

TEMPE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE HANDBOOK

2017 – 2018

ARTICLE I: NAME

- i. The name of this organization shall be “TEMPE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE,” hence known as the “TAC.”

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the athletic program of the Tempe Athletic Conference is to provide an educationally sound and safe program that emphasizes participation, cooperation, good sportsmanship and teamwork for middle school boys and girls. It is also to help prepare students for participation in high school athletics.

The objectives of this program are to develop:

- ii. Physical skills necessary in the sport or activity;
- iii. Awareness of progressive skill requirements needed to continue to grow in the specific sport or activity;
- iv. Sense of loyalty, team play, cooperation, and sportsmanship, which will have “carry over” value in later life;
- v. Respect for the efforts, abilities, and rights of others;
- vi. Awareness of leadership responsibilities in school, community, and life contacts, as well as on the athletic field; and
- vii. Consistency and fairness within each sport. Middle school years are developmental years, physically, mentally and athletically.

ARTICLE III: COORDINATING COMMITTEE

SECTION I: Membership-Voting

- i. The Coordinating Committee shall consist of the member schools and district administrators or their appointed representatives. A majority approval of the total Coordinating Committee membership is needed to amend the handbook (Article XIV).

SECTION II: Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Coordinating Committee shall be to:

- i. Determine general standards and policies for the conference;
- ii. Establish eligibility requirements for membership in the conference;
- iii. Attend and participate in all TAC monthly meetings;
- iv. Attend, supervise (and/or provide supervision) for all games in which their school is participating;
- v. Ensure that all TAC Coaches’ attend the TAC coaches’ meetings held at a designated site, at the start of each season. If they are unable to attend, the Site AD will meet with the Coach to review all policies, procedures and expectations; and

- vi. The following TD3 Human Resources criteria will be used to hire qualified coaches.
 - i. Arizona Teacher Certificate
 - ii. DPS Fingerprint Clearance Card
 - iii. Knowledge of sport preferred

ARTICLE IV: MEMBER SCHOOLS

SECTION I: Present Membership

- i. The present members of the Tempe Conference shall consist of the following schools: Connolly Middle School, Fees College Preparatory Middle School, Gilliland Middle School Laird School, Tempe Academy of International Studies (TAIS) and Ward Traditional Academy.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

SECTION I: Time/Place

- i. The Coordinating Committee shall meet monthly, July through June, with dates, times, and locations of the meetings determined based on the “TD3 Planning Guide.” Minutes of all meetings shall be taken and distributed to all Coordinating Committee members at each school, within one week of the meeting.

SECTION II: Special Meetings

- i. Any Coordinating Committee member may request a special meeting by notifying the district athletic administrator of his/her request in writing.

SECTION III: Quorum

- i. For purposes of transacting business at the regular meeting, a quorum shall consist of one-half (3/4) of the total membership.

SECTION IV: Order of Business

- i. The District Athletic Administrator will send a written request to all Coordinating Committee members requesting agenda items at least 72 hours prior to an AD meeting. It shall include approval of previous meeting minutes and the issues/concerns to be discussed.
- ii. The Coordinating Committee shall work collaboratively and a majority vote will determine decisions. In a split decision, the District Athletic Administrator will be the deciding vote.

ARTICLE VI: RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL

SECTION I: Middle School Principal/Assistant Principal

- i. The principal/assistant principal of each member school has the responsibility for the overall supervision and operation of the athletic program in his/her school and is to ensure that the

Tempe Athletic Conference's philosophy and policies are followed. The principal/assistant principal or designee responsible for providing adequate supervision at all athletic events in which his/her school is participating in and/or if they are the host school.

