

**Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 111.00 – Transfer and Residence: There and back rule during the school year or during the athletic season.**

(proposed language)

**Submitted by: Minnesota State High School League Board of Directors**

**111.1C – Domestic Students**

(iv) A student who transfers from one MSHSL member school to another MSHSL member school is ineligible for varsity competition for fifteen (15) calendar days from the first day the student attends practice in the fall or attends classes in the new school for the first time.

Upon transfer, the student will be ineligible at the former school and may practice at the new school but may not compete in any varsity activity at the new school.

The student will retain full eligibility at the former school if the student chooses to return to the former school during the fifteen (15) calendar day period.

If the student remains at the new school, following the fifteen (15) calendar day period, the student will become eligible at the varsity level only when the student has fully met all of the transfer criteria and has been deemed to be eligible both by the new school and the League office.

If any of the transfer criteria has not been met, the student will be ineligible for varsity competition at the new school and must then choose between varsity eligibility at the former school or JV eligibility at the new school.

**Rationale:**

1. The above provision recognizes the situation where a student or the student's family decision to change schools is not necessarily the best decision for the student. This provides an opportunity for the student to become acclimated in the new school or to return to the previous school without a one (1) year varsity competition suspension provided that the student returns to the previous school during the fifteen (15) calendar day time period.
2. This provision prevents a student or the student's family from choosing a school at any time during the athletic season/school year and immediately participating for the new school.
3. The fifteen (15) calendar day period allows ample time for the Activities Director to fully review and affirm the eligibility of the transfer student, thus preventing the use of an ineligible athlete and the consequences of such use.
4. While infrequent, a student whose team has been eliminated from tournament competition or who believes the student would be better able to immediately participate at a different school would have a fifteen (15) calendar day waiting period to allow the new school to fully review the transfer; to gather all of the necessary transfer documents; and to complete all of the necessary transfer forms.
5. This provision avoids the "there and back" transfer ineligibility.