President.
 - i. The Executive Committee shall transact any business that may arise between regular business meetings.
- b. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee, appoint all committees, sign all orders on the Treasury, and perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Constitution and Policies. They shall be ex-officio members of all committees and shall have all such powers, inherent or otherwise, that are usually provided for by parliamentary rule.
- c. The Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Association in the absence of the President and perform such duties as are customary for such an officer.
- d. The Secretary shall take all minutes of the Association and send to the President for approval prior to distribution to all member schools.

- e. The Treasurer shall receive and distribute all funds and collect dues. They shall make financial reports and distribute at all meetings. They should remind the members of any school that is not meeting its obligations.

Section III: Meetings

- a. Athletic Directors' meetings will take place in the Fall and the Spring.
- b. Interpreters will be provided at the meetings if needed and paid for by the ESDAA.
- c. Each school shall be entitled to one vote which shall represent the wishes of the Athletic Director and the Executive of that active member school.
- d. If the Athletic Director can't attend the meeting, they may send a representative from the faculty of their school or they shall arrange to have another member act for them by proxy.
- e. Minutes of all the meetings must be approved by the President before being distributed to the Athletic Director and Superintendent of each member school. The minutes should be distributed within 21 days of the completed meeting date.

Article III
Order of Business

Section I:

- a. At each meeting the following shall be the order of business:
 - i. Roll Call
 - ii. Reading of the Minutes
 - iii. Treasurer's Report
 - iv. Report of the Committees
 - v. Continuing business
 - vi. New Business
 - vii. Election of Officers (Spring Meeting only)
 - viii. Adjournment

Article IV

Amendments

Section I:

- a. The Constitution may be amended by two-thirds majority vote of all active members at any regular business meeting of the Athletic Directors.
 - i. The request for an amendment shall be sent by the President 30 days prior to the meeting. The President will notify the membership
- b. Policies and Procedures and Tournament Guidelines may be amended at any meeting, without prior notice, by a two-thirds majority vote of those active members present.
 - i. Revisions that impact only one division may be passed by a simple majority of the active members present from that division.

Article V

Player Eligibility

Section 1:

_____ To represent a school in any intra-member contest, a student must meet the following requirements:

- a. Athletes shall not compete if they reach the age of 19 before July 1st of the current school year.
 - i. *A student turns 19 years old on June 30, 2024 (or beforehand). The student is ineligible to play at ESDAA Tournaments for the 2024-25 school year.*
 - ii. *A student turns 19 years old on July 1, 2024 (or afterwards). The student is eligible to play at ESDAA Tournament for the 2024-25 school year only. The student will be ineligible starting in 2025-26 onwards.*
- b. Athletes should be at least 12 years old by the tournament date.
- c. The participant must be a bonafide student of that particular member school.
 - i. Definition of a 'bona fide' student: Each student listed on an ESDAA member school tournament participant roster's primary education placement, as reflected in the student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP), should be the ESDAA member school.
 - ii. Any student whose IEP placement listed is different from the ESDAA member school's name, but resides in a State which currently has a bill/law (i.e. Delaware) which authorizes a Deaf/Hard of Hearing student to full participation and access on the ESDAA member school's team/activities as a full team member. This is subject to approval in writing by the requesting Member School's AD and Superintendent and submitted to the ESDAA Executive Board for documentation on an annual basis, due by September 15 (before Fall Tournaments), December 15 (before Winter Tournaments), March 15 (before Spring Tournaments) of that particular school year.
- d. There shall be no limit to the number of tournaments in which an athlete can participate.

Article VI

General Rules Applying to all Tournaments

Section I:

- a. Tournaments shall be held at the convenience of the host school.
- b. The host school shall announce the dates of the tournament.
- c. The host school must provide a certified athletic trainer for all ESDAA events.

Section II: Participant Limits

- a. Boys/Girls Basketball
Limit of 10 players and travel limit of 14 participants
- b. Cheerleading
Limit of 10 participants and travel limit of 14 participants
- c. Soccer
 - i. **8v8:** Limit of 12 players and travel limit of 15 participants
 - ii. **11v11:** Limit of 15 players and travel limit of 17
- d. Track
15 participants for girls and 15 participants for boys
with a Travel limit of 19 per gender team
- e. Volleyball
10 players with a travel limit of 14 participants

Section III: Seeding

- a. Procedures to be found in the Sports Guidelines for each division

Section IV: Forms

- a. All schools should have and be able to supply to the host school an emergency contact form for each athlete as needed.

Section V: Rules

- a. National Federation Rules will prevail, except those which will be determined by the host school's state regulations, or ESDAA past practice or printed regulations.

Section VI: Emergencies

- a. Anything not covered by these rules shall be arranged by the host or referred to a special meeting of the coaches at the discretion of those in charge of the tournament. The President must be notified.

Article VII

Rule Applying to Other Tournaments

Section 1: any new activity conducted by the Association will follow the Constitution.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Continues review

Section: 300

Subject: 301

Organizational Chart

Policy:

Lists committees of the organization

Procedure:

Updated by the secretary

ESDAA 2023-24 Organizational Chart

(as of August 28, 2024)

Administrative Council:

American- Christopher DiSanto	New York State (Rome)- Sean Jordan
Delaware- Nicole Jones	Ohio- Jenny Mendis
Lexington- Nicolas Tegni	Pennsylvania- Matt Bujak
Marie Katzenbach- Carolynne Reed	Rhode Island- Leo Gutierrez
Marie Philip & Walden- Nathan Engel	Rochester- Charles Palmer
Maryland- <i>Elena Ciccarelli (Asst.)</i>	St. Mary's- Jim Carmody
Mill Neck Manor - Larry Manning	Virginia- David Owens
New York (Fanwood)- Jeremy Cormier	Western Penn- Kallie Mendenhall
	West Virginia- Dave Simanski

