

# 2020-2021 UIL Rule Changes and Amendments

## UIL Changes and Amendments

### GENERAL

- **Coaches Certification Program (CCP)** - The CCP consists of both UIL and state law requirements and requires a coach to complete the prescribed components on a yearly basis, prior to their sport season. Completion of the CCP will recognize coaches as UIL certified coaches. All coaches shall annually complete the UIL Coaches Certification Program prescribed by the UIL prior to their sport season or prior to the first day of school if their sport is not in season. A coach who is hired less than one week prior to the start of the sport season or after the first day of school (whichever is earlier) must complete the CCP within thirty (30) days of being hired.
- **Physicals** – For the 2020-21 school year only, any participant in athletics or marching band, in any grade level, who has not previously completed a preparticipation physical examination (PPE), and been cleared for participation, will be required to complete the medical history form as noted below, as well as a PPE prior to participation in any UIL practices, games, performances, or matches.
- **Practice Regulations** – Sessions for strength & conditioning instruction may be conducted by school coaches for students in grades 7-12 from that coaches attendance zone starting the first day of school. A strength and conditioning session shall be no more than one hour per day outside the school day, Monday through Friday, and a student shall attend no more than one session of supervised instruction per day.
- **Officials Fees** – The flat fee schedule and mileage reimbursement has increased by \$5 per official. In addition, the scrimmage flat fee has increased by \$25. The updated Official’s Fee schedule can be found on the UIL website.
- **Eligibility (1<sup>st</sup> six weeks)** –
  - (a) Grades Nine and Below. Students must have been promoted from the previous grade. (Refer to Official Interpretation 01-09-18 Appendix I).
  - (b) SECOND Year of HIGH School. **Two and one-half accumulated credits** that count toward state graduation requirements.
  - (c) THIRD Year of HIGH School. Ten accumulated credits that count toward state graduation requirements or student must have earned at least **two and one-half credits** within the last twelve months that count toward state graduation requirements.
  - (d) FOURTH Year of HIGH School. Fifteen accumulated credits that count toward state graduation requirements or student must have earned at least **two and one-half credits** within the last twelve months that count toward state graduation requirements.
- **Residence in School District and Attendance Zone** - Makes the rule pertaining to separated parents consistent with guardianship rules.
- **Unified Sports** - This amendment authorizes UIL to collaborate with Special Olympics Texas to create Unified Activities as a pilot program for the 2020-2021 school year.
- **2020-2021 General Operational Guidelines** - TEA requires all school systems to develop a plan for mitigating COVID-19 spread in schools. These TEA guidelines *require* schools to include UIL activities as part of this plan and carefully plan for mitigating risk of spread as students participate in them. Schools must post these plans on the homepage of the school website or other easily accessible area of the school website. These plans do not require UIL or TEA approval.

### SPORT SPECIFIC

- **Baseball**
  - NOCSAE/NFHS certified baseballs/ chest protectors are now MANDATORY for all levels of play (Varsity, Sub-Varsity, Junior High)
- **Softball** – No new rule changes for 2021.
- **Football**
  - GAME VIDEOS - Playoff teams are required to exchange all videos leading up to the playoff game to include regular season and post-season games. Upon mutual agreement, teams may agree on trading a specific number of games.
    - (1) All videos must be traded by noon on the day following the last game played by the two teams involved. Example: Team (A) plays on Friday and Team (B) plays on Saturday, all videos must be traded by noon on Sunday. BY mutual agreement games may be traded earlier.
  - Best Practices in Tackling (Atavus) certification will be required for all first-year football coaches and for all football coaches once every two years. All football coaches that are first time coaches in Texas are required to have this certification completed by August of 2020.
- **Track & Field** –
  - Area Meets - Area sites will be facilitated by mutual agreement between the two designated districts. Unless mutually agreed otherwise, the area meet will rotate from one district to the other in a given alignment. Schools should contact the DEC chair for district information.
    - Unless mutually agreed otherwise (corresponding districts getting one vote each), districts located more than 150 miles apart may conduct a vote between all schools involved to cancel the area meet.

- Distance shall be calculated by using the furthest school in each corresponding district.
  - Use 2019-20 Rule Books
- Wrestling
  - Growth Allowance: Two-pound growth allowance now takes effect on December 27\*
  - Alternates – Regional/State – An advancing wrestler unable to compete due to injury, not making weight, or not being present at the start of weigh-ins can only be replaced from the alternates from his/her same qualifying tournament.
- Basketball – New ball to be used at Regional and State Tournament, Spalding TF-1000 Legacy ZK
- Water Polo – Pilot Program for 6A (Starting 2021-2022 School Year)

#### **UIL STAFF STUDIES/MONITOR**

- A proposal to adjust the start time for Junior High Athletic Competitions
- A proposal to create a separate 1A Conference in Volleyball, Softball, and Baseball
- A proposal to consider a \$5 increase for official's for the 2021-22 school year or create a long term plan