SECTION II: Coaches

- i. Coaches will be provided the Crisis Line - 480-730-7369 information and directions on how to use the Crisis Line in case of an emergency. The Site Athletic Director's phone numbers will be provided at each coach's meeting.
- ii. Coaches shall not leave the school until a parent or guardian has picked all of your own team members up.
- iii. At least one coach shall accompany their team on the bus to and from away games.
- iv. Coaches will demonstrate good sportsmanship, be a positive role model and follow directions from all TAC administrators supervising TAC games. Coaches will be highly qualified for the coaching position and demonstrate this via formal interviews. Coaches will be interviewed and evaluated for the coaching position on TAC Interview Forms. The TAC Coordinating Committee will ensure that **coaches will be cognitive of not "running up" the score.**
- v. Coaches will adhere to the TAC student pick-up/check-out procedure for away games.
- vi. All coaches shall be directly responsible for the conduct of their athletic teams at all athletic events and practices and while traveling to and from such athletic activities.
- vii. All coaches are required to attend pre-season coaches meeting to review schedules, rules and policies of the conference. If the Coach cannot attend this meeting, they are required to meet with the Site Athletic Director to review these items. The Site Athletic Director will provide documented attendance of this meeting to the District Athletic Administrator prior to the start of the season.
- viii. Coaches will submit a team roster to the District Athletic Director 96 hours (eight working days) prior to the first game. This allows significant time to notify the Transportation Department for scheduling.

ARTICLE VII: ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES

SECTION I: Attendance Requirements

- i. All athletes must be regularly registered students of the school in which they represent. Charter and private school students are not eligible to participate in the conference. If a school does not offer a particular sport, a student may request to the home school principal to participate in the sport at an alternate school site designated by the Conference Coordinating Committee during the first Coordinating Committee Meeting of the year. The home school Athletic Director will complete a Sport Transfer Form (Attachment A) to accept or deny the request. The receiving school will hold an interview process with the parent/guardian and the student. The receiving Athletic Director will provide a signed approved/denied copy of the

Sport Transfer Form to the District Athletic Administrator and the parent/guardian. The District Athletic Director will notify the Coordinating Committee members of the request.

- ii. According to district policies and guidelines, Tempe home-schooled students will be eligible to participate in the conference.

SECTION II: Age Requirement

- i. Any student who has turned 16 by the first day of the student academic school year will not be eligible to participate in the TAC. The District Athletic Administrator will provide the Site Athletic Directors the cut-off date for students at the first athletic director meeting of the year.

SECTION IV: Eligibility Policy

- i. Tempe School District No. 3 will ensure that adopted eligibility requirements comply with the state board's no-pass, no-play rules. Students must be passing with a grade of C or better in every class including electives and interventions.
- ii. Each principal/assistant principal and coach will ensure that each athlete meets the adopted eligibility policy.
- iii. Student athletes **will** be permitted to participate concurrently in TAC and ACAC sports with Site Athletic Director and coach approval. Concurrent participation will only be considered for two different sports. Participation in the TAC will supersede participation in ACAC sports.
- iv. Any student wishing to participate on a team after tryouts and cuts have been made will have their name placed last on the list of players cut. Players trying out and being cut from the team shall have the first opportunity to fill a vacant team position. The exception to this situation is if a team did not have a full roster because of a lack of student athletes trying out for the team, and because of student ineligibility. The first student (and so on) on the "cut" list will be permitted to join the team. The Site Athletic Director will notify the District Athletic Administrator. They will then ask all Coordinating Committee members to vote for approval of this request. If the vote ends in a tie, the District Athletic Administrator will be the deciding vote.
- v. If the student is not present during tryouts, they are not eligible to participate on said team/school for that sport without Coordinating Committee approval.

SECTION V: Grade Checks

- i. Each school will complete weekly grade checks to determine participation eligibility. Grade checks run from Thursday to Thursday and they determine eligibility for the proceeding weeks games. Students must have a 70% or better in every class. These weekly reports will be kept on file at the school site until the end of the sport season.
- ii. Every participating TAC school will provide an opportunity either before school, during school, or after school for student athletes to receive additional academic help.

SECTION VI: Physicals/Insurance

- i. A student shall not be allowed to practice or compete in interscholastic athletics until there is on file with the principal or his/her designee a record of a preparticipation physical examination (PPE) performed by a doctor of medicine (M.D.), an osteopathic physician (D.O.), a naturopathic physician (N.D., N.M.D.), a certified registered nurse practitioner (N.P.) licensed to practice, a certified physician's assistant (PA-C) registered by the Joint Board Of Medical Examiners and the Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery, or a certified chiropractic sports physician (CCSP). The physical examination for the following school year shall be given **on or after March 1**. The physical examination card on file shall be signed by one of the aforementioned medical providers and shall state that, in the opinion of the examining provider, the provider did not find any medical reason to disqualify the student from practice or competition in athletic contests. The principal or his/her designee, if deemed advisable, may require a student to be reexamined.
- ii. All student athletes are required to provide current school year proof of insurance coverage in order to participate in TAC athletics.

