TO: Superintendents and NSAA Contact Person

FROM: Debra Velder, Associate Director

SUBJECT: Proposals

DATE: November 2, 2011

Included with this transmission are the proposals submitted by member schools within your respective NSAA legislative district to be acted upon at your first NSAA District Meeting.

At the NSAA District Meetings, each member school shall be entitled to one vote. Voting will be conducted utilizing a clicker system in which each school's vote will be recorded on each item in which a is vote taken. The administrative head of the school or any school official so designated shall be considered the authorized voting representative of the member school. All legislative proposals receiving a majority vote at the first District Meeting in each district are to be forwarded to the NSAA to be distributed to all member schools prior to the second District Meeting in January. A copy of the proposals for the second NSAA District Meeting will again be forwarded to school administrators who are encouraged to share those proposals with the school's entire governing board.

A paper copy of the proposals will not be provided at the NSAA District Meeting. Please print a copy of the proposals for your reference at the meeting.

District 4 Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

Kearney ESU #10

1:00 p.m.

I. Change in Constitution

A. This proposal is submitted by: Cindy Huff, Wood River; Dave Barrett, Adams Central; Gregg Holliday, Hastings; Dr. Brian Maher, Kearney

The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 1 **Section:** 5 **Page:** 2

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)

1.5.4 CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS COMMITTEE

1.5.4.1 EACH CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBER SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL FORM A CAUCUS MADE UP OF MEMBER SCHOOLS IN SUCH CLASSIFICATIONS WHICH SHALL BE REFERRED TO AS A CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS.

1.5.4.2 MEETINGS. EACH CAUCUS SHALL HOLD A MEETING EACH YEAR.

1.5.4.2.1 A CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS MAY INITIATE PROPOSALS FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF ASSOCIATION BYLAWS, PROVIDED THAT ANY SUCH PROPOSAL SHALL NOT AFFECT STUDENT ELIGIBILITY OR MATERIALLY AFFECT ASSOCIATION FINANCES. EACH SUCH PROPOSAL SHALL INCLUDE A COST AND REVENUE ANALYSIS, AND THE PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE PROPOSED ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF AN ASSOCIATION BY-LAW.

1.5.4.2.2 ALL PROPOSALS FOR THE ADOPTION OF, AMENDMENT TO OR REPEAL OF ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY A CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS ELECTRONICALLY TO THE NSAA NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1.

1.5.4.2.3 AFTER THE OCTOBER 1 DEADLINE, THE NSAA SHALL FORWARD THE PROPOSALS TO THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS REVIEW COMMITTEE.

1.5.4.3 CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS REVIEW COMMITTEE

1.5.4.3.1 THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS REVIEW COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPISED OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH OF THE FOUR (4) NSAA CLASSIFICATIONS REPRESENTING CLASSES A, B, C AND D QUALIFIED TO SERVE UNDER PARAGRAPH 1.5.1.4, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE NSAA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE SHALL SERVE IN AN EX-OFFICIO CAPACITY.

1.5.4.3.2 THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS REVIEW COMMITTEE SHALL HOLD A MINIMUM OF TWO MEETINGS EACH YEAR. MINUTES SHALL BE TAKEN OF SUCH MEETINGS, AND POSTED ON THE NSAA WEBSITE. THE FIRST MEETING SHALL BE HELD BETWEEN OCTOBER 10 AND OCTOBER 31 AND THE SECOND MEETING SHALL BE HELD BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1 AND FEBRUARY 20.

1.5.4.3.2.1 AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE SHALL (A) REVIEW EACH SUBMITTED PROPOSAL; (B) TAKE ACTION TO ADOPT COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO EACH SUBMITTED PROPOSAL; (C) AND, RETURN THE PROPOSAL TO THE SUBMITTING CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS ALONG WITH ANY ADOPTED COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS MAY CONSIDER THE COMMITTEE'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, AND MAY SUBMIT AMENDMENTS TO THE PROPOSAL ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15.

1.5.4.3.2.2 AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIDER ALL SUBMITTED PROPOSALS AND ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND TAKE ACTION ON ALL SUBMITTED PROPOSALS WITH AMENDMENTS, IF ANY.

1.5.4.3.3 THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS REVIEW COMMITTEE SHALL APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSALS FOR THE ADOPTION OF, AMENDMENT TO, OR REPEAL OF ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS. TO BE APPROVED, ALL PROPOSALS MUST RECEIVE AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF TWO-THIRDS (2/3) OR MORE OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING ON THE PROPOSAL. DISAPPROVED CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSALS SHALL BE REFERRED BACK TO THE

CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS SUBMITTING SAME WITH A STATEMENT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF REASONS FOR SUCH DISAPPROVAL. APPROVED CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSALS SHALL BE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ACTION ACCORDING TO THIS ARTICLE.
1.5.4.4 EACH PROPOSAL APPROVED BY THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL BE POSTED ON THE NSAA WEBSITE AS AN APPROVED CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSAL, AND EACH SUCH PROPOSAL SHALL BE PRESENTED AS AN INFORMATION ITEM AT THE ANNUAL NSAA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY MEETING.
1.5.4.5 FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY MEETING, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO CONDUCT A REFERENDUM ON THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSAL WHICH SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE MEMBERS CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITY SUBJECT TO THE PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE. THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSAL SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A STATEMENT OF THE RATIONALE FOR SUCH PROPOSAL. EACH CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSAL MUST BE RATIFIED BY A TWO-THIRDS (2/3) MAJORITY OF THE MEMBER SCHOOLS VOTING IN SUCH REFERENDUM. THE CLASSIFICATION CAUCUS PROPOSAL SHALL BECOME A PART OF THE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE SET FORTH IN THE APPROVED PROPOSAL.

The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:

1.5.4 Classification Caucus Committee
1.5.4.1 Each classification of member schools established pursuant to this Constitution shall form a caucus made up of member schools in such classifications which shall be referred to as a Classification Caucus.
1.5.4.2 Meetings. Each caucus shall hold a meeting each year.
1.5.4.2.1 A Classification Caucus may initiate proposals for adoption, amendment or repeal of Association bylaws, provided that any such proposal shall not affect student eligibility or materially affect Association finances. Each such proposal shall include a cost and revenue analysis, and the proposed effective date of the proposed adoption, amendment or repeal of an Association By-Law.
1.5.4.2.2 All proposals for the adoption of, amendment to or repeal of Association by-laws must be submitted by a Classification Caucus electronically to the NSAA no later than October 1.
1.5.4.2.3 After the October 1 deadline, the NSAA shall forward the proposals to the Classification Caucus Review Committee.
1.5.4.3 Classification Caucus Review Committee
1.5.4.3.1 The Classification Caucus Review Committee shall be comprised of two representatives from each of the four (4) NSAA classifications representing Classes A, B, C and D qualified to serve under paragraph 1.5.1.4, and the Chairman of the NSAA Board of Directors. The NSAA Executive Director or designee shall serve in an Ex-officio capacity.
1.5.4.3.2 The Classification Caucus Review Committee shall hold a minimum of two meetings each year. Minutes shall be taken of such meetings, and posted on the NSAA website. The first meeting shall be held between October 10 and October 31 and the second meeting shall be held between February 1 and February 20.
1.5.4.3.2.1 At the first meeting of the Classification Caucus Committee, the committee shall (a) review each submitted proposal; (b) take action to adopt comments and recommendations with regard to each submitted proposal; (c) and, return the proposal to the submitting Classification Caucus along with any adopted comments and recommendations. The Classification Caucus may consider the committee's comments and recommendations, and may submit amendments to the proposal on or before November 15.
1.5.4.3.2.2 At the second meeting of the Classification Caucus Committee, the committee shall consider all submitted proposals and any subsequent amendments thereto, and take action on all submitted proposals with amendments, if any.