Executive Council:

President: Nathan Engel, MPWS	Secretary: Nicole Jones, DSD
Vice President: Jeremy Cormier, NYSD	Treasurer: Nicolas Tegni, LEX

Standing Committees:

Policy and Procedure: Vacant
Mission Statement: Vacant (*Formerly Mary Cook, RSD*)
Coaching Responsibilities: Vacant (*Formerly Prinnie Eberle, PSD*)
Recognition/Awards: Nicolas Tegni, LEX
Advisory: Val Wojton III
Superintendent Liaison: Antony McLetchie, RSD

Sports Committees:

Boys Basketball

Girls Basketball

Cheerleading (Combined)

Volleyball (Combined)

Track (Combined)

Soccer

Division I

Justin Carrus, MPWS

Kallie Mendenhall, WPSD

Maria Micioni, LEX (Isabella Kogan, NYSD-(acting))

Shaunina Young, LEX

Jim Carmody, SMSD

Chris DiSanto, ASD

Division II

David Owens, VSDB

Charles Palmer, RSD

Scott Lipitz, RSD

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Continues review

Section: 300

Subject: 302

Purpose and Goals

Policy:

Lists goals to be accomplished by the organization

Procedure:

Updated by the President with recommendations from the membership

Purpose and Goal Statement 2024-25

A. Purpose: To strengthen the organizational structure of the Association

Goals:

1. Work on improving and adding to the shared ESDAA Google Drive (which can be accessed by all ADs) that contains complete copies of the Constitution, Policies, Tournament Guidelines, and History/Past Tournament Reports.
2. Continue to review and update policies and procedures so as to promote uniformity of regulations for tournaments.
3. Create a secured web page with a login authentication which contains all active Tournament & Skill Competitions Guidelines on the ESDAA website that can be accessible by all ADs and Coaches.
4. Fill vacant Standing Committee positions & continue to review policy in order to stay current with new challenges.
5. Develop a policy or procedure for recognizing individuals who have contributed to athletics at member schools.
6. Solidify Tournament Chairperson responsibilities and empower them to work together with Host School AD to run successful tournaments.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Continues review

Section: 300

Subject: 303

Termination of Membership

Policy:

A member school may, at any time, withdraw from the ESDAA.

Procedure:

1. Submit a written statement to the President indicating your desire to withdraw. The President shall notify all active members.
2. When possible, the school should have a representative attend the next regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the reasons for this action.
3. Requests will be accepted when no workable solution can be found.

Responsibilities:

1. Member schools will determine if any alternatives do exist which could be beneficial to both the Association and the school in question without withdrawing.
2. If at all possible withdrawal should be done at the end of the school year after all obligations have been made.
3. President will write a letter to the Superintendent of the school summarizing the details of the meeting and the actions taken.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Ongoing

Section: 300

Subject: 304

Realignment

Policy:

Several ESDAA sports have been separated into divisions. These divisions can be changed as the needs of member schools and the Association change.

Procedure:

Each sport will follow its own procedure for realignment. Eligibility form 307a will be used if student population numbers are required for determining the divisions.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 2020

Section: 300

Subject: 304a

Boys Basketball Realignment

Policy:

The divisions of the ESDAA Boys Basketball have been modified and all participating schools shall follow this divisional realignment in regards to tournament procedures and ESDAA policies and guidelines.

Procedure:

1. There can be two different Boys Basketball Tournaments each year. However should any host school wish to host both divisions this is acceptable providing both host schools are in agreement.
2. The Association has left it open for divisions/host schools to invite non-divisional ESDAA member school or other schools to their tournament to fill the standard 8-team tournament brackets.
3. Schools are expected to stay in their division for at least three years.

Divisions as of 2024-25

Division I

American
Lexington
Marie Philip & Walden
NYSD-Fanwood
Ohio
Pennsylvania
Western Penn.

Division II

Delaware
Marie Katzenbach (NJ)
Mill Neck Manor
NYSSD-Rome
Rhode Island
Rochester
St. Mary's
Virginia
West Virginia

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 2020

Section: 300

Subject: 304b

Girls Basketball Realignment

Policy:

The divisions of the ESDAA Girls Basketball have been modified and all participating schools shall follow this divisional realignment in regards to tournament procedures and ESDAA policies and guidelines.

Procedure:

1. There can be two different Girls Basketball Tournaments each year. However should any host school wish to host both divisions this is acceptable providing both host schools are in agreement.
2. The Association has left it open for divisions/host schools to invite non-divisional ESDAA member school or other schools to their tournament to fill the standard 8-team tournament brackets.
3. Schools are expected to stay in their division for at least three years.

Divisions as of 2024-24

Division I

American
Lexington
Marie Philip & Walden
NYSD-Fanwood
Ohio
Pennsylvania
Western Penn.

Division II

Delaware
Marie Katzenbach (NJ)
Mill Neck Manor
NYSSD-Rome
Rhode Island
Rochester
St. Mary's
Virginia
West Virginia

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 2020

Section: 300

Subject: 304c

Girls Volleyball Realignment

Policy:

There shall be one division for the ESDAA Girls Volleyball Tournament. All ESDAA Schools are eligible to participate in this tournament.

Procedure:

All Division Tournament

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 2020

Section: 300

Subject: 304d

Soccer Realignment

Policy:

There shall be two divisions for soccer; 8-player and 11-player teams.

Procedure:

1. There shall be two separate soccer tournaments each year abiding by the rules of each division.

Divisions as of 2024-25

11-Player

American
Lexington
Marie Philip & Walden
NYSD-Fanwood
Ohio
Pennsylvania
Western Penn.

