PAIAP Manual

2008 - 2009

Pacific Area Interscholastic Athletic Program

DoDDS-Pacific / DDESS-Guam
Department of Defense Dependents Schools
Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools

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PACIFIC AREA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAM
DoDDS-PACIFIC/DDESS-GUAM MANUAL

Ref: (a) DoDEA Manual 2740.2
(b) DoDEA Community Strategic Plan
(c) DoDEA Reg 1342.6
(d) DoDEA Admin Instruction 4700.3

A. PURPOSE

- **In accordance with references (a) and (b), the Pacific Area Interscholastic Athletic Program is designed to promote and encourage participation by all students in wholesome, supervised activities in order to enhance students' social, physical, and emotional development.**
- **This manual establishes policies and procedures for governing interscholastic athletic programs in DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam.**
- **District offices must ensure the contents of this manual are followed by each of its schools.**

B. MISSION STATEMENT

- **In accordance with the DODEA Community Strategic Plan, maximum participation of students in co-curricular athletics supports the goal of highest student achievement.**
- **Athletic participation is recognized as a valuable educational experience, directly complements academic performance, and prepares students for continuous learning and productive citizenship.**

C. INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

- **Interscholastic athletic programs are an integral part of the academic curriculum and school environment. Athletics enhance the academic, physical, and character development of students. Athletic programs will adhere with Title IX requirements, providing equal opportunity for females to participate in sports on an equitable basis.**

- **The Area Student Activities Coordinator is the point of contact (POC) for athletic policies and procedures. These policies and procedures should promote and maintain a proper balance between academics and athletics by encouraging high standards of academic performance, establishing uniform criteria for academic eligibility, ensuring fair competition between schools, and promoting sportsmanship. Athletic programs must be evaluated on a continuing basis to ensure that adequate student interest exists, that only authorized DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam personnel, in their capacity as sponsors or coaches, provide proper instruction and adequate supervision at all practices and scheduled competition and that equipment and facilities are available for practice and competition.**

- **The following sports are authorized *(not required or mandated)* in DoDDS-Pacific / DDESS-Guam:**

Baseball	**Football**	**Swimming**
Basketball	**Golf**	**Tennis**
Cheerleading	**JROTC**	**Track/Field**
Cross Country	**Soccer**	**Volleyball**
Dance	**Softball**	**Wrestling**

- **Principals will determine which sports are offered. This will be based on student interest, availability of qualified faculty sponsors/coaches, and availability of equipment and/or facilities. Local area exceptions for athletic teams not authorized by the Area Director may be granted by District Superintendents subject to approval by the Area Director.**

- **DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam schools may join conferences with international schools based on geographical location and student enrollment. Obligations to DoDDS schools for regularly scheduled games will have preference over games scheduled with non-DoDDS schools.**

- **Occasionally competition is scheduled with local nationals or military in which the participants are older than 19 years. The athlete and athlete's sponsor must sign the form entitled "*COMPETITION WITH PARTICIPANTS OLDER THAN 19 YEARS*" (see attachment C) before competition can occur. This form releases DoDDS/DDESS of any liability. It is recommended this document be signed at the beginning of each school year but at least before the student-athlete begins competition.**

D. ELIGIBILITY

School administrators, athletic directors, and coaches shall ensure that the following eligibility rules are observed in all DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam interscholastic athletic competition:

1. AGE

A student, who on the first day of September, has reached or passed his or her 19th birthday, will be ineligible to practice/participate in athletic events. A contestant who is age-eligible prior to the first day of September remains eligible throughout the school year.

2. 8-SEMESTER RULE

A student shall be eligible for competition only during eight consecutive semesters after entry into the 9th grade.

3. UNDERGRADUATES

Only students currently enrolled in grades 9-12 shall take part in any contest. A student is eligible to participate if enrolled in at least four classes.

4. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- **To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics, students must maintain a minimum 2.00 Grade Point Average and receive no more than one failing grade. All student participants will be monitored on a weekly basis. Grades will be cumulative to date for the quarter. A student declared ineligible can practice but is not authorized to participate in any games. In addition, ineligible students cannot be in uniform for any games or travel to any away games. All students will be eligible at the beginning of each school year.**

After the first week of the school year, the following monitoring will begin:

- **Grade checks will be done after the completion of the school day on Tuesday. Eligibility will run from Wednesday morning to Wednesday morning. The grade to date for the last week of a quarter will determine eligibility for the first week of the following quarter; the quarter grade, which will be available the first week of the following quarter, will determine eligibility for the second week of the quarter; the eligibility check the second week of the quarter will determine eligibility for the third week; and so on. Semester grades are not used to determine eligibility. Schools may not establish additional eligibility requirements.**

- **Schools will provide intervention support services to students who have been identified as having academic difficulty. These support services may include tutoring and before/after school study sessions.**

- **Academic eligibility may be waived by the principal for students having an Individual Education Program (IEP) on file. Students on IEP's must meet all other eligibility requirements.**

- **Students who are academically ineligible for three weeks may be dropped from the team but only after intervention assistance has occurred.**

- **In order to secure orders and tickets for travel, the eligibility check for Far East events, to include the host school, will be two grade checks before departure for the event.**

5. HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS

- **Home-schooled students may participate in interscholastic athletics, as long as they meet all eligibility requirements for those enrolled in school, and the student is enrolled in a home school program.**

6. PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

- **Before participating in tryouts or practice students must have a physical examination completed by a physician, physician's assistant, or certified nurse practitioner. Physical examinations are valid for one year from the date of examination, and the form must remain on file at the school.**

- **Camps, conditioning programs, weight training, and other programs which are either sponsored or endorsed by the school require students to have a current physical on file.**

- **All participants, to include team managers, must have a valid physical examination.**

- **DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam assumes no responsibility for the physical exam cost.**

- **DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam assumes no financial responsibility for medical insurance or medical expenses incurred as a result of participation in interscholastic activities.**

7. TRANSFER STUDENTS

- **Transfer students with varsity or junior varsity experience in an in-season sport are not guaranteed placement on a team at the new school. The decision to place a transfer student on a team rests with the coach's evaluation of the student's athletic skills and other factors related to the team.**

- **Students changing schools within DoDEA retain their eligibility. Students transferring from outside of DoDEA must meet DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam eligibility requirements before competing as a member of a team in interscholastic athletics.**

8. TEAM MEMBERSHIP

- **Any player who competes in the first scheduled game or is a member of a given team on that date is not authorized to participate in any other sport during that sport season.**

- **Students are eligible to participate in games on the day of withdrawal. If withdrawal is on Friday, students may participate in athletic contests through the weekend.**

- **Normally, a student who does not attend a full day of school will not be allowed to participate in or attend any school-sponsored event that same school day, which includes a practice or game for any athletic event. Principals are authorized to make exceptions to this policy. (from DoDEA Administrators' Manual – 1005.1)**

- **There is no official DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam policy on the criteria for selection to varsity or junior varsity teams. Individual coaches, with the approval of school administrators, will determine the guidelines.**

9. MIDDLE SCHOOL PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

As a general rule, no student may participate on a high school team who has not entered the 9th grade. Extenuating circumstances at small schools in DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam may, on rare occasions, may require high school teams to include middle school students. High school principals can make a request to the District Superintendent for this to occur. The request should be based on the middle school student's athletic skill level, physical development, and emotional maturity. District Superintendents may authorize middle school students to practice and compete with high school teams only *if their participation is considered necessary to field a high school varsity team*.

The following conditions must be met:

- **No high school student may be cut from a team to allow a middle school student to participate.**
- **Academic eligibility requirements must be met.**
- **Overnight travel must be approved by the District Superintendent.**
- **Middle school participants must have a current physical on file at the high school.**

For some sports middle school students may practice with high school teams even if the high school team has sufficient players to field a team. These sports are cross country, golf, tennis, track/field, and wrestling. Their participation is limited in matches, games, or competition to the following:

- **Participation is exhibition only and no team points will be awarded for the school.**
- **No overnight travel is allowed.**
- **Middle school participants will be identified to the opposing coach before competition begins.**
- **When possible and appropriate, middle school athletes will be paired against each other.**
- **Middle school students must have a current physical exam on file at the high school.**
- **Academic eligibility requirements must be met.**

10. APPEAL PROCESS

- **Extenuating circumstances may occur in regards to the eligibility rules and may be the basis for an appeal. Appeals should be directed through the school principal to the district superintendent, and on to the area director's office. During the appeal process participation by the student is not allowed.**

E. GENERAL RULES

1. AMATEUR STANDING

- **A student participating in DODDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam athletics must maintain amateur standing.**