1.5.4.3.3 The Classification Caucus Review Committee shall approve or disapprove proposed Classification Caucus proposals for the adoption of, amendment to, or repeal of Association By-Laws. To be approved, all proposals must receive an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) or more of the committee members present and voting on the proposal. Disapproved Classification Caucus proposals shall be referred back to the Classification Caucus submitting same with a statement from the committee of reasons for such disapproval. Approved Classification Caucus proposals shall be forwarded to the Board of Directors for action according to this article.
1.5.4.4 Each proposal approved by the Classification Caucus Review Committee will be posted on the NSAA website as an approved Classification Caucus proposal, and each such proposal shall be presented as an information item at the annual NSAA Representative Assembly meeting.
1.5.4.5 Following the annual representative Assembly meeting, the Board of Directors shall direct the Executive Director to conduct a referendum on the Classification Caucus proposal which shall be submitted to the members Classification Caucus participating in the activity subject to the proposed By-law Change. The Classification Caucus proposal shall be accompanied by a statement of the rationale for such proposal. Each Classification Caucus proposal must be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the member schools voting in such referendum. The Classification Caucus proposal shall become a part of the Association By-Laws on the effective date set forth in the approved proposal.
Cost Analysis of Proposal: There will be no cost associated with this proposal that is not approved by the Class Review Committee. All costs associated with any proposal made must be stated in writing and include a specific dollar figure that cannot be exceeded.
Rationale for the proposed change: As a result of a yearlong study by a 26 person committee representing member schools, it was unanimously approved by the committee that this proposal be forwarded to the membership allowing each individual classification of schools, through a "caucus" and subsequent review committee, to move forward proposals that affect that classification only. The key component to this proposal is that "class only proposals" may be approved by that class of schools and will not be subject to a Representative Assembly vote.

II. Change in Bylaws for All Activities

A. This proposal is submitted by: Dan Schiefelbein, Doniphan-Trumbull
The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 2 **Section:** 2.13.2.1 **Page:** 12
The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)
Spring Sports Classification Process
A school's total enrollment FOR FALL AND WINTER SPORTS shall be the total boy and girl enrollment in grades nine, ten, and eleven according to the enrollment figures submitted to the State Department of Education on the last Friday in September of the preceding school year.
A SCHOOL'S TOTAL ENROLLMENT FOR SPRING SPORTS SHALL BE THE TOTAL BOY AND GIRL ENROLLMENT IN GRADES NINE, TEN, ELEVEN AND TWELVE ACCORDING TO THE ENROLLMENT FIGURES SUBMITTED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ON THE LAST FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER OF THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.
THE NSAA WILL NOT RECLASSIFY SPRING ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS AFTER SPRING CLASSIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN RELEASED.
The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:
A school's total enrollment for Fall and Winter sports shall be the total boy and girl enrollment in grades nine, ten, and eleven according to the enrollment figures submitted to the State Department of Education on the last Friday in September of the preceding school year.
A school's total enrollment for Spring sports shall be the total boy and girl enrollment in grades nine, ten, eleven, and twelve according to the enrollment figures submitted to the State Department of Education on the last Friday in September of the current school year.

The NSAA will not reclassify Spring Activities/Athletics after Spring classifications have been released.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: No money will be expended for this proposal.

Rationale for the proposed change: School enrollment figures are submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education on the last Friday in September of each school year. Understandably, the NSAA does not use these figures for the CURRENT school year for Fall/Winter sports (Fall seasons have already begun competition; it takes time to organize schools into classifications, etc.) Therefore, these figures are currently used for the following year's classification (Ex. September, 2011 enrollment figures are used for the 2012-13 school year.) While this works for the Fall/Winter sports, these figures are 16 months old when applied to the Spring sports. (Currently, September, 2011 enrollment figures are used for the 2013 spring seasons which is @ 16 months later.)

Spring Sports could easily use the CURRENT school year figures for classification purposes due to the approximate 5 month time period between submission of the figures and the start of Spring Sports. When used for the current school year, the enrollment figures will be a true representation of the student population per NSAA school that year.

This is important for several reasons:

a.) A 16 month time span is a long time to wait to place enrollment figures into classifications. Data may be outdated and unreliable. The 16 month system is not necessary as modern technology has allowed the NDE to update information and generate required forms more quickly and easily than in the past.

b.) Within that 16 month period, mobility of families may impact the enrollment figures. School populations do change yearly. This change has a much greater impact in the smaller classifications as 2 or 3 students may place a school in a higher/lower classification. When competition is at stake, it is important, when available, to use the most fair method of classifying each school according to its true population for the competition year involved.

c.) With less classifications in many Spring sports (A, B, C, D vs. A, B, C1, C2, D1, D2), there is greater disparity between the top/bottom of each class which makes competition difficult when found at the bottom of a classification. When every effort has been made to ensure proper placement in classifications, it is justified and more easily accepted.

d.) Lastly, while it is a necessity to use the total boy and girl enrollment in grades nine, ten, and eleven of the preceding school year for classifying Fall sports (there is no knowledge of which high school incoming 9th graders will attend), this process is not necessary for Spring sports. Spring sports could use the enrollment figures from ALL current ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students. If applied @ 5 months later (Spring sports), these figures will be truly representative of individual high school populations actually competing that school year.

The NDE and NSAA were contacted for information regarding this proposal. According to NDE representative Chris Cassell, a minimal amount of schools do request a change of their initial enrollment figures throughout the entire year (which could be as late as March...). To assist the NSAA, it is possible for the NDE to provide updated enrollment information (including changes) upon request throughout the year to aid the NSAA in their classification process.

