



**WASHINGTON INTERSCHOLASTIC
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

CLARIFYING THE EIGHTH GRADE PARTICIPATION RULE

2015-16

18.19.1 PRACTICE WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

PRACTICE WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM FOR SCHOOLS OF ANY CLASSIFICATION

- A. If a sport is not offered by the middle school, eighth graders may practice with the feeder high school as long as the number of weeks does not exceed the season limitation for middle level in that sport.**
- B. If a sport is offered by the middle school, eighth graders may practice with the feeder high school teams during the time period that the seasons run concurrently.**
- C. The local school board must assume all responsibility for the middle level students practicing with high school students.**

18.19.2 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

1. FOR 1B OR 2B SCHOOLS ONLY:

2. If a sport is not offered at the middle level, a 1B or 2B high school may allow eighth grade students from a WIAA member feeder middle school/junior high to participate in any high school program, pending league approval.

18.19.2 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

1. FOR 1B OR 2B SCHOOLS ONLY:

2. If a sport is offered at the middle level, the only way that eighth graders could participate at the high school level is if needed to salvage the high school program and certain conditions must be met.

18.19.3 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

- **Eighth graders could be used to salvage the high school varsity team if at any time during the season the number of participants on the high school team is at or below these specified numbers.**
- **Baseball: 16**
- **Basketball: 9**
- **Football, 8-man: 14**
- **Football, 11-man: 19**
- **Soccer: 12 (legal to start a match with 7 players)**
- **Softball: 16**
- **Volleyball: 11**

18.19.3 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

- Baseball: 16**
- Basketball: 9**
- Football, 8-man: 14**
- Football, 11-man: 19**
- Soccer: 12 (legal to start a match with 7 players)**
- Softball: 16**
- Volleyball: 11**
- Any and all eligible eighth graders interested in playing at the high school level could practice with the high school varsity team, but the varsity roster for regular season contests is then limited to the specified numbers on any given day. The school will determine which players to suit up and play.**

18.19.3 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

The school must have a history of offering the sport at that level, and is not beginning a program at any level.



18.19.3 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

- **Eighth graders could be used to salvage the high school junior varsity team if at any time during the season the number of participants on the high school team is at or below these specified numbers.**
- **Baseball: 25**
- **Basketball: 16**
- **Football, 8-man: 22**
- **Football, 11-man: 30**
- **Soccer: 19 (legal to start a match with 7 players)**
- **Softball: 25**
- **Volleyball: 17**

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- **Eighth graders could be used to salvage the high school junior varsity team if at any time during the season the number of participants on the high school team is at or below these specified numbers.**
 - **Baseball: 25**
 - **Basketball: 16**
 - **Football, 8-man: 22**
 - **Football, 11-man: 30**
 - **Soccer: 19 (legal to start a match with 7 players)**
 - **Softball: 25**
 - **Volleyball: 17**

- **Any eighth graders moved up to salvage a junior varsity team are eligible to play only on the junior varsity team.**

18.19.3 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

- **Baseball: 25**
- **Basketball: 16**
- **Football, 8-man: 22**
- **Football, 11-man: 30**
- **Soccer: 19 (legal to start a match with 7 players)**
- **Softball: 25**
- **Volleyball: 17**

- **Any and all eligible eighth graders interested in playing at the high school level could practice with the high school teams, but the combined roster for both varsity and junior varsity regular season contests is then limited to the specified numbers on any given day. The school will determine which players to suit up and play.**



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18.19.3 PARTICIPATION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

Combining contests in both the middle level and high school level, an eighth grader may participate in up to the maximum number of high school contests. Also refer to the specific sport sections in this WIAA handbook to verify daily, weekly or season limitations.



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18.19.4 ELIGIBILITY

- **Even if an eighth grader participates on a high school team, provided all conditions of eligibility are met, he/she will have four years of high school eligibility after entering the ninth grade.**



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QUESTIONS?

CONTACT

Cindy Adsit

425-282-5232

cadsit@wiaa.com