

**Summer Camps and Clinics
Policies,
Questions and Answers**

I, _____, have read the following Summer Camps and Clinics Policies, Questions and Answers form. I understand the OSSAA Policies and will abide by the rules and regulations.

I, _____, have also read the Rules and Regulations section of the OSSAA Handbook. I understand the OSSAA Policies and will abide by the rules and regulations as well.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Summer Sport: _____

Summer Camps and Clinics

Policies,

Questions and Answers

PARTICIPATION IN CAMPS, CLINICS, AND SUMMER PRACTICES, LEAGUES AND TOURNAMENTS

A. To help prevent participating individuals and school teams from gaining unfair competitive advantages, certain restrictions are placed on camps, clinics, summer practices, and summer leagues and tournaments in athletic activities.

Summer time is defined as after the conclusion of the spring semester through the first full week of August, with the exception of football and basketball as outlined in Section B-3, below.

No restrictions on summer team practices are placed on the following athletic activities: fall and spring baseball, fast-pitch softball, slow-pitch softball, cross-country, golf, tennis, swimming, volleyball, track and soccer.

No summer team practices are permitted in football or basketball. Individual wrestlers may practice unattached to any school team during the summer when school is not in session.

B. In football and basketball, school personnel who are serving or are designated to serve as coaches or assistant coaches:

1. may not conduct practice for a school team, in a direct or indirect manner, during this summer period as defined above;
2. may coach a team that includes individuals that are members of a school team during this summer period, in a camp, clinic, summer league, or summer tournament.
3. may not coach a school team in a league or tournament **before the conclusion of the school year or after July 14.**

An exception to the above limitations may be granted by OSSAA, but approval for such an exception must be requested and granted in writing, in advance.

C. School personnel who are serving or are designated to serve as coaches or assistant coaches are permitted to conduct or provide instruction at individual camps or clinics in a particular sport, including camps or clinics in which members of the school team in the sport are participating, provided that:

1. no session of the camp or clinic is held before the school year has concluded or after the first week in August (except in football, any camp or clinic using OSSAA member school facilities must be concluded before July 15).

D. An individual student who is attending or who is enrolled and planning to attend a member school in grades 7-12:

1. may participate on a non-school team in a league or tournament, including during this summer period as defined above, (such as in AAU competition), however:

(a) school personnel service as or designated to serve as a coach or assistant coach may coach that team, with the exception that in basketball, a school coach is permitted to coach a team that includes no more than two students who participate or are expected to participate on the same school team;

2. may participate in individual camps and clinics in a particular activity, however:

(a) during the school year, a student may only participate if approved or permitted by the school, and the camp or clinic is not held at an OSSAA member school.

(b) after the school year has been completed, a student may only participate through the first week in August (except in football, any camp or clinic using OSSAA member school facilities must be concluded before July 15);

(c) no fees or expenses for the camp or clinic may be paid by the school, or by school personnel, or by any booster club or organization associated with the school, or by any non-family member; any discount or waiver of fees or expenses must be based on financial need, and must be available to all participants based on the same standards;

3. may participate in no more than two team camps and clinics in a particular activity provided that:

(a) the camp or clinic is held after the school year has been completed and before the end of the first week in August (except in football, any camp or clinic using OSSAA member school facilities, schools must be concluded before July 15), and

(b) the camp or clinic takes place during no more than seven days, over no more than two consecutive weeks.

A student may not accept any award other than a trophy, plaque, or medal, etc., for participation or achievement on a non-school team or in any type of camp or clinic. A student may accept items commemorating participation in a league, tournament, camp or clinic which are given to all participants, such as a T-shirt or a certificate, provided that the costs of such items are included in the fees and expenses charged for those events.

E. A student who participates in a camp or clinic in violation of any of these policies shall be ineligible unless and until reinstated by the Board of Directors. A coach who violates any of these policies shall not be permitted to engage in any coaching unless and until reinstated by the Board of Directors.

F. Definitions applied under this policy:

1. An individual camp or clinic is an instructional event for a particular activity, at which instruction is focused on individual skills and techniques rather than organized team play.
2. A team camp or clinic is an instructional event for a particular sport involving a substantial number of school team members from at least three schools participating as a team during instruction, scrimmages, and/or games. All school team members must be enrolled at the school for which they participate during the team camp. In basketball, if five or more school team members, and in football, if seven or more school team members, are participating as a team in a camp or clinic, then that camp or clinic is considered a team camp or clinic and counted toward the total limit of two team camps allowed for that school's team under section D-3 above.
3. A league consists of three or more teams playing games against one another and maintaining standings according to wins and losses, and played over the course of a minimum of three consecutive weeks.
4. A tournament is an event involving six or more participating teams, competing.

