

All changes approved by the Steering Committee on a majority vote 3/23/25

1. Creation of the Select Competition Division

Synopsis

When TAIIO was founded, its member teams primarily competed at levels equivalent to 1A to 3A schools, with all football programs facing 1A opponents and none capable of consistently challenging 4A to 6A talent across all sports. At that time, few TAIIO athletes participated in select or club sports during the offseason, and the league did not include single-sport-focused teams.

Over the years, TAIIO has seen significant growth, with new organizations joining that actively schedule games against higher-level UIL and TAPPS Divisions 4 through 6 teams for a substantial portion of their seasons. Additionally, the rise in select and club sports participation has resulted in some teams being composed of more than 50% year-round athletes in a single sport, creating a competitive disparity within the league.

These developments have given such teams a distinct advantage and highlighted the need for them to compete against similarly structured programs. Recognizing these shifts, the TAIIO Steering Committee has amended the General Rules to create the "Select Competition Division," ensuring fair and balanced competition that aligns with the organization's mission to promote equitable and meaningful athletic opportunities for all member organizations.

Below is the proposed amendment to the *2024 TAIIO General Rules (Last Revised March 10, 2024)* document that introduces a new division classification under Subchapter J based on the specified criteria. Additionally, suggestions for changes to other sections of the document are provided to ensure consistency and proper implementation of the new rule. Only the amended or newly proposed language is included here,

Summary

1. **Subchapter J Amendment:** The new Section 252.D introduces the "Select Competition Division" to address competitive imbalances caused by teams scheduling stronger opponents (UIL/TAPPS Divisions 4–6) or having a high percentage of club/select athletes. This ensures fair play, aligning with TAIIO's purpose (Section 200.A).
2. **Other Changes:**
 - Updates to Section 236.B ensure eligibility rules apply consistently to this new division.
 - Section 251.A and Section 254.A.4.c integrate the new division into existing classification and roster processes.
 - Section 273.A and Section 274.A/B ensure postseason play and honors reflect the new division's separate structure.
3. **Implementation:** Sport-specific plans (e.g., Subchapter T for Golf) would need to reference Section 252.D for division assignments and postseason details. No golf-specific subchapter exists yet in the provided document, so this amendment assumes future updates will align accordingly.

All new language in red

SUBCHAPTER J - Classifications

SECTION 252 - DIVISION ALIGNMENT

A. Division Classifications.

Division classifications and assignments for each sport will be based on the participating Member Organization's official Roster count, select or club player participation, and the criteria outlined in Section 252.D below as established by each sport plan in the TAIIO General Rules.

D. Select Competition Division.

1. A "Select Competition Division" shall be created for teams meeting either of the following criteria:
 - a. The team's season schedule contains 20% or more opposing teams that are

classified in University Interscholastic League (UIL) Divisions 4 through 6 or Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) Divisions 4 through 6; or
b. The composition of the team includes more than 50% athletes who actively participate on club or select teams during the current Year of Participation, as defined in Section 201.U.

2. Member Organizations meeting these criteria shall be assigned to the Select Competition Division unless they submit a written request to the supervising TAIIO Committee to remain in their originally assigned division, accompanied by evidence demonstrating that such assignment would not provide an unfair competitive advantage. The Committee's decision may be appealed to the TAIIO Commissioner under Section 253.C, but not to the Steering Committee.
 3. The Select Competition Division shall compete separately from other divisions in regional and state contests, with its own postseason structure as determined by the supervising TAIIO Committee.
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Suggested Changes to Other Sections

SUBCHAPTER G - Eligibility

SECTION 236 - ELIGIBILITY

B. Definitions.

4. Select Competition Division Eligibility. A student participating on a team assigned to the Select Competition Division under Section 252.D must meet all other eligibility requirements in this Subchapter G. Participation in club or select teams outside of TAIIO does not inherently affect individual eligibility unless it violates the "One Team" rule in Section 236.B.1.

SUBCHAPTER J - Classifications

SECTION 251 - DIVISIONS AND REGIONS

A.

1. Establish division classifications for each sports-related activity, event, or contest, including the Select Competition Division as outlined in Section 252.D. There will be no division assignments for Academic and Fine Arts.

SECTION 254 - TEAM COMPOSITION

A. Roster Numbers.

3. High School Roster Expectations.

c. Rosters for teams assigned to the Select Competition Division must include documentation of club or select team participation for each athlete, to be submitted with the official roster to the TIAO State Office by the deadline specified in the applicable sport plan. Failure to provide this documentation may result in sanctions as determined by the supervising TIAO Committee.

