

## **BYLAW**

### **105.00 0**

#### **GRADE LEVEL ELIGIBILITY**

Cross Reference: Bylaw 302 (Cities of the First Class), Bylaw 109 (Seasons of Participation) and Bylaw 303.4 (Junior High School Bylaws)

Participation in League-sponsored programs is limited to students in grades 7 through 12. Students in grade 7, 8, and 9 may participate only if they are enrolled in a continuation school for that high school. Elementary students in grades K-6 are not eligible to participate in any League activities.

#### Definitions:

1. A Continuation School is one that is under the same administrative head and governing board.
2. A student in grades 7, 8, or 9, who attends a school under a separate administrative head and governing board; which does not have a continuation high school and where no other opportunity for participation on a high school team exists; is eligible to participate for a high school team provided the high school and the non-continuation school have established a joint agreement for participation in each League activity. The participation agreement for each activity or athletic program can be formed with:
  - A. The public school in the public high school attendance area as determined by the district school board where the non-continuation school is geographically located. If the public high school in #1 above declines the request for participation agreement the non-continuation school may form a participation agreement with any other public high school; or
  - B. Any non-public high school.
3. All participation agreements shall be established for a minimum of two years. If either or any of the schools involved in the participation agreement wish to dissolve the agreement, they may do so provided a minimum of one year's notice is given to the other school(S) unless the schools involved mutually agree to discontinue the agreement.
4. A Non-continuation school can form only one participation agreement for each athletic or activity program.

#### **Bylaws Reference**

<http://www.mshsl.org/mshsl/Publications/code/handbook/100%20Bylaws.pdf>

**Continuation School for Sacred Heart and Robbinsdale School District**  
Armstrong / Cooper High School

## Disclaimer

Sacred Heart does not have any authority or influence over decisions made by high school coaches, Athletic Directors, Principals or the Minnesota State High School League.

## Continuation School Policy

### Intent:

It is the intent of this policy to provide guidance and transparency regarding the Sacred Heart's requirements and process in which a school continuation agreement for MSHSL high school activities and sports will be entered. It must be noted that this waiver process is only for MSHSL member schools and does not affect private clubs and sports associations.

It is the position of SAC that Sacred Heart activities and sports take first priority over non Sacred Heart sports and activities. This promotes our school community, school spirit and helps enrich Sacred

Heart student experiences. This policy was constructed with our school as the first priority.

We understand each situation can be unique and SAC does not want to in anyway limit our student's opportunities outside the classroom. However, a continuation agreement, in accordance with MSHSL bylaws is a two year binding agreement. As such entering in an accord with a MSHSL member high school is not to be taken lightly as it can affect other students ability to participate in their respective sport or activities. It was under these two premises that this policy was agreed upon by members of SAC.

### Policy:

Sacred Heart School is located within the Robbinsdale School district geographic boundary and thus subject to the continuation schools mentioned above (Armstrong and Cooper).

In the event that a student has the option to participate at the high school level in a sport or activity, Sacred Heart will consider granting a waiver based upon the waiver requirements and process outlined below.

## Waiver Requirements

The following are the requirements for applying for a continuation school activity or sports waiver at Sacred Heart:

- The waiver does not affect any other student for the duration of the continuation agreement
- Without the waiver the student will not have the ability to participate in his/hers sport or activity for the next academic year, or until they attend their chosen high school.
- The waiver does not violate MSHSL rules, guidelines or charter for Sacred Heart and member schools.
- The student athlete must have been **invited** by the school athletic director or coach to tryout or participate in the sport or activity.

## Process for the Waiver

- The decision for the waiver is determined by the School Advisory Council (SAC), the Principal and Athletic Director
- Waiver requests must be submitted by the student or student's parents no later than one month prior to the tryouts or specific sport season. In the case of a fall sport then by May 15<sup>th</sup>, so that SAC, the Principal and Athletic Director can approve by last SAC meeting in June.
- Waivers will NOT be granted in the middle of the season, due to change in student's team status.
- The continuation waiver will be reviewed and voted upon at the-next SAC meeting by members of SAC, the Principal and Athletic Director
- In the event where there are two or more competing waivers in the same year then the geographic boundary will be used and no waivers will be granted.
- SAC, the Principal and the Athletic Director will determine at their discretion whether a waiver will be granted.
- It will also only be accepted by SAC if the non-continuation school agrees to dissolve the contract after the season ends for that sport as the MSHSL bylaw permits.
- The waiver decision will be communicated to the petitioners within one week of the decision by the voting authorities. (SAC and the Principal)