

# GMSAA DISTRICT RULES

- 1.21** To be eligible to participate for a sport, a student must participate within the school service area (high school district) in which the student resides (with the exception in by-law 1.67)
- (a) The student may only play athletics for the program representing the school service area (high school district) in which the student resides with the parent(s), custodial parent(s), legal guardian or court appointed foster parent(s)
  - (b) A student may be enrolled in only one (1) middle school at a time.
  - (c) A student shall not become certified for a GMSAA team while participate for another GMSAA sanctioned team or for a team outside of the GMSAA during the concurrent year. (with the exception in by-law 1.60)

## **1.30 – AGE**

- 1.31** To be eligible to participate in interscholastic activities, a student must not have reached the following age:
- (a) The student must not have reached his **fifteenth (15th) birthday prior to May 1**, preceding his year of participation on the **eighth-grade team**.
  - (b) The student must not have reached his **fourteenth (14th) birthday prior to August 1**; preceding his year of participation on the **seventh-grade team**.
  - (c) The student must not have reached his **thirteenth (13th) birthday prior to August 1**, preceding his year of participation on the **sixth-grade team**.

## **GMSAA DOES NOT RECOGNIZE SCHOOL CHOICE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETES**

- 1.67** A **mandate transfer** is defined as an authorization from the local board of education for the student and/or parents to attend school without regard to the location of residency. The following authorization shall establish eligibility:
- (a) The teacher/employee privilege shall authorize the student to enroll in a school outside of their school service area. The student may participate in that member school's program provided the member school is a feeder school for the high school district.
    - 1. County Board of Education Regulations: All requirements of the member school's County Board of Education Regulations must be met to qualify for the mandate transfer.
    - 2. Varsity Coaches' Children: Students whose parent is a varsity coach will be allowed to play for the respective member school at which the parent is a varsity coach
  - (b) The sibling policy shall allow the out of school service area student eligibility if the student has an older sibling currently attending the associate high school. The sibling policy does not apply to "No Child Left Behind" students. Requirements are:
    - 1. Older sibling is legally approved GHSA student that is eligible for athletics under GHSA rules.
    - 2. To qualify, the younger sibling must be in a grade such that would attend high school simultaneously with the older sibling.
    - 3. Once the sibling policy has been enacted the applicant or player is ineligible to transfer within that season without meeting the "bona fide" move eligibility requirements.

**GMSAA DOES NOT RECOGNIZE MIDDLE SCHOOL DISTRICT LINES, ONLY  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT LINES.**

**IF YOUR RESIDENTS ADDRESS IS OUT OF EPHS (EVEN IF THEY ATTEND  
EPMS) THEY WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY FOR EAST PAULDING.**

