

AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS to read:

Amend Rules by adding the following to bylaw 1870 to read:

yes no

**1870. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

1870.1 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT DEFINED – An international student is defined as any student who is not a citizen of the United States. This definition shall not apply to students who have permanent non-immigrant status in the United States, as defined by a student who holds an F-1 non-immigrant visa.

For purposes of clarification, only a student who holds a F-1 or J-1 visa, or has been classified by the Department of Homeland Security and holds documentation identifying the student as a "Refugee," shall be considered for athletic eligibility. Note: temporary status of any kind shall not be acceptable as replacement for the three categories noted.

A student holding a F-1 visa shall be treated as a regular non-international student; a student with a J-1 visa is subject to the limitations of the exchange program by-law outlined below; a student who has been identified by the Department of Homeland Security as a "Refugee" shall be treated as a regular non-international student.

1870.2 CONDITIONS OF VARSITY AND SUB-VARSITY ELIGIBILITY – He/She shall be eligible provided an International Student Waiver has been approved and filed in the CHSAA office when the following conditions have been met:

- Has not enrolled in a Colorado high school in order to participate in any scholastic athletic program.
- Has not been recruited to play interscholastic athletics in violation of Article 1900.2 by any high school or college representative.
- Is not a graduate in his/her own country, nor has attended the time equivalent of an American K-12 program.
- Has not attended high school in another state.
- Is in compliance with all other CHSAA eligibility rules.
- Has on file a completed physical examination in compliance with Bylaw 1780.1.
- Has not participated at your school or any other Colorado school or U.S. school.

a. For international students on a Council on Standards for International Educational Travel Program or other foreign exchange program: CHSAA approval.

b. For international students in NO program: league and CHSAA approval.

1870.3 LIMITED PERIOD OF VARSITY ELIGIBILITY – ~~Students on a J-1 visa~~ ~~An international student~~ shall have varsity eligibility for no more than three consecutive sports seasons, beginning with his or her first varsity season.

However, no foreign student is eligible if he/she is a HIGH SCHOOL graduate in his/her own country OR has attended the time equivalent of an American K-12 program OR has attended high school in another state. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ALL OTHER RULES OF ELIGIBILITY.

1870.4 PRESUMPTION OF RECRUITING – An international student who moves to Colorado and enrolls in a member school with the prior knowledge and assistance of a “school representative,” as defined in Article 1900.2, shall be presumed to have been recruited in the absence of clear and convincing evidence to the contrary.

- a. An international student who moves to Colorado and enrolls in a member school with the prior knowledge and assistance of a club sport or other outside sport coach, group or organization shall not have high school athletic eligibility in that sport.

1870.5 EXCEPTION FOR STUDENTS RESIDING WITH PARENT(S) – This rule does not apply to an INTERNATIONAL student who is residing in Colorado with his/her parent(s).

Rationale The added language is designed to clarify the status of F-1, J-1 and “Refugee” students and does not change the manner in which they are treated under current by-laws. It also clarifies that international students who come for the purpose of playing a specific sport shall not have eligibility in that sport, aligning the rule with the athletically-motivated by-law.

Pros Helps clarify visa questions for schools.  
Maintains the integrity of the “moving for athletic purposes” by-law.  
Maintains the designation intended for random placement of foreign students.  
Keeps CHSAA rules in line with original intent of allowing the experience of participation at an American high school  
Ensures the student is here for educational purposes.

Cons Push back from outside teams because it will hamper recruiting efforts for non-school programs.  
May create more students seeking undocumented status versus the visa option