SUBCHAPTER K - General Plan

SECTION 273 - POST SEASON PLAY

A.

Rules related to qualification and participation in postseason playoffs shall be as provided in each sport-specific plan. Teams in the Select Competition Division shall qualify for and participate in a separate postseason structure, as established by the supervising TIAO Committee under Section 252.D.3.

SECTION 274 - POST SEASON HONORS AND ALL STAR GAMES

A. Post Season Honors.

1. TIAO shall recognize All Region and All State individual honors for each TIAO-sponsored sport, including separate honors for the Select Competition Division as determined by the supervising TIAO Committee.

B. All-Star Games.

3. Player Selection.

a. One game shall be played for each Division, including the Select Competition Division, where the matchup is between two super regions as determined by the TIAO Committee supervising the sport, in either a North/South or an East/West configuration.

2. Closing TAI AO Eligibility Loophole

Synopsis

This revision to **Section 236.H** addresses the loophole exploited by a homeschool family partially enrolling their athlete in a private school to claim a grade-based exemption rather than adhering to the age-based eligibility rules (e.g., the restriction against 19-year-olds participating).

By specifying that only students *fully enrolled* in a charter, private, or parochial school Member Organization can qualify for age exceptions, and explicitly barring homeschool students from using partial enrollment (e.g., taking only Physical Education) to gain this exemption, the rule ensures consistency and fairness.

The language reinforces TAI AO's intent to maintain strict age eligibility for homeschool athletes while allowing flexibility only for fully enrolled students in recognized academic institutions, aligning with the league's purpose of equitable competition (Section 200.A).

Below is the revised language for **Section 236 H** of the *TAI AO General Rules (Last Revised March 10, 2024)*, showing only the amendments to the current language. New language is italicized as requested, and only the changed or added portions are included.

All new language in red

SUB CHAPTER G - Eligibility

SECTION 236 - ELIGIBILITY

H. Approved Age Exceptions.

It is understood that sometimes for academic reasons, a student will be "held back" a year or their initial start in primary education was delayed due to parents' choice and a child may not meet the age requirements for eligibility listed above. The following are approved Exceptions to the age limitations listed above*, **provided that only students fully enrolled in a**

charter, private, or parochial school Member Organization may qualify for these exceptions. Full enrollment means the student is registered as a full-time student under the academic policies of the Member Organization and is not partially enrolled for the sole purpose of obtaining an eligibility exemption. Homeschool students may not partially enroll in a charter, private, or parochial school to avail themselves of these exceptions*:

1. A student "held back" a year by an academic institution will participate at the grade level according to the grade assigned by said institution i.e. *a charter private, or parochial school Member Organization, provided the student is fully enrolled in that institution.*
 2. A homeschool student that at one time attended a K-6 academic institution i.e. private, charter, or public school, and it was deemed by that institution for the child to be classified at a grade level lower than the typical ages of grades or in essence "held back", then at some point the family elected to homeschool and progressed the student forward at any point (kindergarten thru the current grade) from the classification established by the accredited academic institution. Documentation will be required to establish this exception. *This exception applies only if the student is currently fully enrolled in a charter, private, or parochial school Member Organization.*
 3. Exceptions to the standard age academic requirements i.e. ages 11-12 (7th grade), 12-13 (8th grade), 13-14 (9th grade), etc. will only be approved for 1 year of eligibility. *for students fully enrolled in a charter, private, or parochial school Member Organization.* A student can only be "held back" for 1 year. Never will a 2 or more year exception be approved by the league under any circumstances. *Homeschool students, including those partially enrolled in a charter, private, or parochial school (e.g., for a single course such as Physical Education), are not eligible for this exception and must adhere strictly to the age eligibility guidelines in Section 236.A, including the restriction that a player cannot turn 19 years of age before May 31st of the calendar year of participation.*
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3. Expand “Play Up” Rules

Synopsis

Below is the proposed amendment to **Section 236** of the *2024 TIAO General Rules (Last Revised March 10, 2024)* to expand the "Play Up" rules, allowing teams to use 8th-grade middle school players to field a varsity team during the season due to injuries, with the intent of preventing forfeits. The amendment specifies maximum numbers of players per sport, conditions for their return to middle school, and restrictions on dual participation. Suggestions for changes to other sections are also provided to ensure consistency across the document. Only the amended or newly proposed language is included, as requested.