SECTION VII: Player Ejections

- iii. The TAC will follow Arizona Interscholastic Association guidelines for ejected players. (Article 16.3 – AIA Constitution) It is the responsibility of the coach and athletic director to enforce the ejection guidelines at their school. The TAC has zero tolerance for unsportsmanlike behavior. Students are subject to school discipline and TAC discipline.

ARTICLE VIII: RELATED POLICIES

SECTION I: Scheduling

- i. The Coordinating Committee members or the District Athletic Administrator will complete the conference schedule. Adjustments after the start of the school year will be done by the District Athletic Administrator and reviewed by all Site Athletic Directors. They are subject to change based on the School Districts needs and funding available. The conference schedule and tournaments will take precedence over other contests or tournaments. Schools are not allowed to participate in events outside of the TAC schedule without permission from the Superintendent. The TAC schedule will receive final approval by the Executive Director of Instructional Excellence.

SECTION III: Emergency Procedures/First Aid

- i. Each school shall have emergency procedures in place. Site Athletic Directors will review the site procedures for an emergency with all coaches prior to the season. All coaches are required to have a first aid kit, which includes a student emergency information card for athletes with them at all times.

SECTION IV: Safety of Participants

- i. Concerns may be voiced to the Site Athletic Director or game official regarding situations that are detrimental to the safety of participants

but NOT on the judgment calls of officials or rule interpretation. If the situation is determined by the Site Athletic Director or game official to be unsafe, the game should not be played.

SECTION V: Game times/Postponement/Cancellation

- i. Every effort should be made to notify opponent's Site Athletic Director and District Athletic Administrator if a school's team will be late due to transportation issues or unforeseen events. If a school finds it impossible to attend a scheduled event, it must notify the other school as soon as possible. Any postponement or cancellation of an event must be by mutual consent of both schools and the District Athletic Administrator. Host schools will contact the District Athletic Administrator in an event of inclement weather and/or unsafe playing conditions that are occurring at their site as soon as possible. A mutual decision will be made to reschedule, postpone or cancel events. Due to transportation needs, the decision to postpone, reschedule or cancel an event will be made prior to 12:30 pm on the day of the event. The Coordinating Committee members will all be notified if an event is rescheduled, postponed or cancelled.

SECTION VI: Playing Time

- i. A student's effort, attendance, participation at practice, teamwork, attitude, behavior, ability, as well as the number of students on the team, are some factors that are considered by the coach when determining playing time. Every effort shall be made to maximize each participant's playing time.
- ii. The goal is to strive for consistency and fairness within each sport. Varsity teams are considered more competitive teams, thus these teams will often play players with a greater ability and a focus on winning, similar to High School sports. The Coordinating Committee will ensure that **coaches will be cognitive of not "running up" the score.** If the Coordinating Committee is ever concerned about the "running up of the score," they will approach the score table/umpires/officials and request a "special time out" to speak to both coaches involved in the athletic event.

SECTION VII: Practices

- i. Mandatory practices shall not be held on weekends or holidays. This includes the day after Thanksgiving and during fall, winter and spring breaks.

ARTICLE IX: OFFICIATING

SECTION I: Officials

- i. The Coordinating Committee will designate a contract with a company that will provide officials for all sports. If the official(s) are not in attendance, the game will be postponed or canceled. Each official will be given a 15-minute "grace period." After the "grace period," the Site Athletic Director will contact the District Athletic Administrator. The District Athletic Administrator will contact the contracted officiating company to inquire about the

official's absence. If the game can be started with one official or another official can be sent to cover the game within 30 minutes, the game will begin. If these options are not available, the District Athletic Administrator will notify the involved Site Athletic Directors to reschedule, postpone or cancel the game.

SECTION II: Payment of Officials

- i. The official(s) shall be paid for their services by the host school/ or District Athletic Department. The members of the TAC will follow District Procurement Laws. All signed invoices for payment of officials should be sent to the Athletic Department within five (5) working days.