8-Player

Delaware
Marie Katzenbach (NJ)
Mill Neck Manor
NYSSD-Rome
Rhode Island
Rochester
St. Mary's
Virginia
West Virginia

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 1995

Section: 300

Subject: 305

Non-member School Participation in ESDAA Tournament

Policy:

Tournament Directors of a sanctioned ESDAA tournament will strictly follow the guidelines that are established in the constitution. No non-ESDAA teams will be invited to compete unless other teams are needed to fill out the brackets and to facilitate a smooth-running tournament.

Procedure:

Current practice (est. 2023): ESDAA Tournament Host Schools will prioritize filling out their bracket with other ESDAA Schools if applicable. In the event that this is not possible, this invitation may be extended out to a non-ESDAA member school - however, any and all non-ESDAA member schools are expected to pay the same amount of tournament sport fee (i.e. \$650 for Boys' Basketball) as the other ESDAA member schools. These non-ESDAA member schools are eligible to compete for and win championships and skill competitions.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Oct. 1991

Section: 300

Subject: 306

Attendance by Director of Athletics at Meetings

Policy:

Member schools should have a representative present at each meeting. If the Director of Athletics can't attend, then a substitute should be sent in their place.

Procedure:

1. Each member school should be represented at each meeting. An ESDAA officer will prepare and distribute a meeting agenda at least two weeks in advance to provide adequate trip planning time and ensure a productive meeting.
2. If a school is not represented, the President will contact the school Athletic Director and/or Superintendent to remind them of their obligation to attend or provide other representation.
3. If two consecutive meetings are missed, a \$50.00 fine will be levied against the school payable prior to the next meeting.
4. If three consecutive meetings are missed the school shall be suspended from the ESDAA for a period of one school year following a review by the Executive Council. If the third missed meeting occurs in the Fall, the school would be suspended for the remainder of that current school year. If the third meeting occurred in the Spring, suspension would be for the following school year.
5. At the end of the suspended year, the school must request in writing to the President of the ESDAA, reinstating a firm commitment to attend all meetings in the future. Upon receipt of the letter, the school would be accepted back into the Association.
6. Based on a review and recommendation by the Executive Council, missing four consecutive meetings could result in expulsion from the ESDAA.

Exceptions:

Schools unable to have a representative present due to sickness and/or emergency needs should contact an Association officer prior to the scheduled meeting.

Responsibilities:

1. ESDAA President

- a. In concert with the Secretary, review the attendance records of the member schools at the Athletic Director meetings.
- b. Draft and send a letter to delinquent school representatives within two weeks of any given meeting, copy to both the AD and the Superintendent of that school.

2. Athletic Director

- a. Confer regularly with the chief school officer regarding meeting agendas and issues of concern within the Association.
- b. Plan in advance and secure approval from the chief school officer for school representation at ESDAA Athletic Director meetings.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 1995

Section: 300

Subject: 307

Request for a Change of Division by Member Schools

Policy:

Due to the fact the number of eligible participants in sports programs at ESDAA member schools has fluctuated significantly, the Association recognizes the need to periodically review and realign divisional tournament assignments. All such initiatives will be proposed, evaluated and completed with the intent to enhance team competitiveness and divisional parity. Should a member school desire to change divisions, the procedure outlined below should be followed.

Procedure:

1. A written request should be provided at an ESDAA Athletic Director meeting at least 6 months in advance of the desired change.
2. The requesting school should be prepared to substantiate their request with supporting documentation such as:
 - a. Enrollment figures submitted on the Student Eligibility Sheet-307a
 - b. Records against other schools for the Deaf for the past three years to support claims that their program has changed significantly and will probably be restricted if the school stays in its current division.
3. An approval vote, in keeping with Article IV Section 1 b) of the Constitution shall be a two-thirds majority of the active members present.
4. If approved, the President will assign and announce an "effective date" for the divisional placement change to all member schools.
5. A commitment will be made to remain in the divisional realignment for at least three years.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Nov. 1993

Section: 300

Subject: 307a

Student Eligibility

Policy:

Whenever Divisions need to be realigned, this form (*see next page for full copy*) will be used to determine the accurate student population of member schools.

Procedure:

1. Both the number of gender-specific eligible students in a given divisional population classification and the number of ESDAA member schools assigned to a given Association division will be determined every two years beginning at the Spring meeting.
2. Student names/tournament rosters would be indicated for review purposes.
3. All students listed on the school's form should be considered bona fide students at the member school.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Nov. 1993

Section: 300

Subject: 308

ESDAA Website

Policy:

The ESDAA will support a website throughout the school year. Funds for such a site will be voted on and provided on a yearly basis.

Procedure:

1. Each school is responsible for sending and maintaining accurate information regarding sports at their school to the webmaster. This should include, but is not limited to:
 - a. Scores of games (regular season)
 - b. Results of ESDAA Tournaments; scores, awards, all stars
 - c. Academic achievements
 - d. Special programs and/or projects

Definitions:

1. The ESDAA website is the official ESDAA publication whose goals include:
 - a. Serving as a public relations tool for the ESDAA
 - b. Promoting a positive image of the ESDAA
 - c. Keeping us up to date on happenings related to ESDAA and our students
 - d. Creating a centralized chronicle of ESDAA Tournament data from 1990 to present (results, all-stars. etc), and then working backwards from 1990.
 - e. Motivating students (and staff) by recognizing achievements of all kinds
 - f. Serve as a model for all other Deaf athletic conference/organizations

Responsibilities:

1. The webmaster, as the editor, is the ESDAA representative responsible for monitoring website data, uploading pages, etc.
2. Athletic Directors should confer with coaches at their school to obtain and send items of interest to the website.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: April 1993

Section: 300

Subject: 309

ASL Interpreters at Meetings

Policy:

Certified ASL interpreters will be available at all ESDAA Athletic Directors Meetings upon request

Procedure:

1. The President of the Association (ESDAA) will be responsible for making arrangements for each meeting or assuring arrangements are made by the host school or a designated host.
2. The interpreter coordinator at the host school or a willing coordinator at another member school can be used to schedule certified interpreters.
3. The ESDAA will be responsible for paying interpreter fees either directly or by reimbursing the host.
4. The ESDAA President must inform the host in advance if a meeting is expected to be more than four hours in order to have enough time to secure additional interpreters.
5. There shall be two certified interpreters at each meeting upon a request communicated in advance.
6. At the end of the scheduled meeting, a date for the following meeting will be selected so the host has ample time to schedule interpreters.

Definitions:

1. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act an interpreter must be qualified, meaning the person is able to “interpret effectively, accurately and impartially, both receptive and expressive using any necessary specialized vocabulary.” (35.104)
2. Certified Interpreter: Interpreters are currently certified through the Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf and the National Association of the Deaf.

Exceptions:

If a certified interpreter can't be procured for the meeting, the coordinator for interpreting services for the host school will be responsible to find an acceptable alternative solution

Responsibilities:

Both RID and NAD certified interpreters adhere to a Code of Ethics regarding among other items: professionalism rendering the message faithfully and confidentiality

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 1994

Section: 300

Subject: 310

Application for membership in ESDAA

Policy:

A school for the Deaf may apply for membership in the Association at any time. Approval for participation in tournaments shall be effective at the time of the ESDAA Athletic Director's meeting preceding the tournament of choice.

Procedure:

1. Submit a written statement to the President of the ESDAA indicating your desire to become a member.
2. Attend an ESDAA meeting to explain your school's purpose in joining the Association and to answer questions from the Administrative Council.
3. The Association will provide a packet of information explaining Association policies and member responsibilities.
4. As stated in the Constitution, no other school shall be admitted except by unanimous vote of all active members.

Responsibilities:

1. Hosting of tournaments should be done as soon as possible and/or within five years of admission unless there are conditions set in place pertaining to hosting.
2. The Association will assign the new member school to a division based on the needs of that school, its enrollment numbers and the Association.
3. The new member school is encouraged to participate in as many ESDAA tournaments as possible.
4. Upon acceptance, the President will welcome the new member to the Association and notify the Superintendent of its membership responsibilities.
5. The President will assign a veteran Administrative Council member as a mentor to the new member.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 2001

Section: 300

Subject: 310a/b

Deadline for Tournament Entry

Deadline for withdrawal from tournaments with a refund

Policy 310a:

ESDAA member schools may enter tournaments for which they are eligible provided they declare their intention to participate by the following dates:

Volleyball	Oct. 1
Soccer	Oct. 1
Basketball	Dec. 1
Cheerleading	Dec. 1
Track	April 1

Exceptions: The host school may consider late requests and will base their decision on how the entry will impact the tournament as well as housing, etc.

Policy 310b:

ESDAA member schools may withdraw from a tournament with a full fee refund provided they notify the ESDAA Treasurer and the host school Athletic Director with at least :

Volleyball	Oct. 1
Soccer	Oct. 1
Basketball	Dec. 1
Cheerleading	Dec. 1
Track	April 1

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 1994

Section: 300

Subject: 311

Hosting an ESDAA Meeting

Policy:

Except for those times when the Association has used alternate sites or via Zoom from 2020-2022 due to the COVID pandemic, the ESDAA business meetings have always been held at Fanwood in person. Should it occur that Fanwood is unable to host the meetings the procedure below would be enacted.

Procedure:

1. The President of the ESDAA would have the right to host the meeting if they so desired.
2. Schools that have traveled the farthest to White Plains would get the first chance to host. The order would be:
 - a. West Virginia
 - b. St. Mary's
 - c. West. Penn.
 - d. Rochester
 - e. Maryland
 - f. Rome
 - g. Rhode Island
 - h. MPS
 - i. Penn.
 - j. Delaware
 - k. MKSD
 - l. American
 - m. Mill Neck
 - n. Lexington
 - o. Virginia (*new*)
3. If, for any reason, a school would like to host but they are not inclined to do so, they may request it. A vote will be taken and, if a majority, then the requesting school can host a meeting.
4. If a school does not want to host, we would move to the next school on the list.
5. The hosting school would not be required to provide sleeping quarters if they do not have the facilities. Members would have to rent hotel rooms.

Definitions:

1. Alternate sites: appropriate conventions and conferences that can provide professional development as well as a meeting site. These sites must be approved by the majority.
2. Designated host: when meeting at an alternate site, the President may assign a member school to serve as host and secure interpreters.

Responsibilities:

The host is required to:

1. Provide a meeting space with enough room for approximately 20 people from 1 pm to 6 pm. (*Time may vary depending on the agreed meeting start time by the schools*)
2. Provide the meeting members with snacks. ESDAA will reimburse the host.
3. Arrange for dinner at a local restaurant.
4. Arrange for interpreters, in coordination with the President, as needed.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 1994

Section: 300

Subject: 312

Track Competition-Non Hosting Schools

Policy:

If a school is not in the hosting rotation and wishes to participate in the ESDAA Track and Field Tournament, the options listed below are available.

Procedure:

1. The host school will bill the non-hosting school proportionately.
2. The non-hosting school will pay their own way-stay in hotels, eat out, etc. No expenses would be incurred by the host school.
3. It could be the decision or choice of the hosting school to accommodate all of the non-hosting schools at no cost to them whatsoever.