- **An amateur athlete is one who engages in sport for the physical, mental, or social benefits derived, and to whom the sport is nothing more than an avocation. An amateur athlete is one who has never used and is not using their knowledge of athletics or athletic skills in an athletic contest for financial gain.**

2. SPORTSMANSHIP

- **All coaches and team members are expected to demonstrate the highest ideals of sportsmanship and ethical conduct. Coaches, sponsors, and volunteers will sign and abide by the *NFHS Code of Ethics* (Attachment B)**

- **Incidents of unethical behavior by coaches or team members should be reported to the school principal for appropriate action.**

- **Any coach or team member ejected from a regular season or tournament contest by game officials will be ineligible for the next scheduled game. If a penalty is assessed at the end of the sport season and no contest remains, the penalty is carried over to the next sport program in which the team member or coach participates. A second ejection, during the same season, by the same player or coach will result in removal from the team. Incidents that result in ejections (hard red in soccer) must be reported to the District Superintendent. Schools failing to enforce this policy will be subject to punitive action by the District Superintendent.**

- **The school principal will determine which individuals are selected for the coaching positions. The school principal must approve any volunteer coaches, and any selected volunteer coaches must sign the "*Code of Ethics*" (attachment B) before interaction with the team begins. Volunteer coaches may be subject to an "installation records check." Schools must be in compliance with DoDEA Administrative Instruction 4700.3, *Background Checks for DoDEA School Volunteers*.**

3. SPORTS SEASONS

- **The starting date for each sports season will be announced by the Student Activities Coordinator at the beginning of each school year. For fall sports the start date will be the third Monday before the teacher report date. As a general rule teams may not have try-outs or practices until the previous season has been completed.**

- **Ten days of practice must occur before athletic contests can be held. Athletes playing a sport that concludes while the next season sport is beginning practice are exempt from the ten practice rule if chosen for the team. Students transferring from another school may begin participating in contests immediately if the 10-day practice requirement has been met at the previous school, and no more than fifteen calendar days have passed from withdrawal from the previous school.**

- **Off-season coaching or instruction is prohibited by a coach or member of the coaching staff prior to the first starting date of that sports season. Coaches may supervise a weight training or conditioning program during the off-season. Off-season camps during the school year must occur after the conclusion of all spring sports.**

4. SCHEDULING, PRACTICES, and TEAM TRY-OUTS

- **Districts will publish a master schedule for each sports season to facilitate coordination between schools; schedules must minimize loss of school time due to travel. All changes to the master schedule must be initiated by school administrators with final approval coming from the superintendent's office.**

- **Athletic teams and individual athletes are expected to participate in all scheduled athletic contests and practices. Participating in a non-DoDDS contest in lieu of a scheduled DoDDS contest or practice is not permitted. Any team or athlete who does so may forfeit the privilege of continued participation for that season.**

- **Additional games not included in the published master schedule may be arranged with local host nation schools but must meet the following criteria:**

    1. **Contests may not be scheduled until the team has ten days of organized practices.**

    2. **All costs to DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam for officials, transportation, or temporary duty orders for coaches and chaperones are not authorized unless authorized by the District Superintendent.**

    3. **No school absences are authorized unless approved by the District Superintendent.**

- **Try-outs and practices for fall teams will begin no earlier than the third Monday before the teacher report date. NOTE: *Person-to-person contact is not allowed the first three days of football practice.* Try-outs and practices for winter sports should begin no earlier than after the completion of the regular fall season. Try-outs and practices for spring sports should begin no earlier than after the completion of the regular winter season. Exceptions to this must be approved by the District Superintendent, through the school principal.**

- **If it is necessary for try-outs to begin before the completion of the previous season coaches should keep in mind that all students be provided an opportunity to compete for a position on the team.**

- **It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that all students trying out for a team have a current physical examination on file with the school. Under no circumstances is a student allowed to try out for a team without having a current physical exam on file with the school.**

- **After the first month of the season any new additions to a team must not only meet all eligibility criteria but also their participation must be approved by the school principal, in consultation with the district superintendent.**

5. TRAVEL

- **Teams will travel as a unit under the supervision of the coach and/or sponsor to and from athletic events. For overnight travel it is required for teams to have the coach and adult chaperone travel with the team. Both the coach and chaperone must be billeted with the team.**

- **Coaches/sponsors and team chaperones are responsible for the conduct of students under their supervision from the time of departure until the time of return.**

- **Billeting, military dining facilities, local transportation, and game schedules (locations and times) must be coordinated between school athletic directors.**