All new language in red

1. **Section 236.F Amendment:** The new subsection 4 expands the "Play Up" provision to allow 8th graders (age 13) to temporarily join varsity teams due to injuries, with sport-specific maximums to prevent overuse (e.g., 2 for football, 1 for basketball). The return condition and weekly participation restriction align with the intent to prevent forfeits while maintaining competitive fairness and player development.
 2. **Other Changes:**
 - **Section 246.B:** Adds oversight for misuse of the new rule to ensure compliance.
 - **Section 254.A.4.c:** Updates roster requirements to track temporary players, ensuring transparency.
 - **Section 266.A and 267.B:** Integrates the rule into season administration and reporting to enforce the no-dual-participation restriction and document usage.
 3. **Sport-Specific Plans:** Future updates to subchapters (e.g., L for Football, M for Basketball) should reference Section 236.F.4 for consistency in application during the season.
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SUB CHAPTER G - Eligibility

SECTION 236 - ELIGIBILITY

Amend section F. to add the following new subsection 4. and then renumber the other subsections accordingly:

4. *Expanded Play Up Due to Injury:* To prevent forfeits during the regular season, a Member Organization may temporarily play up an 8th-grade middle school student (age 13 as of September 1st in the year of participation) to the varsity level when injuries reduce the varsity roster below the minimum number of players required to field a team, as defined in subsection 3 above. The maximum number of middle school players permitted to play up per sport during the season is:

- a. Football: 2 players
- b. Basketball: 1 player
- c. Volleyball: 1 player
- d. Soccer: 1 player
- e. Baseball: 2 players
- f. Softball: 2 players

These players must return to their middle school team as soon as an injured varsity player is eligible to return, restoring the varsity roster to at least the minimum number required. A middle school player playing up under this rule may not participate in both a middle school game and a varsity game within the same calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The Member Organization must notify the supervising TIAO Committee of the player(s) being played up and provide documentation of the injury status of varsity players within 48 hours of the first game in which the middle school player participates.

Changes to Other Sections

SUBCHAPTER I - Discipline, Protests & Appeals

SECTION 246 - VIOLATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

B. Violations.

2. *Reporting from another Member Organization:* In the event that a Member Organization fails to abide by the TIAO General Rules, policies, procedures, or guidelines, including misuse of the Expanded Play Up rule under Section 236.F.4 (e.g., exceeding the maximum number of players, failing to return players to middle school when varsity players recover, or allowing dual participation in a single week); another Member Organization may report the

incident to the Chairman of the appropriate TIAO Committee or to the TIAO Commissioner.

SUBCHAPTER J - Classifications

SECTION 254 - TEAM COMPOSITION

A. Roster Numbers.

4. High School Roster Expectations.

c. Rosters must reflect any middle school players temporarily played up under Section 236.F.4 due to injury, including their grade level and the duration of their varsity participation. Such players must be clearly designated as temporary additions and removed from the varsity roster once the injured varsity player(s) return, with updates submitted to the TIAO Administration within 48 hours of the change.

SUBCHAPTER K - General Plan

SECTION 266 - PRE-SEASON, REGULAR SEASON AND POST SEASON ACTIVITIES

A.

Rules related to practice and game schedules and activities during pre-season, regular season, and post season sport activities shall be as provided in each sport-specific plan, including compliance with the Expanded Play Up rule under Section 236.F.4. Member Organizations must ensure that middle school players played up due to injury do not participate in middle school games in the same week as varsity games, as verified by game schedules and post-game reporting.

SECTION 267 - GAME ADMINISTRATION

B. Post-Game Reporting.

Unless otherwise provided in the sport-specific plan, posting of each game team and individual statistics shall be required no later than 48 hours following the end of the contest, including notation of any middle school players played up under Section 236.F.4, their participation status, and confirmation of compliance with the no-dual-participation rule within the same week.

4. Maxprep Requirement

Synopsis

TAIAO would like to allow any varsity team that meets our guidelines to participate in our postseason events. However, we need a mechanism from which to ensure that our rules are being followed. Requiring organizations to maintain team information (rosters and schedules) in Maxpreps will give TAIAO the opportunity to review the needed information to ensure compliance with TAIAO rules.