Definitions:

Non-hosting schools: schools not in the hosting rotation that may want to participate.

Exceptions:

If none of the above procedures can be worked out, the non-hosting school will not participate.

Responsibilities:

The host Athletic Director will supply information on nearby restaurants and accommodations.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Continuous review

Section: 300

Subject: 313

Future Tournament Sites

Policy:

A hosting rotation will be established and followed for each tournament that is sponsored by the ESDAA

Procedure:

1. At each meeting, the rotations will be confirmed and dates indicated by the upcoming host.
2. The Association Vice President will maintain and revise the contacts and distribute with the Tournament Hosting Information.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Continuous review

Section: 300

Subject: 314

ESDAA School Contacts

Policy:

Each school shall provide appropriate contact information to the Vice President.

Procedure:

1. At each meeting, the contact information will be confirmed

The Association Vice President will maintain and revise the listings for future tournament sites and distribute them with current school contact information.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Continuous review

Section: 300

Subject: 313a

Contact Information

<p><u>AMERICAN</u> Christopher DiSanto American School for the Deaf 139 North Main St. West Hartford, CT 06107</p> <p>E-Mail: christopher.disanto@asd-1817.org</p>	<p><u>DELAWARE</u> Nicole Jones Delaware School for the Deaf 630 East Chestnut Hill Road Newark, DE 19713</p> <p>E-Mail: nicole.jones3@christina.k12.de.us</p>
<p><u>LEXINGTON</u> Nicolas Tegni Lexington School for the Deaf 25-26 75th Street East Elmhurst, NY 11370</p> <p>E-Mail: ntegni@lexnyc.org</p>	<p><u>MARIE KATZENBACH</u> Carolynne Reed Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf 320 Sullivan Way Trenton, NJ 08625</p> <p>E-Mail: carolynne.reed@mkdsd.org</p>
<p><u>MARIE PHILIP & WALDEN SCHOOLS</u> Nathan Engel Marie Philip & Walden Schools 848 Central Street Framingham, MA 01701-4815</p> <p>E-Mail: nengel@tlcdeaf.org</p>	<p><u>MARYLAND</u> Elena Ciccarelli Maryland School for the Deaf 101 Clarke Place Frederick, MD 21701 8</p> <p>E-Mail: elena.ciccarelli@msd.edu</p>
<p><u>MILL NECK</u> Larry Manning Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf 40 Frost Mill Road Mill Neck, NY 11765</p> <p>E-Mail: larry.manning@millneck.org</p>	<p><u>NEW YORK (FANWOOD)</u> Jeremy Cormier New York School for the Deaf 555 Knollwood Road White Plains, NY 10603</p> <p>E-Mail: jcormier@nysd.net</p>

<p><u>NEW YORK STATE (ROME)</u> Sean Jordan New York State School for the Deaf 401 Turin Street Rome, NY 13440</p> <p>E-Mail: Sean.Jordan@nysed.gov</p>	<p><u>OHIO</u> Jenny Mendis Ohio School for the Deaf 500 Morse Road Columbus, Ohio 43214</p> <p>E-Mail: mendis@osdb.oh.gov</p>
<p><u>PENNSYLVANIA</u> Matt Bujak Pennsylvania School for the Deaf 100 W. School House Lane Philadelphia, PA 19144</p> <p>E-Mail: mattbujak@psd.org</p>	<p><u>RHODE ISLAND</u> Leo Gutierrez Rhode Island School for the Deaf 1 Corliss Park Providence, RI 02908</p> <p>E-Mail: lgutierrez@rideaf.net</p>
<p><u>ROCHESTER</u> Charles Palmer Rochester School for the Deaf 1545 St. Paul Street Rochester, NY 14621</p> <p>E-Mail: cpalmer@rsdeaf.org</p>	<p><u>ST. MARY'S</u> Jim Carmody St Mary's School for the Deaf 2253 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14214</p> <p>E-Mail: jcarmo@smsdk12.org</p>
<p><u>VIRGINIA</u> David Owens Virginia School for the Deaf & Blind 104 VSDB Dr Staunton, VA 24401</p> <p>E-Mail: David.Owens@vsdb.k12.va.us</p>	<p><u>WEST VIRGINIA</u> Dave Simanski West VA School for the Deaf & Blind 301 East Main Street Romney, WV 26757</p> <p>E-Mail: dsimanski@k12.wv.us</p>
<p><u>WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA</u> Kallie Mendenhall W. Pennsylvania School for the Deaf 300 Swissvale Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15218</p> <p>E-Mail: kmendenhall@wpsd.org</p>	<p><u>PAST MEMBER</u> <u>GOVERNOR BAXTER</u> Matt Welch MECDHH/Governor Baxter School for the Deaf 1 Mackworth Island Falmouth, ME 04105</p> <p>E-Mail: matt.welch@mecdhh.org</p>

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Oct. 1991

Section: 400

Subject: 401

President

Role and Function:

The President shall have the administrative oversight of the Association and will provide leadership and direction on matters of interest to the membership.

Accountability:

The President is accountable to the Superintendent and Director of Athletics at Association schools.

Responsibilities:

1. Preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee.
2. Approve all orders on the treasury
3. Appoint or approve all standing and special committees, and sports' chairpersons. Serve as ex-officio member of all committees.
4. Perform duties prescribed by the Constitution and Association regulations.
5. Maintain such powers that are usually provided for by parliamentary rule.
6. Develop an annual Purpose and Goal Statement (302) for review and approval by the Association members.
7. Arrange for meeting interpreters as needed.
8. Prepare meeting agenda and support documents
9. Review and approve meeting minutes prior to distribution to members.
10. Appoint a mentor for new members (405)

Selection Process:

Elected every two years at the Spring Athletic Director meetings.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Oct. 1991

Section: 400

Subject: 402

Vice President

Role and Function:

The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in their absence or inability to act. The Vice President shall assist the President in any matters necessary.