- **Visiting teams must coordinate local transportation requirements with the host school.**

- **Coaches/sponsors must carry powers of attorney authorizing emergency medical treatment.**

- **The coach/sponsor of the visiting team is responsible for the supervision and cleanliness of all locker rooms used. Locker rooms should be inspected by the host school prior to the visiting team departing the gymnasium.**

6. PRACTICES and GAMES DURING EXAMS

- **No games will be played during the week of semester exams until after the completion of all exams. No overnight trips for games will be scheduled the weekend immediately preceding semester exams.**

- **Practices may occur during the week of semester exams. Practices during this week, as a general rule, should be no longer than one hour/day. Allowances should be made for players choosing to study, or to finish up school work that will be due this week. Every attempt should be made to find a balance between time spent for practices and exam preparation.**

- **The first two full weeks of May are set aside for Advance Placement (AP) exams. Games should be scheduled only on weekends and long trips should not be scheduled during these two weeks. Exceptions to this must be approved by the District Superintendent.**

7. OFFICIATING

- **Officials for athletic contests must be fully qualified according to the governing association of each sport.**

- **The host school is responsible for coordinating contest times with officials.**

- **Officials' judgment calls during the game are final and are not subject to appeal.**

- **It is strongly advised that referees *not officiate* games with family members participating. If necessary for this to occur, the coaches of both teams should be made aware of this before the game begins.**

8. PROTESTS

- **Official protests must be submitted by the school principal to the Area Director via the District Superintendent. The Area Director will notify the District Superintendent when a decision is made.**

- **Principals submitting an official protest are required to forward a courtesy copy to the principal of the school or schools involved.**

9. TOURNAMENTS

- **Only DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam sponsored tournaments will be funded as published in the yearly Far East Activities Council (FEAC) schedule and in the district athletic master schedules.**

- **Invitational tournaments during the regular season are authorized provided they are on the district master schedule.**

- **Students participating on both a DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam team and a host nation team are eligible for Far East Tournaments provided the student participated in every DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam competition for which they were eligible.**

10. AWARDS and RECOGNITION

Students who participate in interscholastic athletics deserve recognition for the successful completion of a season and for superior athletic performance.

- **Varsity and junior varsity letters may be awarded to students who meet all lettering criteria. No more than one athletic letter should be awarded; letters earned in additional sports should be indicated by sport pins; bars should indicate additional letters earned in the same sport.**

- **Schools are responsible for establishing lettering criteria and for ensuring that students are aware of the criteria at the start of the season.**

- **District Superintendents may establish criteria to recognize athletes through selection for All-Conference teams; Conference Most Valuable Players; and All-Academic Honors.**

- **Students may not receive merchandise or awards such as medals, plaques, or trophies that have a retail value of more than $50.00 (excluding engraving costs).**

11. ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

- **All students participating in DODDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam athletics must sign the *DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam Athletic Code of Conduct* (Attachment A); the original must be retained on file by the athletic director for the duration of the season. A copy should be provided to the student, or to the parents of the student.**

- **School principals are responsible for enforcing consequences for behavior that violates the code of conduct expected of athletes.**

12. NEWS MEDIA

- **The host school is responsible for reporting competition results within 24 hours of the completion of athletic events.**

13. MEDICAL SUPPORT

- **Ref (c) designates installation commanders to provide medical support for athletic activities. School principals must coordinate with the installation medical facility for medical support at athletic competitions.**

- **Please note: Installations have various policies regarding availability of medical support during athletic contests. Some require medical support to be on site while others state that medical support only be readily available. Schools need to contact the medical support facility located on their base to ensure the appropriate medical support is provided.**

DoDDS/DDESS PARTICIPANTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in high school athletics is a privilege extended to students who agree to abide by the standard rules of conduct governing the program. Participants are expected to maintain the highest standards. All host school and host military installation rules must be observed. The following behavior is not acceptable (however, other negative behavior not specifically mentioned must be dealt with accordingly).

- **Possession or use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products**
- **Possession or use of weapons**
- **Abusive, vulgar language or behavior**
- **Fighting and other physical, violent acts**
- **Criminal misconduct, theft, vandalism, etc**
- **Sexual misconduct**
- **Misuse of government equipment and facilities, and misuse of the possessions of other participants**
- **Personal attire and dress that is non-compliant with host school and installation dress code guidelines**
- **Violation of any installation regulations and host nation requirements**
- **Travel in non-approved vehicles (friends or students from other schools) without sponsor permission**
- **Unauthorized absence from designated locations (i.e., billeting, activity, or during travel), including curfew violations. Participants may only depart the company of the traveling group with specific written permission from the parents that identify a responsible adult to accompany their child**

Failure to uphold expected standards of behavior may result in suspension from the team.