III. Change in Athletic Bylaws

A. This proposal is submitted by: Kevin Zimmerman, Cozad

The proposal deals with: Yearbook: Article 3 **Section:** 11.4.2 **Page:** 14

Activities Manual: Football **Page:** 9, 18

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)

Bylaw Changes --

3.11.4.2 No team representing a member school may participate in more than eight - Classes (C1, C2) D1, D2 - or nine - Classes, A, B, C1, C2, C3 - regularly scheduled football games in addition to

the State-sponsored series of playoff games from the date of the first permitted contests to the last contest date.
Approved Ruling Changes --
page 9, 2,c Classes C1 (and), C2, AND C3 --the remaining schools playing 11-man football are divided into (two) THREE classes with approximately equal numbers of schools in each class.
page 18, Class C1, C2, C3 (D1, D2) Playoffs
1. Class C1 will have (50) TBD, Class C2 will have (56) TBD, and CLASS C3 WILL HAVE TBD schools.
2. The (32) 16 qualifying teams will be placed on one sixteen-team bracket WITH NO EAST-WEST DIVISION.
3. The sixteen teams on (each) THE bracket will be seeded 1 through 16 by the point system and the point system tiebreaker, and placed on the bracket with 1 vs 16, 9 vs 8, 5 vs 12, 13 vs 4, 3 vs 14, 11 vs 6, 7 vs 10, 15 vs 2.
4. The (first round of the) State Football Playoffs for Classes C1, C2, and C3 (D1, D2) will be played on (Thursday) FRIDAYS, OR SATURDAYS IF BOTH SCHOOLS MUTUALLY AGREE of Week 17.
The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:
Bylaw Changes --
3.11.4.2 No team representing a member school may participate in more than eight - Classes D1, D2 - or nine - Classes, A, B, C1, C2, C3 -regularly scheduled football games in addition to the State-sponsored series of playoff games from the date of the first permitted contests to the last contest date.
Approved Ruling Changes --
page 9, 2,c Classes C1, C2, C3 --the remaining schools playing 11-man football are divided into three classes with approximately equal numbers of schools in each class.
page 18, Class C1, C2, C3 Playoffs
1. Class C1 will have TBD, Class C2 will have TBD, and CLASS C3 will have TBD schools.
2. The 16 qualifying teams will be placed on one sixteen-team bracket with no east-west division.
3. The sixteen teams on the bracket will be seeded 1 through 16 by the point system and the point system tiebreaker, and placed on the bracket with 1 vs 16, 9 vs 8, 5 vs 12, 13 vs 4, 3 vs 14, 11 vs 6, 7 vs 10, 15 vs 2.
4. The (first round of the) State Football Playoffs for Classes C1, C2, and C3 will be played on Fridays, or Saturdays if both schools mutually agree of Week 17.
Cost Analysis of Proposal:
Definite savings:
Cost of medals and trophies $513.50
Savings on plaques $840.00
Net savings for awards $326.50
Loss of 32 1st round games, then a gain of 8 on 1st round, gain of 4 on quarterfinals, gain of 2 on semifinals, and gain of 1 on finals.
Loss of 17 games total (all first round which usually cost or make the least money)
Estimated figures for comparison:
Loss of 32 games $85,000 (figures for 1st round) $2600 per game.
Gain of 8,4,2,1games $93,000(avg. $ for each round x gained games)
$5,000 x 8 = $40,000
$6,000 x 4 = $24,000
$6,000 x 2 = $12,000
$7,000 x 1 = $7,000
Extra state final $10,000
Gain $93,000

$20,000 gate for 2 Class C games in 2010
Add another $10,000 for an additional game with no extra expenses for rent.
Rationale for the proposed change:
1. Considerable less school time would be used.
2. Play more schools closer to your size.
3. Games could start at later times because of the next day with no school.
4. Crowds would probably be larger.
5. One more state championship game for increased gate.
6. An example of a possible division: 32-32-remainder 38 or less.
7. A Class C survey was taken with an 85% approval of 3 classes for C.
Other considerations:
1. Try to schedule conference teams as much as possible.
2. Bonus points for 2 classes but not for 1 (C3 to C1, but not C2 to C3)
3. Schools may not go to 8-man knowing they would be playing schools with similar enrollments.

IV. Change in Approved Rulings

A. This proposal is submitted by: Rick Petri, Kearney Catholic
The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Basketball **Page:** 8 and 9
The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)
CLASS B SCHOOLS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO 8 DISTRICTS. CLASS B WILL HAVE 4 TEAMS IN EACH DISTRICT. THE TEAMS WITH THE HIGHEST WILD CARD POINT AVERAGES WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HOST DISTRICTS. ALL 8 DISTRICTS WILL BE DETERMINED USING THE SERPENTINE METHOD (NOT MODIFIED) BASED ON THE NSAA WILD CARD POINT SYSTEM WITHIN ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE FIRST DISTRICT COMPETITION. (Class B schools are divided into 6 districts. Class B will have 5 teams each in 4 districts and 6 teams in 2 districts. The schools were assigned to districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district.)
a. The winning team boys' team and the winning girls' team in each district will qualify for the State Championship.
(b. Two additional boys' teams and two additional girls' teams will also qualify for the State Championship on the basis of the wild card selection procedure.)
4. CLASSES C1 AND C2 ARE DIVIDED INTO SIXTEEN 3 OR 4 TEAM SUB-DISTRICTS. THE TEAMS WITH THE HIGHEST WILD CARD POINT AVERAGES WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HOST SUB-DISTRICTS. ALL 16 SUB-DISTRICTS WILL BE DETERMINED USING THE SERPENTINE METHOD (NOT MODIFIED) BASED ON THE NSAA WILD CARD POINT SYSTEM WITHIN ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE FIRST DISTRICT COMPETITION. IF THE TRAVEL WILL BE GREATER THAN 150 MILES FOR ANY TEAM IN A SUB-DISTRICT, IT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FROM THE TOP SEEDED TEAM TO FIND A CENTRALLY LOCATED, NEUTRAL SITE TO HOLD THE COMPETITION. (Classes C1 and C2 schools are divided into twelve four- or five-team subdistricts on the geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to South direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district.
(a. In Classes C1 and C2, the boys' team and the girls' team winning the championship in each sub-district will advance to the district final. The boys' and girls' team winning the district finals will advance to the State Championship.)
A. THE WINNING TEAM FROM EACH SUBDISTRICT WILL ADVANCE TO DISTRICT FINALS WITH THE FOLLOWING MATCH-UPS: C-1 VS C-16, C-2 VS C-15, C-3 VS C-14, C-4 VS C-13, C-5 VS C-12, C-6 VS C-11, C-7

