



NFHS APPLICATION FOR SANCTION OF INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL ATHLETIC EVENTS SANCTIONING PROCEDURES

NOTE: The interscholastic community urges event sponsors to schedule interstate competition in a manner that minimizes the amount of time student participants will be absent from the regular school day.

1. **Events that Require NFHS Sanctioning:**

- a) Any interstate event involving two (2) or more schools which is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the high school community (e.g., a university, a theme park, an athletic shoe/apparel company).¹
- b) Non-bordering events if five (5) or more states are involved.
- c) Non-bordering events if more than eight (8) schools are involved. (effective 8/1/02)
- d) Any event involving two (2) or more schools that involves a team from a foreign country. The host school should complete the international sanction application on page 3. (The exceptions to this rule are Canada and Mexico which are considered "bordering states.")²

2. **Request for Sanction:** Only a member school of an NFHS member state association, or a school approved by such an association, or such an association itself, is eligible to request sanctioning through the NFHS Interstate Sanctioning Program. *Any event seeking NFHS sanction must be sponsored by a member high school, approved high school or state association.*

3. **Interstate Competition:** Interstate competition occurs when either teams or individuals who represent their schools travel across state lines to participate in competitive sports events, including but not limited to such events as "shoot-outs," "show-cases," "round-robin tournaments," etc. Subject to Paragraph 3, no sanction is required from the NFHS office if all competing schools, regardless of the number of competing schools, are from states that border the host state unless the event is co-sponsored by or titled in the name of an organization outside the high school community.

4. **Timelines/Fees:** This application for sanction should be sent to the state association of the host school ninety (90) calendar days or more prior to the event and must be accompanied by the host school's processing fee of **\$100**, check or money order, per application made payable to the NFHS. **Do not send cash.** The sanction application must be received in the NFHS office sixty (60) calendar days or more prior to the event. The late fee for any application that arrives in the NFHS office 15-59 calendar days prior the event will be **\$50** for a total of **\$150**. If the application arrives in the NFHS office less than 15 calendar days prior to the event, the late fee will be **\$150 plus a \$50 penalty for not forwarding the final list of actual entries for a total application fee of \$300. The penalty fee for not forwarding the final list of actual entries to the NFHS office twenty (20) calendar days prior to the event will be \$50. If the NFHS does not receive the late fees within five (5) calendar days prior to the event, the event will not be sanctioned, and the meet director will be notified they are running a non-sanctioned event.** There is no processing fee for International Athletic Competition applications (page 3).

5. **Names and Addresses of Invited/Participating Schools:** All sanction requests submitted to the NFHS office must be accompanied by the names and addresses of all invited/participating schools. In the case of cross country and track and field events, the host school will complete the sanction application and forward it to the host state association office with the list of invited schools so that it will arrive in the NFHS office 60 days or more prior to the event. **The final list of actual entries will be due to the NFHS office twenty (20) days prior to the event. If the list is not received five days prior to the event, the application for sanction will be disapproved, and the meet director will be notified that they are running a non-sanctioned event.**

6. **Equal Treatment:** Schools participating in interstate competition, as well as the schools' employees and agents, shall be treated equally. Examples of such shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a) reduction or waiver of entry fee for one school must result in a reduction or waiver of entry fee for all schools;
- b) appearance fee paid to one school must result in an equal amount of appearance fee paid to all participating schools;
- c) expense reimbursements, if any, must result in equivalent payments to all participating schools, subject to reasonable adjustments for differing distances traveled;
- d) share of proceeds/live gate paid to one school must result in equal share of proceeds/live gate paid to all participating schools.

7. **NFHS Web Site:** Information regarding the status of an event that has requested NFHS Sanctioning will be posted at: www.nfhs.org/sanctioning.htm. If you have any questions regarding the status of your event, please contact the NFHS Sanctioning Department at (317) 972-6900 Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm Eastern Standard Time.

8. **Financial Report:** When NFHS sanction is required, the host school shall submit a financial report about the event to the NFHS on the accompanying form upon request.

¹ Competition involving border states, and all other configurations of interstate competition not requiring the sanction of the NFHS office, shall be sanctioned by the state associations involved according to their own procedures.

² NFHS Bylaw 17 provides that each member state association shall approve and receive NFHS approval for competition by a member school against a school from a foreign country, except for two (2) school and three (3) school competition with a school or schools from Canada or Mexico which necessitates a round trip of less than 600 miles.