Accountability:

The Vice President is accountable to the President and the members of the Athletic Directors' Administrative Council.

Responsibilities:

1. Maintain and update the Associations log book entitled "Guidelines for ESDAA Tournament and Historical records."
2. Maintain and update a list of schools currently participating in tournaments and the sports offered by each school (Sports Declaration Sheet).
3. Provide for new member orientation (405)
4. Maintain and distribute an updated contact sheet and tournament rotation sheet.
5. Perform any other duties which are assigned by the President or the Administrative Team.
6. Become President at the end of the term of office.

Selection Process:

Elected every two years at the Spring Athletic Director meetings in concurrence with the Transfer of Association Presidency.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Oct. 1987

Section: 400

Subject: 403

Secretary

Role and Function:

The Secretary shall have the oversight of records, providing a historical and current testimony of the work by the Association members.

Accountability:

The secretary is accountable to the President and the members of the Athletic Directors' Administrative Council.

Responsibilities:

1. Attend and maintain accurate minutes of each Athletic Directors' meeting. The deliberations of such meetings will be recorded and a rough draft prepared for review and approval by the President, then distributed to both Superintendents and Athletic Directors of member school within 21 days of the meeting.
2. Develop and maintain a folder of minutes of each meeting of the Association on the Association's shared Google Drive folder.
3. Sign all official documents when needed.
4. Prepare correspondence as directed by the Executive Committee.
5. Assist in logging, retrieval and utilization of specific records.
6. Distribute and review copies of approved job descriptions and committee goal statements with individuals holding Association offices and support positions.
7. Develop and maintain the Association officer/committee structure roster (Organizational Chart-301) and notify member schools of changes as they occur.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Sept. 1991

Section: 400

Subject: 404

Treasurer

Role and Function:

The Treasurer shall have the responsibility and duty to maintain records of all Association monetary transactions.

Accountability:

The Treasurer is accountable to the Athletic Directors as Association schools.

Responsibilities:

1. Manage financial resources of the Association and appraise the Executive Committee of the financial stewardship and status of member schools.
2. Keep a complete and accurate record of all receipts and disbursements using cash basis accounting methods.
3. Deposit all monies and maintain a bank checking account and checkbook.
4. Obtain approval of the President before paying any obligations incurred outside those of annual tournament commitments.
5. Send all member schools, by August 1st, an invoice listing all fees due the Association for that school year.
6. Send each tournament hosting school the appropriate amount of money due that school for hosting a particular tournament.
7. Be responsible for any other Association related monetary affairs not specified in the above.

Selection Process:

Elected every two years at the Spring Athletic Directors' meeting.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Nov. 1992

Section: 400

Subject: 405

New Member Orientation

Policy:

Members of the ESDAA Administrative Council will conduct an in-depth orientation program for newly elected or newly admitted Athletic Directors during their first attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Procedure:

The orientation program will consist of the following:

1. Introduction to Administration Council members
2. Copies of the minutes for the last four meetings
3. Access to a copy of the ESDAA Constitution and Policy/Procedure Manual and current contact sheet.
4. Review of the ESDAA President's responsibilities.
5. A review session with an assigned Executive Committee member.
6. Assignment of a mentor by the President.

Responsibilities:

1. Vice President:
 - a. Officially recognize and welcome new members at their first meeting.
 - b. Assign Administrative Council members as needed to fulfill objectives outlined in the orientation procedures.
2. Treasurer:
 - a. Welcomes new members to their first meeting.
 - b. Provides an explanation of financial accounting.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Nov. 1994

Section: 400

Subject: 406

Coaching Responsibilities

Policy:

Coaches are responsible for their team members regarding all facets of discipline and for the team's relationship with opponents and officials. The coaching staff is responsible **at all times** for their team members at ESDAA Tournaments.

Procedure:

Discipline: Every facet of discipline is the coaches' responsibility. Coaches become a model for all that their program represents-observation of their school's codes, training rules, rules of the game, ideals of good sportsmanship and behavior of their team throughout the tourney. Desire to do well, **to win well, to lose well**, should all be emphasized.

To the players on the team: The main reason for having athletic teams is to help provide opportunities for young men and women to develop their respective capabilities to the fullest extent. Development of positive attitudes is an important means to accomplish this goal. We must promote and teach only clean, aggressive, and fair play, while stressing good sportsmanship at all times. The coach must be the leader and set the example.

The behavior of coaches must, at all times, be marked by dignity and self-control. They should not, at any time, use provocative language or engage in any unsportsmanlike actions or tactics. Coaches will immediately discipline any player behavior who intimidates an official or displays unsportsmanlike behavior.

To Opponents: Coaches should teach their players to respect their opponents. Deliberate attempts to humiliate an opponent should not be tolerated by tourney officials, e.g., running up the score.

To Officials: Coaches should respect the decisions of officials and be courteous to them, and teach their players likewise. Coaches must control their emotions by eliminating any show of outraged discontent over an official's call. Coaches should not use profanity or obscene language, and should discourage players from using such language at all times.

Supervision of team members: **Team members must be supervised at all times** either by the head coach or the assistant coach or an official school chaperone. The head coach and assistant coach should check the team members at curfew every night. The head coach has the ultimate responsibility and should be readily available for contact. Assistant coaches should know where the head coach is at all times.

