



# ATHLETIC CAMP AND CLINIC - Q & A

This document is intended to provide general information regarding your high school coaching assignment and Minnesota State High School League rules and policies. All coaches—head, assistant, full-time, part-time, unpaid or volunteer—who are members of a high school coaching staff must follow these rules and policies.

Contact your athletic/activities director if you have any questions about these rules and policies.

## NON-SCHOOL LEAGUES, CAMPS AND CLINICS:

**Q: What involvement can I have as a member of the high school coaching staff in non-school leagues, camps and or clinics during the school year? During the summer?**

**A:** During the school year prior to and following the high school sport season:

### What Coaches May Do:

- Provide camp and clinic and non-school league information to athletes.
- Conduct pre/post-season meeting(s) with team in order to provide information regarding the high school season and or to provide leadership training programs etc. provided that there is no coaching of the sport, or strategies of the sport, at the meetings.
- Conduct an organizational meeting for summer play provided that the coach has secured a summer waiver from the school's Athletic Director in advance of the meeting.

### What Coaches May Not Do:

- During the school year, prior to and following the sports season, a coach may not influence or direct a student who has been a member of your high school team to:
  - participate in a league,
  - attend a camp or clinic,
  - require the student to work out or participate in open gyms, etc. as a requirement for team membership; or
  - place athletes on a roster, or develop or organize a team roster; draft players for a team; or select, secure, or otherwise influence the placement of athletes on a team for leagues, tournaments, camps, or clinics.
- Issue school uniforms or equipment for student use in non-school leagues, tournaments, camps, or clinics. Schools may lease equipment to students for non-school camps, clinics/leagues.
- Provide training, instruction, private or group lessons, or coaching in their sport to students who have been a member of the high school team, B-squad, JV, or Varsity.
- Provide money from school funds or booster funds to students to attend camps or clinics, or to participate in a league or tournament.
- Organize, supervise, direct, or otherwise participate in the organization of captain's practice.

**A:** During the summer:

### What Coaches May Do:

- Provide camp and non-school team information to athletes if approved for a summer waiver and authorized by your athletic director to do so.
- Provide coaching in non-school leagues, camps or clinics under the provisions of the summer waiver.
- Organize summer leagues, camps, clinics or other instructional opportunities for athletes once approved for the summer waiver.

### What Coaches May Not Do:

- May not influence or direct a student to participate in non-school activities, including open gym, workouts, captain's practice or strength and development training programs as a requirement for team membership.
- Issue school uniforms or equipment.
- Provide money from school funds or booster funds to students to attend camps or clinics or to participate in a league or tournament.

## FUNDING ISSUES:

**Q: Can the booster clubs pay for students to attend a camp or clinic?**

**A:** No, all fees and expenses for non-school participation, camps, clinics, leagues, etc., must be paid by the student or the student's parents.

### Options:

- Booster clubs may sponsor a free camp to all interested students. The camp must be open to all students in the area and may not be limited to just the high school athletes.
- Booster clubs may set aside money for jobs performed by students for which a reasonable hourly wage is paid to the student. This money may be used to attend a camp or clinic. The booster club will be responsible to provide a full accounting to the athletic director listing the students who worked, the job(s) performed, the hours worked and the wages paid.

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

**Q: Can students raise money through fundraisers for camps or clinics?**

**A:** Students may not set up fundraisers for camp or clinic fees.

**Q: Can coaches use booster club money to pay for camps or clinics or establish camp scholarships?**

**A:** No, coaches may not use booster club money to establish camp scholarships or pay camp fees.

**Q: May high school students work at a camp as a coach and receive pay or work off the camp fee?**

**A:** Yes, athletes may work at a camp as a coach, counselor, or official and receive pay. They may work only if:

- the camp sponsor has a job description for their responsibilities,
- identify the dates and times they will be working,
- identify all players who will be instructing, and
- an accounting of the hours worked and the pay are provided to the high school athletic director.

### EQUIPMENT ISSUES:

**Q: May schools issue their uniforms or equipment for use by non-school programs, leagues, camps or clinics?**

**A:** No, schools may not issue their uniforms or personal equipment outside of the high school season. Schools may, however, lease their equipment other than uniforms to non-school camps, clinics/teams.

**Q: What equipment can the school issue out of season to high school athletes without charging a lease or rental fee?**

**A:** Schools may only issue balls and goalie equipment.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES:

**Q: May I run my summer camp through the school?**

**A:** No, you may not run your summer camp through the school in the same manner in which your school administers its high school athletic program, or as an extension of the athletic department.

- Schools are prohibited from sponsoring a sport outside of the prescribed MSHSL season.
- Programs conducted by coaches under the summer waiver are non-school programs.

- You are an independent contractor conducting a non-school camp, clinic, league or instructional program for members of your high school team.
- You may, however, conduct your summer camp through your school's community education programming, or you may lease your school facility at the same rate charged for rental from anyone who wishes to rent that space.
- Reminder, only coaches who have been approved for a summer waiver may have contact with their high school athletes.

**Q: Does MSHSL catastrophic insurance cover summer coaching?**

**A:** No, MSHSL catastrophic insurance does not cover summer coaching, camps, clinics/leagues these programs are not school sponsored programs. Summer programs conducted under the school's community education program may be covered under the school's insurance coverage. Coaches should discuss this issue with the school's administration for clarification.

**Q: Does MSHSL insurance cover summer camps, clinics or leagues?**

**A:** No. MSHSL insurance covers only school-sponsored activities conducted under the sponsorship of the MSHSL and during the prescribed MSHSL season. In as much as schools may not sponsor nonschool programming, you would be responsible for your own insurance.

**Q: I am planning to run a camp for the elementary and junior high school students during the school year just before our high school season begins. May I use some of our high school players as coaches and demonstrators to assist me in this camp? Can they be paid for working?**

**A:** Yes, you may use some of your high school players to work your camp provided that they are not attending your camp as campers/players to receive instruction. They may serve as instructors/demonstrators only if you:

- have a job description for their responsibilities;
- identify the dates and times they will be instructing;
- identify all players who will be instructing; and
- have a statement that you know and understand that you may not provide coaching and training to the high school athletes and that you will follow the rule.