

Boys and Girls Nordic Ski Racing: Hat Exception to Uniform Requirements

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Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

Regular Season and Section Tournament Format Recommendations

Authors of the Proposal

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Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Nordic Ski Racing, Boys, Nordic Ski Racing, Girls

Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

MN 206.1.1 MSHSL Uniform Requirements. All team members and individual skiers shall compete in school issued uniforms. This includes uniforms, headgear, and warmups. Advertisement of ski products, other ski team names (i.e., U.S. Biathlon, foreign national teams, U.S. Ski and Snowboard, Clubs, etc.), or graphic illustrations that are inappropriate to MSHSL principles is strictly prohibited and could prevent a competitor from starting a race.

MN 206.1.2 Uniform/Headgear/Warmup Marking. The only commercial marking on a uniform is a manufacturer's logo/trademark. The total surface area shall not exceed 2.25" squared.

Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

MN 206.1.1 MSHSL Uniform Requirements. All team members and individual skiers shall compete in school issued uniforms. This includes uniforms, headgear, and warmups. Advertisement of ski products, other ski team names (i.e., U.S. Biathlon, foreign national teams, U.S. Ski and Snowboard, Clubs, etc.), or graphic illustrations that are inappropriate to MSHSL principles is strictly prohibited and could prevent a competitor from starting a race.*

MN 206.1.2 Uniform/Headgear/Warmup Marking. The only commercial marking on a uniform is a manufacturer's logo/trademark. The total surface area shall not exceed 2.25" squared.*

*Hats and headgear shall be exempt from MN206.1.1 and MN206.1.2 unless in instances of "graphic illustrations that are inappropriate to MSHSL principles"

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

There may be a similar uniform situation in other sports that is equally problematic that has not been brought to the attention of the league

Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

According to the current rules, athletes could be prevented from starting their race or disqualified

based on having a hat that is not in compliance. The current rule endangers athletes, is arbitrary, and it is particularly difficult for Nordic athletes to find appropriate hats. It endangers athletes because it could force them to remove a hat before a race in order to be in compliance. Skiing without a hat on is very dangerous in most conditions and there should not be a rule that could endanger an athlete in this way. The rule is also arbitrary. What is the difference between a commercial logo that is 2.25 inches squared and 3 inches squared? Why does that even matter? Finally, finding Nordic ski specific hats that are good for racing and follow the MSHSL rules are particularly hard to find. Most hats sold at ski store are not in compliance with the current hat rule.

How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?

No impact, but the current rule stands in opposition to the uniform norms within the retail market and often requires custom designed hats as an unrealistic cost within an already expensive sport. If approved Athletes would not have to worry whether their hat conforms to the rules at sections and state.

What other policies are significant in this proposal?

None

Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups

The support of this proposal within the Minnesota State High School Nordic Ski Coaches Association is near 98%

Impact

How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools

No Affect

Administration

How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?

No impact to the function of tournaments other than eliminating one element of monitoring skiers at the start of a race

Length of Tournament

How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?

No Impact

Participants

How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?

No Impact

How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?

No Impact

Facilities

How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?

No impact

Awards

How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?

No impact

Other

Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal

N/A

Primary Author and Contact for Proposal

Proposal submitted by

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Position

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