SECTION III: Conduct/Performance of Officials

- i. An official is expected to perform in accordance with recognized standards and manuals developed for officiating. Included therein is knowledge and interpretation of the rules, mechanics, personal appearance and physical conditioning. The District Athletic Administrator will provide the Officiating Company with a copy of the TAC Handbook at the beginning of each school year for review.
- ii. An official must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and interactions with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.

ARTICLE X: GAME RULES

- i. The rules for middle school sports shall be the same rules as those governing National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) unless otherwise designated in the bylaws.
- ii. Each school will have the option of a JV team and a Varsity Team for most sports. JV team members will consist of students in 6th and 7th grade. Varsity team members will consist of students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. If a school has only one team, whether it be JV or Varsity, then any 6th, 7th, or 8th grade student is eligible for that team.
- iii. Look at Article VI, Sections i & ii
- iv. Varsity teams who are facing forfeiting a game can borrow players for that game from the JV team. Site Athletic Directors must obtain parent approval.

ARTICLE XI: SEASON OF SPORTS

SECTION I: Fall Sports

Coed Soccer	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades
Girls Volleyball	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades
District Track Meet (Optional)	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades

SECTION II: Winter Sports

Boys Basketball	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades
Girls Softball	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades
Cheer (optional)	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades

SECTION III: Spring Sports

Boys Baseball -	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades
Girls Basketball	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades
Coed Cross Country	-	6th, 7th, & 8th grades

SECTION IV: Tournaments

- i. TAC schools are eligible for the TAC sponsored tournaments. Win/Loss record and points will be kept by the District Athletic Administrator for all participating teams. When there are 3 teams participating, teams will be ranked by wins/loss and tournament play will begin with the following pairings: 3vs2 and 1 has a bye. When there are 4 teams participating, teams will be ranked by win/loss record and tournament play will begin with the following pairings: 4vs1 and 3vs2. When there are 5 or 6 teams participating, teams will be ranked by win/loss record and tournament play will begin with the following pairings: 4vs1 and 3vs2. The 5th and 6th place team will not participate in the tournament. Exception – Cross Country – all teams will participate. Finals will be played at a designated location determined by the Coordinating Committee. If there is a tie in record, the seed will be determined by head to head results, total defensive points allowed, and last offensive points scored.
- ii. A JV athlete may not be moved to the varsity team for tournament play.
- iii. Recognition may be given for sportsmanship and tournament championships. Recipients will be determined by a sportsmanship ballot to be completed by the coaches and Site Athletic Directors at the end of each season. If there is a tie, the District Athletic Administrator will be the deciding vote. The winner will be posted in the “News.”

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

- i. All proposed amendments or changes to the conference constitution should be submitted to the School Athletic Director to be acted upon by the Conference Coordinating Committee. A majority of the total Conference Coordinating Committee membership is needed to amend the TAC handbook.

BYLAWS: DESCRIPTION OF SPORTS

BYLAW 1: Co-Ed Soccer

The rules for soccer shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules for Soccer with the following exceptions:

1. Four – 15 minute running quarters.
2. A five (5) minute water break will occur during each 15 minutes of play. A ten (10) minute break will occur at halftime.
3. Each team will be permitted one (1) timeout per half. The time-out will last one (1) minute.
4. The referee will stop the timer when a player is injured or when either team is not in an offensive scoring situation.
5. Three officials are suggested in regular season play and tournament play.
6. If an athlete or a coach receives a RED card in a game, he/she will not be eligible for the next game (whether it is a regular season or tournament game). The student is also subject to school and/or district discipline based on their actions and the Tempe Elementary Student Handbook.
7. If the game ends in a tie, a shoot-out will take place. Each coach will select 5 kickers from their team to participate in the shoot-out. A coin will be tossed to determine who goes first. The host team will call the toss. The team with the most goals from the shoot-out will be declared the winner. If the score is tied at the end of the shoot-out, it will go into sudden death. The next team to score wins. The team who won the coin toss will have the first attempt.
8. The strict uniform rule does not need to be followed, as long as team members can be identified as being a member of their team. It is recommended that the goalie wear a different color uniform from the team uniform.
9. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

BYLAW 2: Boys & Girls Cross Country

The rules for cross-country shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules for cross-country with the following exceptions:

1. The course will be 1.5 miles (+/-) for both boys and girls.
2. Coaches and non-participants shall not run alongside their athletes during a meet. Athletes and parents may stand along the course to support runners.
3. The first five runners from each team will be scored. In case of a tie, the sixth runner will be the tiebreaker. All runners will be provided a label with their name and school listed on it. The athlete will wear this label during the race. After the athlete crosses the finish line, they will remove the label and place it on the back of the scorecards. The scorecard will then be returned to the scorekeeper. The District Athletic Administrator will provide the labels to the schools prior to the first meet.
4. The home team is responsible to provide the timekeeper, cones to line the course, scorecards, and someone to collect the scorecards for each meet. During tournament play, a designated team will provide a timekeeper, cones to line the course, scorecards, and someone to collect the scorecards. This will be a rotating schedule.
5. The strict uniform rule does not need to be followed, as long as team members can be identified as being a member of their team.
6. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

BYLAW 3: Girls Volleyball

The rules for volleyball shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules with the following exceptions:

1. Scoring will be by the rally point system. The first two games shall be played to 25 points. Games one and two will have no cap; game three will have a cap of 15 points and a team must win by two points in games one and two, but only one point in game three. The winner will be declared at the end of the third game.
2. Each team will be given two (2) time-outs per game with no rollovers or continuation.
3. A leather volleyball is to be used for all games.
4. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

BYLAW 4: Spirit-line

- **Safety should be the primary focus when designing routines**

Performance/routine guidelines:

1. Any tumbling performances should have spotters.
2. When possible, a safety mat should be used.
3. Squad tumbling in which more than one-half of the squad performs a tumbling skill at the same time is not permitted.
4. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.
5. For safety, these athletes will remain as far away from game play as possible. They will not interfere with official or athletes play. Depending on site, this may include cheering from the bleachers or off to the side of the gym.
6. Schools will share halftime. Each school will be allowed to perform a short routine while on the court.

BYLAW 5: Boys Basketball

The rules shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules with the following exceptions:

1. A regulation men's size leather ball will be used.
2. The game will consist of two (2) 20-minute halves with a running clock. The clock will stop the last two (2) minutes of the game if the point differential is less than 10 points applies to regular season and tournament play.
3. Each team is allowed five (5) timeouts per game, with three (3) 60-second (full) timeouts and two (2) 30 second timeouts.
4. Full court press can only be used in the final 2 minutes of the 2nd half or at any time if a team is down by 10 points or more. Once the team point difference is under 10 points, they must stop pressing. This applies to regular season and tournament play.
5. Legal numbers 0-5 will be used.
6. Basketball games must have at least one official; two officials are preferred. A game can begin with one official and continue with two upon the second official's arrival.
7. A third warning for backcourt pressure will result in a technical foul, stopped clock, and possession of the ball.
8. If an overtime period is needed for basketball, after a three (3) minute intermission, a three (3) minute overtime period will follow with the clock stopping. Each team will be allotted and additional 60-second (full) time out. Teams may full court press during overtime.
9. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

BYLAW 6: Girls Basketball

The rules shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules with the following exceptions:

1. A regulation women's (28 1/2") size leather ball will be used.
2. The game will consist of two (2) 20-minute halves with a running clock. The clock will stop the last two (2) minutes of the game if the point differential is less than 10 points. This applies to regular season and tournament play.
3. Each team is allowed five (5) timeouts per game, with three (3) 60-second (full) timeouts and two (2) 30 second timeouts.
4. Full court press can only be used in the final 2 minutes of the 2nd half or at any time if a team is down by 10 points or more. Once the team point difference is less than 10 points, they must stop pressing. This applies to regular season and tournament play.
5. Legal numbers 0-5 will be used.
6. Basketball games must have at least one official; two officials are preferred. A game can begin with one official and continue with two upon the second official's arrival.
7. A third warning for backcourt pressure will result in a technical foul, clock stopping and possession of the ball being awarded to the team shooting the technical.
8. If an overtime period is needed for basketball, after a three (3) minute intermission, a three (3) minute overtime period will follow with the clock stopping. Each team will be allotted an additional 60-second (full) time out. Teams may full court press during overtime.
9. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

BYLAW 7: Boys Baseball

The rules for boy's baseball shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules with the following exceptions:

1. Players may only wear rubber cleats.
2. The home team will provide three leather baseballs for games.
3. Pitchers shall not pitch more than 12 complete innings or 36 outs in a consecutive 36-hour period without two consecutive calendar days of rest.
4. It is recommended that JV & Varsity pitching distance shall be 54 feet with base path distance of 80 feet.
5. Players that start a game can be substituted for one time and be permitted to return to the game (this includes the pitcher), and bat in original position.
6. Coaches may use a free substitute runner for the catcher.
7. A team leading by ten (10) runs after four (4) innings or twenty (20) runs at any time, is declared the winner. This includes tournament play.
8. Adult coaches may occupy both base-coaching boxes. If a student athlete is occupying the coaching box, they must wear a batting helmet with ear protection. Parents who are not the designated base coach are not allowed in the dug out area.
9. Two qualified umpires are recommended. (The game may be played with only one umpire)
10. Aluminum bats may be used. -10 regulations shall be followed.
11. A team may use a designated hitter.
12. The game shall be six (6) innings. The umpire in charge shall use his own judgment about sufficient light for continuing a game. A game will be complete only if four complete innings are played, if the home team is behind, or the 15-run rule is in effect. Games shall not be stopped in the middle of an inning (unless safety is a concern).
13. The coaches of each team shall make-out two lineup cards for each game: one for the opposing coach and the other for the umpire. These lineup cards shall be exchanged upon arrival to the game.
14. No new inning will begin after 90 minutes from the beginning of the game. The current inning will be completed before the game is called.
15. In the first inning, when the visiting team bats, they are permitted to score a maximum of seven (7) runs before three (3) outs occur. When the home team bats in the bottom of the inning, they may continue to bat until they tie the current score plus an additional seven (7) runs or (3) outs occur. No runners will count after the seventh run scores. Teams are limited to seven (7) runs per inning after reaching a tie score. In the bottom of the last inning, the home team only needs to score as many runs as needed to tie plus one (1) run to win.
16. During tournament play, a game may not end in a tie. Extra inning(s) shall be played until the tie is broken. Each team will begin the extra inning(s) with a runner on second base. The runner shall be the last out from the previous inning.
17. If a coach is ejected from a tournament game, the game may continue with a district approved assistant coach.
18. Eight players are needed to start and finish a game.
19. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

BYLAW 8: Girls Softball

The rules for girl's softball shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules with the following exceptions:

1. Players may only wear rubber cleats.
2. Each game shall be six (6) innings for both JV & Varsity teams. The umpire in charge shall use his/her own judgment about sufficient light for continuing a game.
3. A 12 - inch leather ball will be used for games, and the home team will furnish three balls for each game.
4. It is recommended to have two umpires for every game. The game may be played with only one umpire.
5. By mutual consent of both coaches, a team may bat all of their eligible players and defensively substitute freely, with the exception of the pitcher. The National Federation of High School Rules will apply to the substituting of the pitcher.
6. It is recommended for the bases to be 60 feet apart, with the pitcher's rubber 43 feet from home plate.
7. A team leading by fifteen (15) runs at any time is declared the winner. This includes tournament play. The current inning will be completed.
8. The coaches of each team shall make-out two lineup cards for each game: one for the opposing coach and the other for the umpire. These lineup cards shall be exchanged before the beginning of the game.
9. No new inning will begin 90 minutes from the start of the game -- this includes tournament play. The current inning will be finished.
10. In the first inning, when the visiting team bats, they are permitted to score a maximum of seven (7) runs before three (3) outs occur. When the home team bats in the bottom of the inning, they may continue to bat until they tie the current score plus an additional seven (7) runs or 3 outs occurs. No runners will count after the seventh run scores. Teams are limited to seven (7) runs per inning after reaching a tie score. In the bottom of the last inning, the home team only needs to score as many runs as needed to tie plus one (1) run to win.
11. During tournament play, a game may not end in a tie. Extra inning(s) shall be played until the tie is broken. Each team will begin the extra inning(s) with a runner on second base. The runner shall be the last out from the previous inning.
12. Adult coaches may occupy both base-coaching boxes. If a student athlete is occupying the coaching box, they must wear a batting helmet with ear protection.
13. If a coach is ejected from a tournament game, the game may continue with a district approved assistant coach.
14. Eight players are needed to start and finish a game.
15. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

BYLAW 9: Middle School Track & Field Meet (Optional)

The rules for Track & Field shall be the current edition of the National Federation of High School Rules for Track & Field.