VS C-10, and C-8 VS C-9.
(b. Two additional boys' teams and two additional girls' teams will also qualify for the State Championship on the basis of the wild card selection process.)
B. THE EIGHT TEAMS IN EACH CLASS WINNING THE DISTRICT FINALS
WILL ADVANCE TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT.
5. CLASSES D1 AND D2 ARE DIVIDED INTO SIXTEEN 3 OR 4 TEAM SUB-DISTRICTS. THE TEAMS WITH THE HIGHEST WILD CARD POINT AVERAGES WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HOST SUB-DISTRICTS. ALL 16 SUB-DISTRICTS WILL BE DETERMINED USING THE SERPENTINE METHOD (NOT MODIFIED) BASED ON THE NSAA WILD CARD POINT SYSTEM WITHIN ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE FIRST DISTRICT COMPETITION. IF THE TRAVEL WILL BE GREATER THAN 150 MILES FOR ANY TEAM IN A SUB-DISTRICT, IT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FROM THE TOP SEEDED TEAM TO FIND A CENTRALLY LOCATED, NEUTRAL SITE TO HOLD THE COMPETITION. (Classes D1 and D2 schools are divided into twelve four- or five-team subdistricts on the geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to South direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district.)
A. THE WINNING TEAM FROM EACH SUBDISTRICT WILL ADVANCE TO
DISTRICT FINALS WITH THE FOLLOWING MATCH-UPS: C-1 VS C-16,
C-2 VS C-15, C-3 VS C-14, C-4 VS C-13, C-5 VS C-12, C-6 VS C-11, C-7
VS C-10, and C-8 VS C-9.
(a. In Classes D1 and D2, the boys' team and the girls' team winning the district finals will advance to the State Championship.)
B. THE EIGHT TEAMS IN EACH CLASS WINNING THE DISTRICT FINALS
WILL ADVANCE TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT.
(b. Two additional boys' teams and two additional girls' teams will also qualify for the State Championship on the basis of the wild card selection process.)
The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:
Class B schools are divided into 8 districts. Class B will have 4 teams each district. The teams with the highest wild card point averages will have the opportunity to host districts. All 8 districts will be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based on the NSAA wild card point system within one week prior to the first district.
a. The winning team boys' team and the winning girls' team in each district will qualify for the State Championship.
4. Classes C1 and C2 schools are divided into sixteen 3 or 4 team sub-districts. The teams with the highest wild card point averages will have the opportunity to host sub-districts. All 16 sub-districts will be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based on the NSAA wild card point system within one week prior to the first district. IF THE TRAVEL WILL BE GREATER THAN 150 MILES FOR ANY TEAM IN A SUB-DISTRICT, IT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FROM THE TOP SEEDED TEAM TO FIND A CENTRALLY LOCATED, NEUTRAL SITE TO HOLD THE COMPETITION.
A. THE WINNING TEAM FROM EACH SUBDISTRICT WILL ADVANCE TO
DISTRICT FINALS WITH THE FOLLOWING MATCH-UPS: C-1 VS C-16,
C-2 VS C-15, C-3 VS C-14, C-4 VS C-13, C-5 VS C-12, C-6 VS C-11, C-7
VS C-10, and C-8 VS C-9.
B. THE EIGHT TEAMS IN EACH CLASS WINNING THE DISTRICT FINALS
WILL ADVANCE TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT.
5. Classes D1 and D2 schools are divided into sixteen 3 or 4 team subdistricts. The teams with the highest wild card point averages will have the opportunity to host sub-districts. All 16 sub-districts will be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based on the NSAA wild card point system within one week prior to the first district. IF THE TRAVEL WILL BE GREATER THAN 150 MILES

FOR ANY TEAM IN A SUB-DISTRICT, IT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FROM THE TOP SEEDED TEAM TO FIND A CENTRALLY LOCATED, NEUTRAL SITE TO HOLD THE COMPETITION.
A. THE WINNING TEAM FROM EACH SUBDISTRICT WILL ADVANCE TO DISTRICT FINALS WITH THE FOLLOWING MATCH-UPS: C-1 VS C-16, C-2 VS C-15, C-3 VS C-14, C-4 VS C-13, C-5 VS C-12, C-6 VS C-11, C-7 VS C-10, and C-8 VS C-9.
B. THE EIGHT TEAMS IN EACH CLASS WINNING THE DISTRICT FINALS WILL ADVANCE TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

There would be the added expense of travel for some of the teams playing. Although the mileage some schools may travel will be greater, 28% of the total number of teams will not travel at all. However, this system will do a much better job of ensuring that the BEST teams are at the state tournament. There will be 4 additional sub-districts and 2 additional districts, which means more income to account for some of the additional costs. In addition, sub-districts could be played all on a Saturday and one other day which also reduces costs and some academic time.

Rationale for the proposed change:

Currently, the process for qualifying for the State BasketballTournament is based heavily on geographical "location" while also allowing 2 Wild Cards to earn a berth at the State Tournament based on Power Points. Many times, a Sub-District/District is loaded with up to 5 ranked teams in one geographical area, thus creating a "Super District." This situation does not allow teams to control their own destiny. While not all teams will compete at the State Tournament, the "opportunity" to do so should be based on skill level, team accomplishments, and balanced districts rather than geographical location.

This proposal is not new. Approximately 5 years ago, Football passed legislation that changed their "location based" qualifying system to their present system. This system has worked for football. Basketball teams and their coaches are asking for the same change…a more equitable and balanced means for qualifying teams to the State Tournament.

B. This proposal is submitted by: Mark Armstrong, Kearney

The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Golf **Page:** 14, 15 Class A only

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)

Page 14 (Class A only)

Girls—CLASS A

2. (All 32 Class A schools were assigned to four Districts using a modified serpentine method with enrollment as the main means of assignment. The largest school was placed in District 1, the next largest in District 2, the next largest in District 3, the next largest in District 4, the next largest back in District 1, etc., until all 32 schools were assigned.)

2. ALL CLASS A SCHOOLS ARE SEEDED 1-32 BY USING THE AVERAGE DIFFERENTIAL, THEN PLACED IN DISTRICTS USING THE SERPENTINE METHOD. THE FIRST RANKED TEAM IS PLACED IN DISTRICT 1, THE SECOND IN DISTRICT 2, THE THIRD IN DISTRICT 3, THE FOURTH IN DISTRICT 4, THE FIFTH IN DISTRICT 4, THE SIXTH IN DISTRICT 3, AND SO ON UNTIL ALL 32 TEAMS ARE ASSIGNED. ANY CONFLICTS BETWEEN A HOST TEAM AND ITS ASSIGNMENT WILL BE RESOLVED BY THE NSAA GOLF DIRECTOR.

Page 15 (Class A only)

Boys—CLASS A

2. (All 32 Class A schools were assigned to four Districts using a modified serpentine method with enrollment as the main means of assignment. The largest school was placed in District 1, the next largest in District 2, the next largest in District 3, the next largest in District 4, the next largest back in

District 1, etc., until all 32 schools were assigned.)
2. ALL CLASS A SCHOOLS ARE SEEDED 1-32 BY USING THE AVERAGE DIFFERENTIAL, THEN PLACED IN DISTRICTS USING THE SERPENTINE METHOD. THE FIRST RANKED TEAM IS PLACED IN DISTRICT 1, THE SECOND IN DISTRICT 2, THE THIRD IN DISTRICT 3, THE FOURTH IN DISTRICT 4, THE FIFTH IN DISTRICT 4, THE SIXTH IN DISTRICT 3, AND SO ON UNTIL ALL 32 TEAMS ARE ASSIGNED. ANY
CONFLICTS BETWEEN A HOST TEAM AND ITS ASSIGNMENT WILL BE RESOLVED BY THE NSAA GOLF DIRECTOR.