I have read and agree to abide by the above behavior code of conduct.

_____ / _____
(Student Name) (Signature of Student *AND DATE*)

_____ / _____
(Parent or Guardian) (Signature of Parent or Guardian *AND DATE*)

_____ / _____
(Coach or Sponsor) (Signature of Coach or Sponsor *AND DATE*)

The coach/sponsor should keep a copy of this signed code throughout the activity.

Attachment A

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF HIGH SCHOOL COACHES ASSOCIATION
CODE OF ETHICS

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student-athlete should be treated as though he or she was the coaches' own, and his or her welfare should be the uppermost at all times. Accordingly, the NFCA Board of Directors has adopted the following guidelines for coaches.

The coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of student-athletes and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.

The coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with student-athletes, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.

The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.

The coach shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.

The coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.

The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.

The coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.

The coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct that would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.

The coach should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.

The coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give student-athletes special consideration.

The coach shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or state high school athletic association.

_____	_____
(Coach, Sponsor, or Chaperone)	**(Signature *AND DATE)***
_____	_____
(Principal)	**(Signature *AND DATE)***

Attachment B

COMPETITION WITH PARTICIPANTS OLDER THAN 19 YEARS

DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam continues to strive to increase the opportunities for students to participate in athletic competitions. From time to time, DoDDS-Pacific/DDESS-Guam schools are invited to compete against local national athletic teams and in base sporting events organized by the military. When a DoDDS-Pacific / DDESS-Guam school is scheduled to participate in competition with one of these groups the school administration carefully considers the type and nature of the competition to ensure that it is appropriate before granting approval. Nevertheless, you should be aware that when a DoDDS-Pacific / DDESS-Guam school participates in athletic competition involving local nationals or military members, participants in the competition may include non-students who are above the age of 19.

This agreement acknowledges that you understand that when competing with local national teams and in base athletic competition there may be instances during which DoDDS / DDESS students would be competing against athletes over the age of 19, and also who may not be students. By signing this agreement, you recognize, understand, and acknowledge any additional risks associated with your child participating in a non-DoDDS / DDESS activity that may include competitors over the age of 19. You agree not to hold DoDDS, DDESS, DoDEA, or DoD responsible for your child's participation in these athletic events and fully understand that you may at any time request that your child not compete in a non-DoDDS athletic activity by notifying the school.

I agree to let my child participate in competitions against the above described and I understand that permitting my child to compete in the said activity that DoDDS, DDESS, DoDEA, or DoD will not be held liable. I also understand that at any time I may request that my child be withdrawn from the activity.

_____	_____
Student Name	**Student Signature**
_____	_____
Sponsor Name	**Sponsor Signature**
_____	_____
Event / Sport	**School Year**

Attachment C

Pacific Area Interscholastic Athletic Program

FAQs *(Frequently Asked Questions)*

1. A few players that have signed up for basketball do not have their physical exams. Can they participate in try-outs for the team?
No. All participants trying out for an athletic team must have a current physical exam on file at the school.

2. A player on the soccer team participates on a local national team. Are students allowed to do this?
Yes, but athletes may not miss any games or practices for their DoDDS team in order to practice or play games with the non-DoDDS team.

3. Can I begin basketball practice before the end of the football season?
As a general rule try-outs or practices should not begin before the completion of preceding season. The season is considered completed after all post-season games have been played. Any exceptions to the practice start date must be approved by the district superintendent working with the school principal.

4. Our middle school does not have a sports program. Can students from this school participate in our high school program?
Refer to the section in the PAIAP on middle school participation in high school athletic programs. Middle school students may participate in certain high school sports in an exhibition capacity only. Any exceptions to the PAIAP must be approved by the district superintendent.

5. Could an eighth grader serve as a manager for the high school basketball team?
Yes, as long the student serves only in the role as a manager. This student could not be involved in practices in the same manner as the team members are.

6. A former college player has volunteered to assist with our boys' basketball team. Is there anything I, as the head coach, must do in order for him to be my assistant?
Volunteer coaches must be approved by the school principal. Once approved, the volunteer coach must sign the Code of Ethics before assuming the duties as an assistant.