Responsibilities: **Athletic Directors should go over the above responsibilities with their coaches before the team leaves for a tournament.**

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Mar. 1994

Section: 400

Subject: 407

Track and Field Chairperson

Responsibilities:

1. Assists the host school by ensuring the host school has knowledge of the rules and regulations (guidelines) and enforces them.
2. Chairs the championship meeting the night before the tournament.
3. Maintains and updates the ESDAA Track and Field records (such as boys/girls performances for each event, records broken, team standings and points totals).
4. Maintains records of the coaches' meetings and presents a report at the Athletic Directors' Spring meeting.
5. Provides the Vice President with needed information of the ESDAA Tournament log book.
6. Report results of the tournaments to the ESDAA website and submits an electronic copy of the results to the Google Folder.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Mar. 1994

Section: 400

Subject: 408

Basketball Chairperson(s)

Responsibilities:

1. Conduct the tournament coaches meetings at the host school.
 - a. Review special rules that apply to that state for games
 - b. Review competitions and rules
 - c. Discuss uniform color for the next day
 - d. Discuss all star ballot, sportsmanship ballot, and other special recognition award(s).
 - e. Discuss future tournament sites.
 - f. Discuss any concerns that arise during the tournament
2. Direct the skills competition activities.
3. Compile tournament results and maintain division records.
4. Assist in coordinating the All-Star balloting/selection process and awards presentation if needed.
5. Distribute and manage seedings for the tournament to division member schools.
6. Represent the coaches at the Spring Athletic Directors' meeting with a tournament report.
7. Submit a tournament report that includes results of the tournament on the ESDAA website and Google Drive. (see Tournament Reporting Form)

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Mar. 1994

Section: 400

Subject: 409

Cheerleading Chairperson

Responsibilities:

1. Preside over coaches meetings at tournaments and provide any assistance necessary to the coaches.
2. Present tournament results and proposed changes or additions suggested by the coaches at the Spring meeting Athletic Directors' meeting.
3. Represent the interests of the coaches at the Spring meeting.
4. Provide assistance to the host school and tournament director as to the needs of the cheer competition.
5. Distribute, collect and tabulate the team Information Sheets, All-Star Ballots and Spirit Award Ballots at the tournament.
6. Meet with tournament Judges to explain, discuss and answer questions concerning the competition and preside over the competition.
7. Tabulate scores with the Judges and/or Tournament Director.
8. Distribute original score sheets and provide final tabulation sheets of all scores to the coaches.
9. Make rulings based on the regulations and guidelines.
10. Contact coaches with a summary of the Spring Athletic Directors' meeting.
11. Provide the Vice President with needed information for the ESDAA Website and Google Folder.
12. Report results and update rules and guidelines of the tournament to the ESDAA website.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Mar. 1994

Section: 400

Subject: 410

Volleyball Chairperson

Responsibilities:

1. Conduct the tournament coaches meetings at the host school.
 - a. Review tournament format and brackets
 - b. Review competitions and rules
 - c. Discuss any special rules pertaining to the courts
 - d. Discuss all star ballot, sportsmanship ballot, and other special recognition award.
 - e. Discuss future tournament sites.
 - f. Discuss any concerns that arise during the tournament.
2. Direct the skills competition activities.
3. Compile tournament results and maintain division records.
4. Assist in coordinating the All-Star balloting/selection process and awards presentation if needed.
5. Distribute and manage seedings for the tournament to division member schools.
6. Represent the coaches at the Spring Athletic Directors' meeting with a tournament report.
7. Submit a tournament report that includes results of the tournament on the ESDAA website and google drive. (see Tournament Reporting Form)

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Dec. 1990

Section: 500

Subject: 501

Association Dinner Meal

Policy:

Association funds will be used to pay dinner expenses for member Athletic Directors and Association Officers present at the Spring and Fall Athletic Director meetings.

Procedure:

1. Membership dues will be collected and deposited in the Association financial account.
2. The Secretary/Treasurer will account for members present at the ESDAA Fall and Spring meetings. They will pay the restaurant the appropriate sum based on the policy guideline.
3. Schools bringing additional staff members to the Association dinner who are not covered by this policy will be expected to pay the appropriate cost to the ESDAA.
4. The bill for each approved member per meal will not include alcoholic beverages.

Exceptions:

Special guests and presenters were brought in by the Association through a pre-approved vote of the Administrative Council.

Responsibilities:

1. Treasurer submits an annual membership dues bill to each participating school by August 1st.
2. Members notify the Athletic Director of the host school of your intention to join the dinner.
3. Host school Athletic Director makes appropriate reservations at restaurant.
4. Treasurer makes arrangements to pay bill from Association funds.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: April 1993

Section: 500

Subject: 502

Finances: Authorization

Policy:

The following positions have been authorized by the Administrative Council to certify or approve accounts, vouchers or checks, as applicable, for personal service and operation of the ESDAA: Treasurer and President.

The President has authorized the following positions to expend money in the absence of both of the positions in an emergency in strict accordance with Association rules and regulations and only in areas which do not create a conflict of interest with their normal duties: ESDAA Vice President.