The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:

P. 14 (Class A only)
Girls—Class A
All Class A schools are seeded 1-32 by using the Average Differential, then placed in districts using the serpentine method. The first ranked team is placed in District 1, the second in district 2, the third in District 3, the fourth in District 4, the fifth in District 4, the sixth in district 3, and so on until all 32 teams are assigned. Any conflicts between a host team and its assignment will be resolved by the NSAA Golf Director.
P. 15 (Class A only)
Boys—Class A
All Class A schools are seeded 1-32 by using the Average Differential, then placed in districts using the serpentine method. The first ranked team is placed in District 1, the second in district 2, the third in District 3, the fourth in District 4, the fifth in District 4, the sixth in district 3, and so on until all 32 teams are assigned. Any conflicts between a host team and its assignment will be resolved by the NSAA Golf Director.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: The cost would be zero to the schools. No additional travel costs are involved. The host school would merely have to forward the tournament results to the NSAA, just as it would to the schools which competed in the tournament.
Administrative costs for the NSAA should range from zero to minimal. A neutral group such as the Nebraska Coaches Association, the Nebraska Golf Association, or a committee of coaches could do the tabulation with a calculator. If the NSAA wants to piggyback this data onto its other sports computer calculations, it would closely resemble the football program currently used.

Rationale for the proposed change:

1. The districts were assigned based on school classification numbers. These figures do not accurately predict a school's strength in golf, resulting in poorly balanced districts.
2. Many skilled and deserving golf teams and individuals do not reach the NSAA Golf Championship because of an overly challenging district while other less-deserving teams and individuals do reach State with average performances in weaker districts.
3. The Average Differential assigns teams to districts based on the current season's performance, a valid predictor of a team's strength. The Average Differential is the disparity between the team's four scores and the USGA course rating multiplied by four. This is figured over the first part of the season. See the Appendix for the details of Average Differential.
4. This proposal has the support of all coaches of the Class A girls and boys golf teams.

C. **This proposal is submitted by:** Scott King, Perkins County

The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Speech **Page:** 7

The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)

SUGGESTED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR SPEECH JUDGES (CANDIDATE MUST SATISFY AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING):
a. BE A HEAD SPEECH COACH AT A NSAA MEMBER PROGRAM AND BE A CERTIFIED NSAA SPEECH JUDGE

b. BE A NSAA CERTIFIED SPEECH JUDGE FOR A MINIMUM OF FIVE (5) YEARS INCLUDING TWO (2) OF THE THREE (3) YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DISTRICT AND/OR STATE TOURNAMENT AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
i. JUDGE A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) TOURNAMENTS A YEAR DURING THE MOST RECENT FIVE YEARS AS A CERTIFIED JUDGE OR
ii. JUDGE A MINIMUM OF EIGHT (8) TOURNAMENTS DURING THE THREE (3) YEAR SPAN IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DISTRICT OR STATE TOURNAMENT
c. BE A NSAA CERTIFIED SPEECH JUDGE FOR A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) YEARS WITH WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FROM ANY COMBINATION OF ACTIVITIES DIRECTORS OR SPEECH HEAD COACHES AT THREE NSAA MEMBER SCHOOLS INDICATING COMPETENCY TO JUDGE AT DISTRICTS AND/OR STATE.
d. HAVE VERIFIED EXPERIENCE IN ANOTHER STATE OR ASSOCIATION EQUIVALENT TO (B) ABOVE.

The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:
Suggested minimum requirements for speech judges (candidate must satisfy at least one of the following):
A. Be a head speech coach at a NSAA member program and be a certified NSAA speech judge
B. Be a NSAA certified speech judge for a minimum of five (5) years including two (2) of the three (3) years immediately preceding the district and/or state tournament and one of the following:
I. Judge a minimum of two (2) tournaments a year during the most recent five years as a certified judge or
Ii. Judge a minimum of eight (8) tournaments during the three (3) year span immediately preceding the district or state tournament
C. Be a NSAA certified speech judge for a minimum of two (2) years with written statements of support from any combination of activities directors or speech head coaches at three NSAA member schools indicating competency to judge at districts and/or state.
D. Have verified experience in another state or association equivalent to (b) above.

Cost Analysis of Proposal: None

Rationale for the proposed change: Placing minimum requirements on judges solves one of the problems that can affect District and State speech contests: inexperienced judges. While this system will not weed out all unqualified judges, it will eliminate situations where a first-year judge, who has never watched a round of Poetry, Extemporaneous Speaking, or Serious Prose, is hired. The District and/or State contest is not the place for them to first encounter these events.
The five year requirement also eliminates parents who signed up to judge solely because their child is currently competing. After the four years of high school, many parents will likely choose not to re-certify unless they are actually interested in the good of the activity.
Having a recency requirement of two out of the past three years ensures judges are in current practice but gives flexibility for a long-term, highly-qualified judge to take a year off without losing his or her standing.
There are two alternate ways for a judge to qualify for District and State judging assignments without lengthy waiting times.
Scenarios
1. A new judge applies for certification. He must continually judge for five (5) years. He is eligible to judge at Districts or State at the end of the fifth year.
2. A head coach is hired and applies for certification their first year. She would be eligible to judge at Districts or State. Due to the fact the head coaches practice and see performances daily from the start of the season to the end, she has gained enough experience in the nuances of speech.
3. A judge has been certified for seven (7) years. However, he has not judged at any tournaments for three (3) years and judged at one local tournament this year. This judge would not be eligible to judge at Districts or State. It is unlikely this judge would have seen enough speech rounds to competently

judge at such an important event like Districts or State.
4. A certified judge of ten (10) years has judged at more than 30 tournaments including Districts and State. She moves out of the state for five (5) years and does not certify as a judge. Upon returning to the state, she decides to resume her judging role and re-certify. She is highly experienced, but due to her lengthy absence, will need at least two (2) years to refresh her skills and understand how the activity has changed over the past five years.
5. If the ten (10) year veteran judge from before continued to judge in the neighboring state, she can petition that she has comparable experience using one of the alternative pathways and still be qualified to judge at Districts or State.
6. A judge of 20 years who meets the qualification criteria fails to certify on year 21 due to a family emergency. If she re-certifies the next year, she would have judged 2 out of last 3 years and would still be eligible to judge at Districts and State.
7. A recent college graduate who competed for four (4) years in collegiate forensics wants to judge at NSAA events. She certifies as a judge and can qualify for District or State using the equivalent experience rule or the Activities Director option.