Rationale

1. **Section 236.K:** Updated to reference MaxPreps requirements and clarify that it does not replace TAIAO roster submission, while allowing for roster movement between JV and varsity with restrictions.
2. **Section 254.A:** Added a new subsection 5 to detail the MaxPreps mandate, including deadlines, consequences, and JV/varsity roster rules. Subsection 4 is adjusted to include MaxPreps as a submission platform alongside TAIAO.
3. **Section 266.A and 273.A:** Ensure the MaxPreps requirement is integrated into season and postseason administration, linking eligibility to compliance.
4. **Sport-Specific Plans:** Subchapters L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, and U (for team sports) should reference Section 254.A.5 in their postseason eligibility rules, though no specific amendments are proposed here since those sections are currently placeholders.

All new language in red

SUB CHAPTER G - Eligibility

SECTION 236 - ELIGIBILITY

K. Required Forms.

5. Official Roster and Eligibility Form.

a. All students, regardless of classification, shall be included on the appropriate team roster and submitted to TAI AO. *It may also be required to be input into MaxPreps.com for certain sports as outlined in Section 254.A.5. Rosters in Maxpreps may be adjusted until the final roster date as set by the appropriate sports committee. As of the final roster date, the roster submitted to TAI AO and in MaxPreps shall become the FINAL and official roster for the team for the remainder of the season, except as provided in Section 254.A.5.d regarding movement between JV and varsity rosters.*

b. The Roster shall include the following information:

6. *Dates of Birth of each player on the roster (this information is not listed in MaxPreps, and must be submitted to TAI AO via the website).*

d. *No additions will be allowed to the final roster after the final roster date, except as provided in Section 254.A.5.d for movement between JV and varsity rosters.*

SUBCHAPTER J - Classifications

SECTION 254 - TEAM COMPOSITION

A. Roster Numbers.

4. High School Roster Expectations.

TAI AO will post the dates by which rosters are to be submitted to TAI AO and the specific guidelines as to where they are to be posted (e.g., TAI AO website and MaxPreps). The figures submitted to TAI AO shall be used to verify and determine the appropriate sport

Division classification for the upcoming postseason play. The TAIIO Sports Plan will determine roster numbers for each sport.

5. MaxPreps Roster and Schedule Requirements.

a. For all sports competing in team postseason events (e.g., football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, cross country, track & field, etc.), Member Organizations must enter their varsity team rosters and schedules into MaxPreps before the end of the second week of the season, as defined by the sport-specific plan. Organizations are required to update these schedules and rosters in MaxPreps throughout the season to reflect current team status.

b. Rosters reported in MaxPreps will not satisfy the TAIIO roster submission requirement under Section 236.K.5 and will not be accepted as a substitute for submitting rosters through the TAIIO website by the roster deadline set by TAIIO.

c. Teams failing to comply with the MaxPreps roster and schedule requirements may be precluded from participating in postseason play and/or placed in the highest division for that sport, as determined by the supervising TAIIO Committee.

d. If a Member Organization has any varsity team (including a JV team) competing in a TAIIO tournament, that team must maintain a separate roster and schedule in MaxPreps. An athlete shall not be listed on more than one roster in a season at a given time. A player moved from a JV roster to a varsity roster must remain on the varsity roster for the remainder of the season, and approval from the TAIIO Commissioner is required for the player to move back to the JV roster.

SUBCHAPTER K - General Plan

SECTION 266 - PRE-SEASON, REGULAR SEASON AND POST SEASON ACTIVITIES

A.

Rules related to practice and game schedules and activities during pre-season, regular season, and postseason sport activities shall be as provided in each sport-specific plan,

including compliance with the MaxPreps roster and schedule requirements under Section 254.A.5.

SECTION 273 - POST SEASON PLAY

A.

Rules related to qualification and participation in postseason playoffs shall be as provided in each sport-specific plan. Teams must comply with the MaxPreps roster and schedule requirements under Section 254.A.5 to be eligible for postseason play, with noncompliance potentially resulting in exclusion from postseason events or assignment to the highest division, as determined by the TIAO Commissioner.

5. Change Postseason forfeit penalties

Synopsis

Below is the proposed amendment to the *2024 TAIIO General Rules (Last Revised March 10, 2024)* to address the issue of forfeits in all sports impacting postseason play. The amendment introduces a rule automatically precluding teams from postseason play in the following season if they forfeit postseason games, with an appeal option to the Steering Committee (SC), and removes language related to monetary fines as a penalty.