7. The basketball team is having difficulty meeting the ten-practice rule before our first game. Are exceptions allowed?
Athletes competing in the sports season immediately preceding basketball are exempt from the ten-practice rule. Transfer students are exempt from the ten-practice rule if they have participated in the preceding season and no more than fifteen days have passed from withdrawal from the previous school. Any exceptions must be approved by the district superintendent.

8. In order to get in ten practices before our first game we plan to practice twice daily the first week. Is there any problem with this?
Although there is no rule that prohibits having two practices in one day, for purposes of meeting the minimum practice requirement one day is equal to one practice. If for any reason, there will be a problem getting in ten practices for the team, or any individuals on the team, approval must be granted by the district superintendent before any games can be played.

9. It has been raining a lot during our pre-season baseball practices. Instead of practice on the field can we watch game films and talk strategy in order to meet the ten practice rule?
No, for the purpose of meeting the ten practice rule, practices must be a physical activity.

10. Several students who have signed up for basketball try-outs are academically ineligible. Are they allowed to try-out?
The PAIAP academic eligibility rule states that a player can practice, but not play in any games. Using this wording the ineligible players could participate in try-outs. If selected for the team, they would have to become academically eligible in order to play in any games.

11. Can our home-schooled child participate in high school athletics?
Yes. He/she must meet all eligibility requirements and have a current physical on file at the school in which she is participating.

12. I was ejected from my last basketball game. For our next game am I allowed to sit on the bench in my street clothes and keep stats?
No. During your suspension you may not appear in the school uniform or sit on the team bench. You may be in the stands as a spectator.

13. I didn't graduate with my class last June. I don't turn nineteen years old until January. Can I participate in sports my fifth year?
No. Students have eight consecutive semesters to complete eligibility after beginning the ninth grade. It doesn't matter if you started the ninth grade in DoDDS or in the states.

14. A player I coach was ejected from the varsity football game last Friday night. Can he play in the junior varsity game on Monday, and sit out the game scheduled for next Friday?
No. A player is ineligible for all contests until sitting out a game in that sport at the same level of competition from which the student was ejected.

15. A player on my baseball team was ejected from the last game of last season. When does he sit out a game?
If an athlete is unable to complete a suspension during the sports season in which the ejection occurred, the suspension will be carried over into the student's next season of participation in any sport.

16. While attending school in a foreign country it would be nice to schedule games against the host nation schools. How can this be arranged?
Competition against host nation schools is encouraged. Coaches need to check with their school and district administration to see how games can be scheduled.

17. A player on the volleyball team I coach was ill today and missed all but the last class. Is she allowed to play in the game scheduled today after school?
No. Normally, a student must attend a full day of school to participate in after school practices or games, but principals are allowed to make exceptions.
(Please see DoDEA Admin Manual 1005.1, section 14.2)

18. A student at our school just finished up with his baseball season. The Far East soccer tournament is next week and I would like for him to play on the team. His physical is current and his parent approve. Is he allowed to compete in the tournament on the soccer team?
No. Students are allowed to participate in only one sport per sports season.

19. A special needs student would like to be the manager for the basketball team. He can't pass the physical exam that is required. Is there a way this student could be the manager?
Managers are required to have a physical. A doctor could approve this particular student's participation on the team as a manager and list any physical limitations.

20. The spring sports season is over and our school is having a football camp. Can we issue pads and have contact drills?
Although helmets and pads may be used during the camp, person-to-person contact drills are not allowed. Also, all participants must have current physicals, including 8th graders.

21. It seems like the fall sports season is shorter than the winter and spring seasons. Can we begin the fall season earlier, or extend it, to have the same number of weeks as the other seasons?
The fall sports season is permitted to begin tryouts and practices no earlier than the third Monday before the teacher report date. For SY '08-'09 this date is 4 August. Coaches beginning the season on this date should ensure they have their EDC (extra duty contract) signed and all students have current physicals on file at the school. This rule brings equity to the length of the fall, winter, and spring sports seasons.

22. A student enrolled in our school at the beginning of second semester and would like to play on the basketball team. Is this allowed?
After the first month of an athletic season additions to any athletic teams must be approved by the school principal in consultation with the District Superintendent.

23. My assistant coaches will be scouting our next opponent this weekend. Are they permitted to video-tape the games?
Video-taping athletic contests in which your team is not playing is not permitted unless written permission from both coaches of the teams playing is given 48 hours in advance.