1. A schedule of events among teams will be established.
2. Students in grades 6,7, and 8 may participate.
3. The events will consist of the following:
 - a. 100 meters
 - b. 200 meters
 - c. 400 meters
 - d. 4 x 100 relay
 - e. 1 mile run
 - f. Softball Throw
 - g. Running Long Jump
4. Coaches and non-participants shall not run alongside their athletes during a meet.
5. Each team will host two runners for each event.
6. Lane selection for the event will be on a yearly rotation.
7. Team rosters will be electronically submitted to the event coordinator by 5:00 pm on the Friday before the day of the scheduled event.
8. Roster changes will only be made after roster submission due to disciplinary action. This request for a change must be submitted electronically to the district coordinator at least 24 hours prior to the event. The district coordinator will have final say on approval of the request.
9. Players that do not attend an event will be scratched from their scheduled event.
10. Each athlete may only participate in three running events and/or one field event.
11. No more than 60 students from each school can attend the meet.
12. This event will be hosted at Tempe High School, if possible.
13. All middle school PE staff will be provided subs to attend the meet and they are expected to participate in this event. Any PE staff not provided a sub would remain on the home campus.
14. The Monday following the scheduled event will be used as a rain date. If the event is rained out, roster changes will be accepted. These changes will be electronically submitted to the event coordinator by 5:00pm the next working day (Friday).
15. Athletes are not allowed to compete in spiked shoes, tank tops or with hats.
16. Student athletes may not wear jewelry.

ARTICLE XIII: Appeals

An appeal process has been established for any individual or group who has an appeal of original jurisdiction and who is adversely impacted by a decision of the Tempe Athletic Conference (TAC). The appeal process will be followed through Step 4 or until the stakeholder is accommodated. The following steps must be followed to appeal a TAC decision:

Step 1- Conference with School Site Athletic Director

Step 2- Conference with District Athletic-Administrator

Step 3- Letter of Appeal submitted to TAC Coordinating Committee for review

- i. The stakeholder who has been adversely impacted must submit a letter of appeal to the TAC committee within 10 (ten) working days of the District Athletic Administrators conference.
- ii. TAC subcommittee shall consist of:
 1. School Site Athletic Directors
 2. District Athletic Administrator
- iii. The letter of appeal must specify the following:
 1. The decision being disputed and information regarding the issue
 2. The adverse impact created by the decision
 3. The desired outcome
- iv. TAC committee will assure that the appeal qualifies for a hearing in front of the TAC Conference Committee. To qualify for a hearing, the committee must find the above criteria have been met and the issue cannot be resolved to the appellant's satisfaction.

Step 4-Ten-minute presentation to the TAC Conference Committee

- i. If granted a hearing, the appellant or group representative will have the opportunity to give a 10 (ten) minute oral presentation at the next regularly scheduled TAC meeting.
- ii. The TAC Coordinating Committee may make a decision to grant or deny the appeal at the same meeting, or take the matter under advisement for a decision at the next regular meeting, or schedule a special meeting to deal with the issue. A majority vote of members present at the oral presentation is required in order to overturn a previous decision of the TAC Conference Committee. The District Athletic Administrator will inform the appellant of the TAC Conference Committee's decision. The decision of the TAC Conference Committee is final.

*Note: Committee decisions may only be appealed once, unless new insight or circumstances arise. There are no further appeals beyond Step 4. The committee has the right to deny any appeal that has been previously addressed. Precedence from previous decisions will be reflected in the TAC Conference Committee's decisions

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SPORT TRANSFER FORM

STUDENT: _____

HOME SCHOOL: _____

GRADE: _____

HAS COMPLETED PHYSICAL & PARTICIPATION PACKET: YES NO
A COPY OF THE PARTICIPATION PACKET MUST BE ATTACHED.

CURRENT GRADES:

SUBJECT	GRADE

THE PARENT WILL ACCEPT ALL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR
 TRANSPORTATION.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

YES THIS STUDENT HAS PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN:
 _____ AT _____
 (SPORT) (SCHOOL)

SITE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Approved	Denied	Date

(Official use only)