Rationale

1. **Section 246.D:** Removes monetary fines (*Monetary fines;*) as a disciplinary option and adjusts the disciplinary action scope to clarify that individuals are covered under Section 247, aligning with the new focus on postseason disqualification for subsequent seasons.
2. **Section 247.A:** Adds a reference to the new automatic forfeit penalty to ensure it's recognized as a TAIIO imposed sanction.
3. **Section 247.C.5.c:** Introduces the automatic postseason disqualification for the next season following a forfeit, with an appeal mechanism to the Steering Committee, addressing the issues from the past season (e.g., uneven tournament games and undeserved byes).
4. **Section 273.A:** Links future postseason eligibility to the new forfeit rule, reinforcing its enforcement.
5. **Appeal Process:** Utilizes the existing Section 226 appeal framework, avoiding the need for new procedural language.

All new language in red

SUBCHAPTER I - Discipline, Protests & Appeals

SECTION 246 - VIOLATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

D. Discipline.

1. Violations of TAIIO General Rules, policies, procedures and guidelines are subject to Association administered disciplinary action, including, but not limited to;
 - a. Game, contest or event forfeiture;
 - b. *Monetary fines;*
 - b. Disqualification of post-season play; *and/or*
 - c. Probation and expulsion.

~~2. Disciplinary action may be assigned to individuals (e.g. staff, student athletes, or any individual associated with and/or representing a TAIIO Member Organization) as well as Member Organizations as appropriate.~~

2. Disciplinary action may be assigned to Member Organizations as appropriate. Individuals (e.g., staff, student athletes, or any individual associated with and/or representing a TAIIO Member Organization) are subject to penalties outlined in Section 247.

SECTION 247 - PENALTIES

A.

*Penalties a TAIIO Committee Can Impose. Subject to provisions below, the following constitute the penalties that may be imposed by a TAIIO Committee following a determination of a violation of the TAIIO Constitution, General Rules, and policies and procedures, **including automatic penalties for forfeits as outlined in Section 247.C.5.c.***

C. For Member Organizations.

The penalties that may be imposed by the TAIIO Committee on a Member Organization for violations by its student representative, fans, patrons or personnel, of ethics, sportsmanship codes, eligibility rules, contest plans or reporting practices are: private reprimand, public reprimand, probation, forfeiture of contest, disqualifications from germane activity, and suspension recommended.

5. Disqualification:

c. Automatic Disqualification for Forfeits: A Member Organization that forfeits any postseason game in a team sport (e.g., football, volleyball, basketball, soccer) shall be automatically precluded from postseason play in that sport for the following season. The Member Organization may appeal this penalty to the TAI AO Steering Committee within 10 days of notification of the forfeit, following the appeal procedure in Section 226. The Steering Committee may uphold, modify, or reverse the disqualification based on exceptional circumstances (e.g., unavoidable external factors beyond the organization's control). Failure to appeal within 10 days renders the disqualification final.

SUBCHAPTER K - General Plan

SECTION 273 - POST SEASON PLAY

A.

Rules related to qualification and participation in postseason playoffs shall be as provided in each sport-specific plan. Teams that forfeit any postseason game in a team sport shall be subject to automatic disqualification from postseason play in the following season as outlined in Section 247.C.5.c, unless overturned on appeal to the Steering Committee.

6. Coaches exemptions when transferring to new team

Below is the revised proposed amendment to the *2024 TIAAO General Rules (Last Revised March 10, 2024)*, incorporating the additional exception that any athlete can transfer to the new team if the previous organization releases the athlete via a full transfer under TIAAO rules. This builds on the prior amendment limiting coach exemptions to two athletes related to coaches forming a new organization.

Rationale

1. **Section 240.H:** The amendment retains the two-coach exemption limit for related athletes (Subsection H.1.d.iii) and adds a new exception (Subsection H.1.d.iv) allowing any athlete to transfer with immediate eligibility if released via a full transfer. This ties into the existing full transfer process in Section 240.C, ensuring oversight and agreement between organizations.
2. **Integration with Existing Rules:** The full transfer exception leverages Section 240.C's procedures (e.g., transfer forms, approval by both organizations, and Commissioner review), avoiding the need for additional sections to be amended. Appeals remain available via Section 226 if disputes arise.
3. **Intent:** Balances the restriction on coach-related transfers with flexibility for athletes released by their original organization, maintaining fairness while supporting player mobility when mutually agreed upon.

