

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This amendment would require UIL member schools to use officials registered with UIL in all varsity team sport contests.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

Requiring officials to register with UIL, while allowing them to be a member of the approved local officials organization/chapter of the officials choice, brings the needed accountability back to the service-oriented avocation of officiating. There is no accountability in the current system.

C. Proposed Amendment

Section 1204 (b), (f) (2) and (o) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective July 1, 2010, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 1204: OFFICIALS

- (b) REGISTRATION ~~TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF SPORTS OFFICIALS~~. Unless mutually decided otherwise, participant schools shall use officials registered with the ~~Texas Association of Sports Officials (hereafter referred to as TASO)~~ or the UIL in all varsity contests. If non-TASO UIL REGISTERED officials are used for varsity contests, a report shall be filed with the League office (within seven days of the contest, if possible). Exceptions:
- (1) In INDIVIDUAL SPORTS (CROSS COUNTRY, GOLF, SWIMMING AND DIVING, TEAM TENNIS, TENNIS, TRACK AND FIELD AND WRESTLING) ~~soccer and softball and wrestling, a school must contact the UIL athletic staff and receive prior approval before selecting~~ SCHOOLS MAY SELECT AND USE ~~and using~~ non-TASO UIL REGISTERED referees for varsity contests.
 - (2) It is recommended that schools use ~~TASO~~ UIL registered officials for non-varsity games.
 - (3) Officials assigned to the playoffs shall be ~~TASO~~ or UIL-registered officials.
 - (4) APPROVED LOCAL OFFICIALS ORGANIZATIONS/CHAPTERS MUST HAVE ON FILE WITH UIL A COPY OF THEIR CONSTITUTIONS, RULES AND BY-LAWS THAT OUTLINE THEIR DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH OFFICIALS WHO FAIL TO FOLLOW THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE UIL AND/OR THE APPROVED LOCAL OFFICIALS ORGANIZATION/CHAPTER.
- (f) FAILURE TO SHOW.
- (2) APPROVED LOCAL officials ~~Officials associations~~ ORGANIZATIONS/CHAPTERS must have on file with ~~TASO~~ UIL a copy of their constitutions, rules and by-laws that outline their disciplinary procedures for dealing with officials who fail to honor a chapter assignment. Schools must contact the ~~TASO~~ UIL office and identify the officials who did not show for a contest so that local chapters can take action.

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- (o) ~~UIL COACHES AND OFFICIALS POSITIVE EXPECTATIONS MEETING (COPE) AND REGISTRATION.~~ OFFICIALS RULES COMPLIANCE PROGRAM
- (1) ~~Officials Required to Register With UIL and Attend Meetings~~ COMPLETE ONLINE RULES COMPLIANCE PROGRAM. All officials in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, ~~tennis~~ and volleyball shall ~~attend a joint COPE meeting prescribed by the UIL prior to their sport season.~~ ANNUALLY COMPLETE AN ONLINE RULES COMPLIANCE PROGRAM PRESCRIBED BY UIL.
 - (2) ~~Registration List.~~ Officials who ~~register and attend will have their names placed on a registration list which will be forwarded to the UIL office or the Texas Association of Sports Officials. This information will be provided by the local chapters and other groups who hold these meetings.~~ ANNUALLY COMPLETE AN ONLINE RULES COMPLIANCE PROGRAM AS PRESCRIBED BY UIL SHALL PROVIDE PROOF OF COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM TO THEIR APPROVED LOCAL OFFICIALS ORGANIZATION/CHAPTER.
 - (3) *UIL Registration Fee.* The UIL may charge a registration fee for officials to help offset costs of programs for officials (rule books, other educational materials, development of materials and meeting costs, ETC.)
 - (4) *Failure of Official to Register; Loss of Registration.*
 - (A) A report of a coach ejection from an official may not be considered or adjudicated by the UIL unless the official has registered WITH UIL prior to the season.
 - (B) Officials who are not registered WITH UIL will not be allowed to work VARSITY OR post district games and should not be used for regular season games. ~~Exceptions will be handled through the UIL office.~~
 - (C) Officials must report all ejections of coaches, severe verbal and physical abuse and any major disruptions that occur during a game. The game administrator is to be informed of the problem the night of the game. Written reports from each official involved are to be submitted to the UIL office within ~~the next two working days following the game or match~~ 48 HOURS OF THE INCIDENT.
 - (D) Officials are to conduct themselves in a professional manner before, during and after a contest.
 - (E) Officials who violate the provisions of this rule may be removed from the list of registered officials.

D. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective July 1, 2010, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.