D. This proposal is submitted by: Joe Kutlas, Grand Island
The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Swimming **Page:** 14, 15
The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)
Page 14
8 lanes will be used in the preliminaries AND FINALS in all swimming events.
Scoring. (Twelve) SIXTEEN places will count for scoring.
Page 15
 Relays: (32-26-24-22-20-18-14-10-8-6-4-2.) 40-34-32-30-28-26-24-22-18-14-12-10-8-6-4-2.
 Individual events in swimming and diving: (16-13-12-11-10-9-7-5-4-3-2-1.) 20-17-16-15-14-13-12-11-9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.
Awards. Championship and runner-up team trophies will be awarded.
υ Medals will be awarded to individuals in the first (six) EIGHT places in all events.
υ The head coach of the championship team will receive an award.
υ Any award given to a team or individual prior to, during or immediately following an NSAA state contest is to be awarded by the Nebraska School Activities Association
Entries. All entries swimming/diving must be submitted electronically on the NSAA webpage under the School Login section.
• All entries for the State Swimming and Diving Championships must meet the automatic qualifying standard. If there are not (24) 32 competitors entered in a swimming event who have met the qualifying standard, additional qualifiers who have met the secondary standard will be added based on time to reach (24) 32 entries – IF THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH SECONDARY TIME ENTRIES TO REACH 32, ADDITIONAL ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ADDED. The secondary time represents 8% of the qualifying standard FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENT AND 5% FOR RELAY EVENTS. Individuals to be considered as additional qualifiers must be submitted for consideration at the time that entries are due in the NSAA office. *If there is a tie for the (24th) 32nd spot via secondary time, an additional heat will not be added.
The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:
Page 14
8 lanes will be used in the preliminaries and finals in all swimming events.
Scoring. Sixteen places will count for scoring.
Page 15
υ Relays: 40-34-32-30-28-26-24-22-18-14-12-10-8-6-4-2.
υ Individual events in swimming and diving: 20-17-16-15-14-13-12-11-9-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.

Awards. Championship and runner-up team trophies will be awarded.

υ Medals will be awarded to individuals in the first eight places in all events.

υ The head coach of the championship team will receive an award.

υ Any award given to a team or individual prior to, during or immediately following an NSAA state contest is to be awarded by the Nebraska School Activities Association.

Entries. All entries (swimming/diving) must be submitted electronically on the NSAA webpage under the School Login section.

All entries for the State Swimming and Diving Championships must meet the automatic qualifying standard. If there are not 32 competitors entered in a swimming event who have met the qualifying standard, additional qualifiers who have met the secondary standard will be added based on time to reach 32 entries– if there are not enough secondary time entries to reach 32, additional entries will not be added. The secondary time represents 8% of the qualifying standard for individual events and 5% for relay events. Individuals to be considered as additional qualifiers must be submitted for consideration at the time that entries are due in the NSAA office. *If there is a tie for the 32nd spot (secondary time), an additional heat will not be added.

Cost Analysis of Proposal:

Cost would be minimal to the NSAA, just 2 more medals per event (8 per relay event). But would potentially increase revenue for the preliminary sessions, since the increase in athletes would increase the number of spectators and would likely sell out those sessions.

Cost to teams would also be minimal. Possibly additional transportation and lodging. Most teams would only add 2-3 more athletes.

Rationale for the proposed change:

State swimming meet was originally held in a 6 lane pool, which is the reason awards were first limited to 6 places. Conference championships are held in 8 lane pools and the State meet in held in a 10 lane pool. This will bring the State championship up to date.

The Metro conference championship awards medals to 8 and has 16 in finals/consolation finals. The State meet should be as good or better than a conference meet.

Nearly all other state championships award 8 medals.

Numbers of teams and competitors in swimming has increased greatly over the years, with never a change in the state format. This is overdue. It is time to reward more student athletes with the state experience.

This will not lessen the achievement nor dilute the level of competition at the state meet as qualifying times have steadily dropped over the years and times that were in finals in past years would now not make the qualifying standard. The additional places added would be within seconds or tenths of seconds of the current 12th place times.

Several events over the past several years are already have had more than 24 competitors in prelims. Shows that the quality is increasing.

No changes in individual qualifying standards or how those times are calculated. It will not be easier to qualify for this meet.

Relay secondary times were lowered to ensure that all relay teams would be deserving of a spot, would limit numbers top 28-30 teams using past times.

Would potentially increase parity in the competitors making finals, opening more spots to athletes from non-traditional swimming powers. Would make depth more of a factor in determining state team champions.

No additional volunteers or NSAA staff would be needed to implement the changes. Still using the same number of lanes. Just adding one heat per event in prelims. Would allow more rest for competitors during prelims and eliminate the need for breaks. Less dead time.

Time line would not change for finals. Would only add two lanes (competitors) per heat. Lanes which are used for prelims but not currently used in finals.

Number of athletes would increase slightly, most likely effect would be that athletes competing in one event or only relays would now compete in more individual events.

E. This proposal is submitted by: Rick Petri, Kearney Catholic
The proposal deals with: Activities Manual: Volleyball **Page:** 10
The section/paragraph/sentence indicates what is to be added/deleted/changed to the current Bylaw/Approved Ruling: ADDITIONS are in all capital letters. (Changes/Deletions are in parentheses.)
Class B schools are divided into six districts. BASED ON THE NSAA POINT SYSTEM, 10 DAYS PRIOR TO DISTRICTS, THE TOP 6 TEAMS SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS HOST SITES FOR THEIR DISTRICT. THE REMAINING SCHOOLS SHALL BE PLACED INTO DISTRICTS BY THE NSAA BASED UPON PROXIMITY TO DISTRICT SITES WORKING WEST TO EAST. (The schools were assigned to districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east.) North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. IF THERE IS A SCHOOL THAT IS MORE THAN 120 MILES FROM THE TOP SEEDED SCHOOL IN A DISTRICT, A CENTRALLY LOCATED NEUTRAL SITE SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE TOP SCHOOL.
4. Classes C1, C2, D1 and D2 schools are divided into twelve sub-districts. BASED ON THE NSAA POINT SYSTEM, AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO SUB-DISTRICTS, THE TOP 12 TEAMS SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS HOST SITES FOR THEIR SUB-DISTRICT. THE REMAINING 3 - 4 SCHOOLS SHALL BE PLACED INTO SUB-DISTRICTS BY THE NSAA BASED ON PROXIMITY TO THE SUB-DISTRICT SITES WORKING WEST TO EAST. IF A SCHOOL IS MORE THAN 120 MILES FROM THE TOP SEEDED SCHOOL, A CENTRALLY LOCATED NEUTRAL SITE SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE TOP SEED. (on geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east.) North to south direction MAY BE (was) used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district.
a. The teams winning the sub-districts will advance to the district final AND WILL BE PAIRED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER: SUB-DISTRICT 1 WILL PLAY 12; 2 VS 11; 3 VS 10, 4 VS 9, 5 VS 8 AND 6 VS 7.
The section/paragraph/sentence that needs to be added/deleted/changed would read as follows:
CLASS B: Based on the NSAA Point System, at least 10 days prior to districts, the top 6 teams shall be designated as host sites for their district. The remaining 3-4 schools shall be placed into districts by the NSAA based upon proximity to district sites working west to east. North to south direction may be used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. If there is a school that is more than 120 miles from the top seeded school in a district, a centrally located neutral site shall be selected by the top seed.
A. The winning team in each district will qualify for the State tournament.
B. Two additional teams will also qualify on the basis of the wild card selection procedure.
CLASSES C-1, C-2, D-1, D-2: Based on the NSAA Point System, at least 10 days prior to sub-districts, the top 12 teams shall be designated as host sites for their sub-district . The remaining 3-4 schools shall be placed into sub-districts by the NSAA based upon proximity to sub-district sites working west to east. North to south direction may be used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. If there is a school that is more than 120 miles from the sub-district top seeded school, a centrally located neutral site shall be selected by the top seed.
A. The teams winning the sub-districts will advance to the district final and will be paired in the following manner: Sub-district 1 will play 12, 2 vs 11, 3 vs 10, 4 vs 9, 5 vs 8 and 6 vs 7.
B. Six winners will advance along with two wild card team to the state tournament.
C. Two additional teams in each class will also qualify on the basis of the wild card team selection procedure.
Cost Analysis of Proposal: With games being played at possible home sites gates may be higher. However, some possible increased travel may offset this.