All new language in red

SUB CHAPTER H - Transfer Rule & Transfer Students

SECTION 240 - TRANSFERS

H. Coach Transfers.

1. When a coach transfers to a new Member Organization *formed from athletes in a current TAIIO Member Organization*, a student who transfers to that Member Organization shall not be eligible for Varsity competition in a sport for a period of one year if any of the following are true:
 - a. The coach in that contest, event or activity coached or trained the student at the previous Member Organization.
 - b. The coach in that contest, event or activity coached or trained the student on an AAU, Select, Club or similar team during the previous 12 months.
 - c. The coach in that contest, event or activity at the new Member Organization was directly associated with the AAU, Select, Club or similar team on which the student participated as owner, manager, supervisor or similar position during the twelve months.
 - d. Exceptions:
 - i. Adopted or birth children are eligible if their parent or legal guardian is the coach who changes Member Organizations, *subject to the limitation in Subsection H.1.e below.*
 - ii. If the previous Member Organization of the student and coach has closed.
 - iii. *For new Member Organizations formed from athletes in a current TAIIO Member Organization, only two coach-related athlete exemptions are permitted per organization. These exemptions apply to athletes who are adopted or birth children of coaches assisting in forming the new organization, as per Subsection H.1.d.i. Any additional related athletes transferring with the coach beyond the two exemptions shall be ineligible for Varsity competition for one year from the date of transfer, unless Subsection H.1.d.ii or H.1.d.iv applies. The new Member Organization must submit documentation verifying the relationship and exemption eligibility to the TAIIO Commissioner with the transfer form under Subsection C.*
 - iv. *Any athlete may transfer to the new Member Organization and be immediately eligible for Varsity competition if the previous Member Organization releases the*

athlete through a full transfer, as governed by TAIIO transfer rules under Subsection C, regardless of the coach relationship or exemption limits in Subsection H.1.d.iii. The full transfer must be approved by both the previous and new Member Organizations and the TAIIO Commissioner, as outlined in Subsection C.

7. TAIIO Reimbursements

Below is the proposed amendment to the *2024 TAIIO General Rules (Last Revised March 10, 2024)* to establish basic reimbursements for TAIIO contractors and grant the Commissioner authority to increase these maximums with approval from two Steering Committee members.

Rationale

1. **Section 232.E:** Amended to include specific reimbursement rates for TAIIO contractors (lodging, travel, food) and grant the Commissioner flexibility to adjust these maximums with limited Steering Committee approval (two members), streamlining the process while maintaining oversight. The original language about Member Organization reimbursements is refined to distinguish contractor reimbursements and clarify broader payment approvals.
2. **No Other Sections Affected:** This rule fits within the existing financial framework of Section 232, leveraging the Commissioner's role and Steering Committee oversight without requiring changes elsewhere.
3. **Intent:** Establishes clear baseline reimbursements for contractors, ensures adaptability via Commissioner authority, and aligns with TAIIO's financial governance structure.

All new language in red

SUB CHAPTER F - Finances

SECTION 232 - BUDGET AND EXPENSES

E. Authorized Reimbursements.

The Commissioner shall establish an equitable program of reimbursements for TAI AO contractors, Member Organizations assisting with postseason events, and other approved individuals as follows:

1. TAI AO Contractors: Basic reimbursement rates for TAI AO contractors shall be set at:

a. Lodging: Maximum of \$150 per day.

b. Travel: \$0.65 per mile.

c. Food: \$25 per day for single-day assignments; \$35 per day when overnight travel is required.

2. The Commissioner, with the approval of two Steering Committee members, may increase these maximum reimbursement rates as needed to account for exceptional circumstances or regional cost variations. Such increases shall be documented and reported in the annual budget under Subsection B.

3. The Commissioner shall establish an equitable program of reimbursing member organizations that assist with postseason events. The Commissioner shall obtain approval from the Steering Committee for paying any Member Organization or committee member for services that extend beyond reimbursements for postseason events or contractor duties as outlined above.

SUBCHAPTER K - General Plan

SECTION 273 - POST SEASON PLAY

A.

Rules related to qualification and participation in post season playoffs shall be as provided in each sport specific plan. *A varsity team may participate in any postseason tournament (except football) provided that the team does not participate with any players deemed ineligible under TIAO eligibility guidelines as outlined in Section 236, and provided that no ineligible athletes competed against other TIAO schools during the regular season. Any team found to have used an ineligible player in a postseason tournament, or to have used an ineligible player against a TIAO school during the regular season, will be immediately disqualified from postseason play for that sport and subject to further sanctions under Section 247. For football, specific postseason eligibility rules as outlined in the sport-specific plan (Subchapter L) shall apply.*