G. Restrictions on Schools and Booster Organizations

1. A member school may conduct a camp or clinic for a particular activity, or permit a camp or clinic to be conducted on school property and /or in school facilities, after the end of the school year, provided that:

(a) the camp or clinic is open to students from all member schools in the grade level or grade levels designated for that camp or clinic;

(b) the camp or clinic is concluded prior to the end of the first week in August (except in football, any camp or clinic using OSSAA member school facilities must be concluded prior to July 15).

2. Fees for camps or clinics conducted by the school or allowed to take place on school property and/or in school facilities may be discounted for children of school employees, provided that the same discounts are available to children of all school employees on an equal basis. In addition, a volume discount may be given, based on the number of children from the same household seeking to attend, provided that the volume discount is available for all families on the same basis.

Fees also may be discounted for students who are financially unable to pay the fees and expenses of the camp or clinic. The student must be able to demonstrate by objective means that financial assistance is needed, and all students must be evaluated for the granted assistance based on the same standards.

Johnson-O'Malley funds available to the school may be used to pay or offset expenses associated with camps or clinics conducted on school property and/or in school facilities.

3. A member school is not required to obtain OSSAA approval in advance to hold a camp or clinic, or to allow others to conduct a camp or clinic, on school grounds and/or in school facilities. If, however, approval is not given in advance, then the event is not sanctioned by OSSAA, and participants in the camp or clinic will not be covered by any catastrophic injury insurance obtained by OSSAA.

4. A member school may not conduct a camp or clinic, or allow a camp or clinic to be conducted on school property and/or in school facilities, which is limited, or which provides preferential treatment to, certain student-athletes or to students from certain schools, or which restricts participation on an "invitation-only" basis.

5. The school, or a booster club or organization associated with the school, may pay fees and expenses of the school team to attend a team camp or clinic, provided that all member of the school team have been invited to attend, and fees and expenses are paid for team members on an equal basis. Any monies coming from a booster club or organization for this purpose must be contributed to the school, and distributed from a school account to pay these fees and expenses.

Neither the school, nor any booster club or organization associated with the school, may pay fees and/or expenses for students to attend an individual camp or clinic.

6. A member school conducting a camp or clinic, or allowing a camp or clinic to be conducted on school property and/or in school facilities, must provide OSSAA, upon request, a list identifying students and personnel participating in the camp or clinic.

7. The school and/or school personnel may be penalized for any violations of these policies. If a booster club or organization associated with a school violates any of these policies, then the school may be required to end or restrict the involvement of that club or organization in school activities.

CAMP QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Can a Booster Club pay for the school's team to attend a team camp?

Answer: Yes, but any monies from a Booster Club must be contributed to and distributed from a school account, and all members of the school team must be provided the opportunity to attend the camp.

2. Can a booster club pay for students to attend individual camp?

Answer: No.

3. Can discounts be given to school employees, including coaches, for their children to attend individual or team camps?

Answer: Yes, as long as the discount is available to all school employees.

4. Can a member school that is sponsoring or providing facilities for an individual or team camp allow fees to be discounted for students who are financially unable to afford the fees?

Answer: Any such discount must be based on an objective measure of financial means applied equally for all participants. For example, a discount could be offered to all children who demonstrate they qualify for free or reduced lunches where they regularly attend school.

5. Can a member school sponsoring or providing facilities for an individual or team camp allow an additional discount to a family with multiple children participating in the camp?

Answer: Yes, as long as the discount is equally available to all families.

6. Does a member school sponsoring or providing facilities for an individual or team camp have to obtain OSSAA's sanction for the camp?

Answer: No. Regardless of whether a camp is sanctioned by OSSAA or not, all member schools and their students in grade 7-12 participating in the camp must still comply with the OSSAA rules and policies concerning such camps.

In addition, students in grade 7-12 attending a camp sanctioned by OSSAA receive insurance coverage through OSSAA for catastrophic injury while participating at the camp. This coverage does not apply if the camp is not sanctioned by OSSAA.

7. Can a student who has not yet enrolled at our school attend a team camp with our school team?

Answer: No. A student must have at least pre-enrolled to attend your school in the next semester before that student is permitted to attend a team camp with your school's team.

8. Can a non-family member pay for or help pay a student's fees for an individual or team camp?

Answer: No.

9. Can a family member outside a student's immediate family (i.e., a grandparent or aunt) pay or help pay a student's fees for an individual or team camp?

Answer: Yes.

10. Can a coach provide services at a camp in exchange for a waiver on fees for the coach's children to participate in the camp?

Answer: No.

11. If a member school is allowing its facilities to be used by others who have no connection or affiliation with the school, does the camp still have to comply with all OSSAA rules and policies concerning camps?

Answer: Yes, if a camp is being conducted at your school's facilities, entirely or in part, then the school is responsible for making sure that the camp is conducted in compliance with OSSAA rules and policies concerning camps.

12. If a member school does not offer team athletics at the 7th grade level, do 7th graders from that school still need to comply with OSSAA rules and policies concerning camps?

Answer: Yes. For example, a 7th grade student from that school would not be permitted to participate in a summer football camp after July 15.