Rationale for the proposed change: The state tournament should be the pinnacle for the best teams in the state. Setting up district brackets days instead of months before district play increases the chances of a fair path to the state tournament for all teams. While the wild cards have helped tremendously, we feel that this proposal would further enhance the possibility of qualifying the best eight teams for the state tournament while still keeping the sub-district regional.
Travel is the biggest concern especially for the western teams. If a team is more than 120 miles from the host site, the top seed would find a centrally located school within the schools involved to reduce the travel times for those affected.
A survey was sent out to many volleyball coaches throughout the state one month ago to gather feedback. We received 70 responses back. Following are the results and comments from those surveys:
45 - Fully agree
15 - Mostly Agree - have some minor concerns
5 - Disagree-There is a better way
5 - Disagree - Keep it the same

COMMENTS FROM THOSE COACHES THAT AGREE:

I really hope this proposal is seriously looked at for the right reasons and not turned down for the wrong reasons. I believe the state tournament is the pinnacle of the season for the hardest working teams. Presently the system establishes the best team but it doesn't allow the best 8 teams to get there. This proposal appears to go further in getting the top 8 teams there. My concern is whether the NSAA can seed all classes within the last 10 days of the season as well as assign officials to work the districts on short notice. As a coach I know there are going to be some nights during the season with little sleep to make sure everything gets done right. I really hope this proposal is workable and the NSAA can manage it with their staff.
Thanks Kris for your proactive approach and for getting this done during a busy and tremendous season for your team.
ps. I don't have a true opinion about 1 or 2 wild cards yet but I might in a year or two after we use the new proposal.
I think this would be a reasonable solution! I know of some sub-districts that already have 2-3 solid top teams in them. This may require a bit further travel for some, but outcome worth it in the long run!
I agree that a system based on performance is better than the random system now in place which inevitably leads to someone other than the best 8 teams qualifying for the state tournament.
Great proposal! We are all for it!
"Thanks for creating the proposal.
Again, this year some average teams will make it to state in C1 and C2 and some amazing teams will be left at home. As a coach I would rather travel and make sure the top 8 teams make it state."
"The part about 14 schools 1 vs 14 they could be clear across the state from each other?
Can it be done more like football, not sure but looks as if just because we are beside (like physically 10 miles) from school #1 with top points we should have to play them, what if we are #15th."
I think the idea is great. I only clicked on the 2 wildcard option because I think this format would work just as well with giving the top 12 teams according to the point system to host sub-districts. I am glad that this idea is being thrown around and it seems only fair to continue to grant teams in the small classes a fair chance to make the best state tournament.
I would prefer 6 districts and 2 wild cards in Class B
Thank you for this. Parity on proposals and legislation should work in the NSAA. Class A and B should be no different in classifications.
This is a great idea and we appreciate your efforts in making this happen.
"Would Class B teams travel?
Spread out from border to border.....could be an issue Omaha-Scottsbluff
This should have been the way it's been done for a long time. It's disappointing to have a 26-4 season and stay home and see other teams you have beaten play at the state tournament.

My main concern is districts will not be set until 10days before; that leaves coaches very little time to scout and learn about opponents. Perhaps district assignments could be set half way through season, perhaps 6-7 weeks after start of season.
I am excited that you are taking the steps necessary to even out the subdistrict & districts.
"I can see that some are not going to like this because of the possible travel that could happen when 1 vs 14 and 1 is east and 14 is far out west.
Also I think there should be 2 wild cards as too off upsets occur even with this set up.
"I'm not clear on the Wild Card question. If there were two WC's, would that mean a nine team tournament? If so, I'm for just one WC. If we would create bigger districts in order to qualify only 6 teams through play and 2 through WC's, then I'm opposed to two WC's. I think it's better if teams have to play well at the end of the year to play at State. Please feel free to contact me about this. I'll be discussing with my AD, too.
"This proposal would be better than the current set up. The Wildcard points, although better than no system at all, are really skewed when you get down into classes C and D. Consistently there are teams that do well in Wildcard points but don't do well at the state tournament. If we are selling the state tournament as the "best teams in the state" we need to do a better job of getting more of the "best teams" there. If we want our state tournament to be a "geographically-balanced" selection of teams representing all areas of the state, then keep it as is, but I think we need to get away from the language that the State Tournament features the best teams when now it simply doesn't.
Would the districts be set up using a serpentine method? If so, we would be able to agree with it.
"Question - In class B, how would remaining teams be placed into districts?
Would it be a serpentine method based on points?
If just by geography - we might run into the same pockets of good teams in one area of the state.
I would like to see the serpentine method, but AD's will argue that we will be traveling greater distances."
With this proposal, there is no guarantee regarding district sites. How would you fill western districts if a number of C2 teams are in the top 14. There would not be enough schools to fill districts unless we draw teams from the east. This would create big travel issues for schools. Most of the time, our districts are loaded that is just part of the game.
"I think this is a good proposal as it would make for a better state tournament.
My concern is this - there are quite a few ""poor"" gyms in classes D-1 and D-2 (especially ours) and I would not be interested in hosting a sub-district because of this. I prefer having away games because our gym is in such poor condition. I don't know what the solution to this would be, but I understand your reasoning in letting the top teams host the sub-district. It would probably work for everyone but us. (It may not be an issue in a couple years or so)."
You might know we submitted a proposal last year regarding Serpentine of Class B. I do not think anything will pass in any class unless the voters can ONLY vote on proposals pertaining to their particular class. (i.e., The C and D schools voted against the Class B proposal last year even though it didn’t pertain to them.) I know an initiative is in the works to change this voting procedure, but not sure where it is in committee. I will support this Proposal, however, as at least it is a move in the right direction.
My concerns are 1) how the sub-districts will be set up and 2) travel. For example: looking at the current years standings there are 3 teams in the top 14 from district 12. Who would each of us play? How will that be determined since we are so far west and not many teams in this area? Plus there are two teams in from district 11 so that puts fewer teams to play from this area. With 5 teams in from our district I think this needs to be done, I just wonder what the process is going to be to determine where you play. I realize the top 14 are host schools, but how far does a team travel to come play here? And I know it will be different from year to year, but is there some formula or process you are using. This needs to be done I just hope our schools will allow the travel. This year a team from subdistrict 9 or 10 will get to go to state and they are not even in the top 20. I want this to happen, but am concerned that school districts will allow for this additional travel expense."
"I definitely do not like the way it is set up now. Last year our sub-district had 3 of the top 8 teams in power points in it. Very likely that will be the same this year. I agree that the sub-districts should be set up sometime in October and that all the top teams should be spread out into different sub-districts. I am not