Procedure:

1. All expenditure requests must be submitted to the Association Treasurer for authorization and approval. If the requested amount exceeds \$200.00; two signatures are required, both the Treasurer and the President must authorize the request.
2. In the absence of the Treasurer, and when circumstances require immediate action, the President may authorize expenditures.
3. In the absence of both the Treasurer and the President, and the need is an emergency, the Vice President may authorize the expenditures.
4. If the Vice President authorizes the expenditure, they are to take due care to assure that there is no conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest. They are to report the authorization as soon as possible to the Association Treasurer.
5. No other personnel are authorized to obligate the Association or to expend funds. Individuals who do so may be:
 - a. Subject to action by the Administrative Council
 - b. Held Personally liable for the unauthorized expenditures.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: March 1994

Section: 500

Subject: 503

Association Accounts: Handling of Funds

Policy:

All funds to be collected in the name of the Association are to be deposited with the Treasurer within thirty days of billing. Funds will only be deposited into accounts established by the Treasurer and approved by the Administrative Council. Fund may be requested and withdrawn only upon authorization by the individual(s) designated as being responsible for the account (502). Authorizations of more than \$200 must be approved by the ESDAA President or Treasurer. Documentation supporting withdrawal must accompany the request.

Procedure:

1. Association members deposit funds with the treasurer as needed.
2. Funds are to be identified and accurately counted by both the Treasurer and a secondary source approved by the Administrative Council (i.e. an Administrative Council member or business office of the school holding the ESDAA account).
3. The Treasurer will verify the amount deposited by issuing a numbered receipt to the person/school who submits the money.
4. Association members submitting funds are to verify their receipt for the correct amount and accuracy. The Treasurer is only responsible for the amount indicated on the receipt.
5. Time Frames
 - a. Bills for Association dues and fees will be sent by the Treasurer by August 1st. Schools should submit dues and fees within 60 days of invoice. A late statement will be mailed to the Athletic Director of any school delinquent in paying their bill by December 1st and, again, by March 1st.
 - b. For reimbursement of approved expense requests, clearly marked and labeled receipts are to be submitted within 60 days; the Treasurer will reimburse within 30 days; no reimbursement without receipts.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Oct. 1987

Section: 600

Subject: 601

Tournament Team Member Eligibility

Policy:

For a team member to be eligible for participation in an ESDAA sanctioned tournament, a student must be at least the age of 12 years old by the tournament date and must not have attained the age of 19 prior to July 1st of that year.

Procedure:

1. Each school shall submit a roster to the host school. The Athletic Director of each school should verify eligibility of their athletes.
2. Any discrepancies in age found should be reported to the President of the Association.
3. The Executive Committee will make the final decision as to the eligibility of the student.

Exceptions:

Non-ESDAA Tournaments or regular season games may include students who are not eligible, when agreed by the schools involved.

Responsibilities:

1. Coaches: inform team members of ESDAA tournament participation status.
2. Athletic Directors : maintain up-to-date files on parent permissions and student age verification; monitor age eligibility--report to the President of the Association.

ESDAA Tournament Team Information Sheet

School: _____ Sport: _____ Date: _____
 Superintendent: _____ Athletic Director: _____
 Head Coach: _____ Assistant Coach: _____
 Manager: _____ Driver: _____
 School Colors: _____ Mascot: _____

Roster

<u>Name</u>	<u>age (as of 7/1)</u>	<u>#light</u>	<u>#dark</u>	<u>Grade</u>
1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
6. _____				
7. _____				
8. _____				
9. _____				
10. _____				
11. _____				
12. _____				
13. _____				
14. _____				
15. _____				

The above players are bona fide students and are qualified to participate in this ESDAA Tournament. Signed:

 School Superintendent or Principal

 Athletic Director

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: May 2024

Section: 600

Subject: 602

Eligibility of Deaf Students not enrolled at member

school

Policy:

The ESDAA has developed a set of regulations for the purpose of preserving the educational values and direct communication access of Deaf student-athletes and opportunities for them to compete with ESDAA school members. Special circumstances will, at times, indicate that an exception to the established rules and regulations is appropriate. To accommodate such situations, the ESDAA has adopted a policy and procedure for participation for Deaf/Hard of Hearing students not enrolled in ESDAA member schools to play in ESDAA tournaments on a ESDAA member school's approved team roster.

Procedure:

1. Member schools requesting to add deaf students not enrolled at the ESDAA member school must present a written request to the Association Executive Board by September 15 (for Fall/Winter/Spring Tournaments), December 15 (for Winter/Spring Tournaments), or March 15 (for Spring Tournaments).
2. The request should include: reason for request; name(s) of student; birth-dates; sport(s) participating in. This request should also be signed by the requesting school's AD and Superintendent.
3. Participation is sanctioned for one (1) school year from the date of approval.

Definitions:

- 1.) Special circumstances to be considered:
Student has an IEP and it covers extracurricular activities considering their communication access with their peers and professionals per their State Association and/or District/State legal educational regulations.

ESDAA's mission is to provide an opportunity for Deaf Schools to compete against each other on a competitive playing field in accordance with local State / school regulations. These competitions give students unique, direct access to communication with peers and professionals.

- 2.) Team member: The classification of “team member” requires that the student to be on the roster full-time, following their state’s requirements (attendance, absences, eligibility, etc.) and be included on the host school approved team roster for ESDAA Tournaments.

- 3.) Approved team roster: A full, comprehensive list of all members of a participating ESDAA member school (coaches, student-athletes, manager, support staff) within the travel limitations of each respective Tournaments.

Exceptions:

Case by case basis.

Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association

Date: Mar. 1998

Section: 600

Subject: 603

Scholar-Athlete

Policy:

Provide an avenue of recognition for those athletes who also excel academically.

Procedure:

1. Two Scholar-Athlete certificates are distributed to each Association member school.
2. Athletic Directors choose a boy and a girl from their school who will receive the award.
3. Athletes' names are supplied to the Association for record keeping and to the website for publication.

Definitions:

Scholar Athlete: as determined by each school

Exceptions:

Responsibilities:

1. An Administrative Council member will assume responsibility for the certificates and for record-keeping.
2. Athletic Directors should report names for record keeping and to the website.