sure about the top teams hosting or if there should be a more neutral (in between) sight still for subs. Some teams could end up traveling long distances two nights in a row. Also I am not sure how to feel about the 1 or 2 wild card thing. I guess if all the best teams are spread out then having one wild card should be fine.
Thanks for working on this. Change is definitely needed! "
I LOVE this!!! I have expressed this same idea year after year. It gets so frustrating when you have two or three schools with great records get into one sub-district and then look at other sub-districts who are composed of teams without winning records. I agree that the sub-district assignments need to be posted based off of NSAA points. Thanks you for taking time to put this together!
I would like to see the NSAA assist in assigning the referees. Also, un-biased line-judging (not ones just from the "home team") should be used. Would it be possible to have referees for this during sub-district and district games just as they do during the state tourney? A fairly officiated game is also a concern we need to consider.
I think this is a great proposal and hope the board will consider the effect that it will have on the level of play at the state tournament. I think seating the sub-districts will allow for the best teams to participate in the state tournament. Too many times, there are 3 or 4 schools in the same sub-district that all deserve to go to the state tournament and this would eliminate the problem.
We have been on the bad end of having 3 out of the 5 schools in our sub rated in the top 10 going into post season and only 1 team getting to state. I like the idea of this proposal but feel travel could be a concern and also the ability to prepare. Last season we traveled almost 100 miles for our sub on a Monday night then turned around and went back Tuesday night. there was almost 200 miles distance between the furthermost east and furthermost west team in our sub. I feel that changes do need to be made; like seeding towards the end of the season. I also feel 2 wildcards are needed; this game produces unlike upsets more than any other. I also feel that strength of schedule is something to be looked at; last year some teams with outstanding records made it to state but in all honesty they did not play that great of teams during the season where as some schools who play pretty tough competition a class or 2 higher but their records perceived them as average.
I like the above proposal with 2 wildcards instead of one.
We would like to have 2 wild cards. We like this new proposal. I think it makes more sense. I agree with coaches in saying that some teams get excluded when they should be at state and other teams go when they shouldn't be there. I would like to see the top 8 teams be at the State level. Thanks for doing this Kris!
I like this format for class A. I think it will be good for all you all;-)
Get the best 8 teams to the state tournament! Great idea, finally, some equality among sports. Football does it, volleyball & basketball need to do it as well.
COMMENTS FROM THOSE COACHES THAT DISAGREE: First of all, decide whether the issue for districts is seeding or distance to play. If it is seeding, then follow the Class A format for seeding districts, as it is "fair" to all teams based on power points, and teams are put into districts based on rank only. If the issue is distance, keep it the same. You cannot "give" the districts to the top 6 teams and then "place" the other teams in the districts according to distance from the assigned districts...that's not going to "fix" the problem...the people complaining are still going to end up in a "power district" because of their proximity to the top six teams in the wild card standings.
" I have several concerns: 1. The west district should be left alone due to travel! (Our school board has approached the NSAA's board already about the football season schedule and kid's being out of school too much.) What true eastern team is going to want to travel clear out here? 2. The 10 day period does not give coaches very much time to prepare their team for the most important part of the season! 3. Giving the district to the top ranked team (from the wildcard points)gives those 7 teams ANOTHER unfair advantage with their home court! *Some schools do not play comparable schedules that could greatly influence the seeding as well!
Travel has to happen to make this all possible. The good thing is, it won't always be the same teams having to travel but no area of the state should be given a pass due to travel. The goal is the top 8 make it, regardless of location. Good luck with Sup's & AD's as well as teams from softer districts.

"I agree we need changes but I do not like the idea of top teams having home court advantage for districts. Also, this proposal does not allow for the far west teams to avoid potential extreme travel multiple times midweek for districts. While Gering is currently in the top 6 for Class B, it's not common for teams that far west to be that high in wildcard points. If another team would move ahead of them, that would mean GINW being the only site west of Lincoln in Class B.
I do not believe this proposal would have a chance of passing as is due to the possible travel requirements. While I am an eastern half coach, I would not support this proposal as is because I believe it is unfair for the western half teams."
"This is not a good plan for Western Nebraska. And it could pose real problems for fans from either end of the sate to attend district finals. You could have two schools meeting in central Nebraska to play a district final. They both could be traveling 200 miles to attend a District final. Would fans just stay home and say they are going to save travel money for a possible state tourney bid?
What will you do if there is a tie in the rankings when it's time to decide District sites? What if there is a tie for the 14th spot? How will it be determined who gets the district bid? For instance, if District sites were made today, our team is tied for 12th in rankings. We are the only team west of Wood River in the top 14 (again, that is for today only... I know it will change.) So that means the 4 furthest west teams would play at our school and everyone else will be playing from Wood River east. So basically, we would have sub-district play in eastern Nebraska. "
Needs to make changes, but I think that the NSAA will think this is too much work for them.
"If you look into the history of the state tournament qualifications, the NSAA voted in the current power point system to account for the differences in each districts' competition levels. That has improved the quality of teams at the state tournament and created a more reasonable system for those districts that are highly competitive.
Analyze the districts which have the two or more highly ranked (power points) teams and I think you will find that in most cases, those areas of the state are more highly populated. When you have smaller classes D1, C2 and C1 being represented in highly populated areas like Omaha, Lincoln, Fremont, Grand Island, Kearney, Hastings, Norfolk, Columbus, there are bound to be more competitive districts. The solution to this problem comes in the form of wild cards, which we already have.
Please consider: •The top teams already have the advantage, they don't need a home site as well. •The larger communities representing smaller classes, such as C1 or C2, already have the advantage of an increased population for additional option enrollment. •Border schools could end up traveling across the entire state, and be sure to consider districts which run two days. •Assigning referees would be more difficult and add additional expense. It is good to analyze the current system, but to fix this problem I encourage you to look closer at the districts and community size. Passing this proposal would only feed the current system of highly populated communities representing the state in the smaller classes. If a district is more competitive, look at where it's located, and ask yourself if the system we need to fix is district assignment or restructuring of classes?
I agree that the current system has flaws but this is not the solution. There has to be a better way to create sub-districts. Being in Western NE, we are used to traveling for games but traveling 200 miles per night two or three nights a week is completely unfair for ALL teams involved. Football can get away with this system because they only play one game a week. These kids are student athletes and should not be required to miss three days of school a week to play any sport. If this passes we as coaches are saying that athletics are more important that school. That is not the message I want to send my players!