

NOSSA DATES, DEADLINES & TIME LIMITS

Annual Meeting	End of April
District Meetings	One month prior to Annual Meeting
Notices of Motion to NOSSA	Three weeks prior to Annual Meeting
Notices of Motion back to school	2 weeks prior to Annual Meeting
Eligibility	Enrolled by September 20. In attendance 10 school days prior. In attendance 75% of time. Taking scheduled program in a cycle which is not less than 50% of school cycle minutes.
Age Divisions cut off date	11:59, December 31
Age Divisions	Mgt. - under 15 Jr. - under 16 Sr. - under 20
Intent to Compete	Fall Sports (G-BB, B-VB) - Oct. 31 Winter Sports (B-BB, G-VB, Hock, Curl) - Jan 15 Spring Sports (Soccer) - May 10 Each District Secretary will submit a list to the N.O.S.S.A. Secretary and Treasurer who will inform each convener regarding district intent to participate
School Classification declaration date	Nov. 5
NOSSA Fees	Based on enrolment of Oct 31 of previous school year Due date October 31 - penalty date November 15
Protests	Within 48 hours of contest
Board of Reference replies	Immediately
Misconduct reported	Within 24 hours

NOSSA
ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSES POLICY

Revised: June 2023

1. Expenses will be paid by the Association for the following delegates:
 - i. Resolution Committee Members as defined in the NOSSA Bylaws
 - ii. Special NOSSA Committee Members
 - iii. OFSAA delegates
 - iv. Resolutions Chairperson
 - v. NOSSA President
2. Expenses will be paid at the following rates:
 - i. Transportation
 - a. **WITHIN N.O.S.S.A.** - 40 cents per return km for distances travelled by car or airfare whichever is less. (Wherever possible, arrangements should be made for delegates from the same district to travel in the same vehicle. One claim per vehicle shall be made.)
 - b. **OUTSIDE N.O.S.S.A.** - same as within N.O.S.S.A. or total airfare where only one delegate is going from one city. Special permission may be obtained from the Executive to deviate from these guidelines e.g. it may be cheaper to fly and save on one less night's hotel accommodation
 - ii. Hotel - total amount of room cost
 - iii. Meals - Breakfast \$8.00, Lunch \$10.00, Dinner \$22.00
 - iv. Parking - \$3.00 per night or taxis \$12.00.
3. At the Annual Meeting, the host District shall provide a continental breakfast and noon-hour meal for all attending members and guests. The expenses for the AGM and the Resolutions Committee meeting room shall also be covered by the host district. The Association shall otherwise cover the expenses for the Resolution Committee members.

NOSSA
MEMBERSHIP FEE POLICY

Revised: June 2023

1. NOSSA membership fees shall be collected by the District Secretaries and one cheque for each district shall be forwarded to the NOSSA Treasurer by June 30th of the current or upcoming school year. Late fee payments shall be penalized 10% up to November 15th.
2. After November 15th, an additional fine of \$5.00 per school day shall be imposed to a maximum of \$50.00. NOTE: If the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the due dates shall be considered as the next official school day.

NOSSA GENDER EQUITY POLICY

Revised: June 2023

Gender equity in school sport is the belief and practice which ensures fair access for female student-athletes, coaches, officials and administrators to participate, compete and lead. Equity does not necessarily mean that all persons must be treated exactly the same. People may need to be treated differently in order to be treated fairly.

VISION

Women and girls will enjoy a full and equitable range of opportunities for participation, officiating, competition and leadership in school sport activities.

GOAL

Through the implementation of this policy, it is our intent to raise awareness, educate, and change attitudes and behaviours which increase and improve the opportunities for girls and women in school sport.

POLICY STATEMENTS

- (a) NOSSA is committed to gender equity as highlighted in the guiding principles of the Association's Strategic Plan.
- (b) NOSSA is committed to educating and providing support to its members through the development and distribution of a gender equity policy.
- (c) Believes that the elimination of barriers to participation will contribute to the achievement of gender equity.
- (d) NOSSA believes that gender equity should serve as a guiding principle for all decisions and operations of the Association and is a key consideration when developing, updating or delivering Association programs, policies and projects.

PROCEDURES

A. Championship Opportunities

Statement: NOSSA will strive to provide equitable championship opportunities for male and female student-athletes.

Actions: Gender equity will act as a guideline for determining the composition of the Championship Calendar. NOSSA will strive to recognize and promote girls and boys Championships in an equitable manner.

B. Board and Committee Structure

Statement: NOSSA will strive to have equitable gender representation on all committees.

Actions: NOSSA will encourage Associations to make a conscious effort to involve more women in the leadership of Association committees and activities. NOSSA will continue to offer mentoring and leadership opportunities at sports schools. NOSSA will continually monitor committee representation.

C. Student-Athlete Participation

Statement: NOSSA will continue to provide equitable opportunities for students in co-curricular activities.

Actions: If a sport activity is not available for a female on a girls' team, she is eligible to participate on a boys' team following a successful try-out. Where a sport activity is available for a female on a girls' team, she is eligible to participate on a boys' team if she demonstrates comparable skill and ability during a successful try-out. If a sport activity does not exist for a boy, he is not eligible to participate on a girls' team. A female volleyball player may be eligible to participate in both boys and girls volleyball competition to fulfill their obligations to both seasons. By doing so the school that chooses this approach commits to NOSSA "B" in both seasons. The program leader must declare to the NOSSA Secretary in September of their intentions in participation in NOSSA "B".

A student may appeal her eligibility to participate on a boys' team on the basis of program equity as described above.

Gender Equity Appeal Process:

1. The appeal by a student of her eligibility must be received in writing including the reasons for the appeal. The appeal shall be directed to NOSSA and to the NOSSA Protests Committee and shall be received no later than thirty (30) days prior to the competition in question. The appeal must be accompanied by a \$50.00 fee, refundable if the student is declared eligible to participate on a boys' team.
2. Upon receipt of an appeal, the NOSSA Protests Committee shall notify the student and the student's principal, in writing, of the date, time and place that the appeal will be heard.
3. The Board of Reference shall notify the student and the student's principal of the date, time and place of the appeal, by way of letters post-marked or delivered, no later than fourteen (14) days before the date of the appeal hearing.
4. At the hearing, the student and/or representative may attend and may call whatever witnesses or make whatever submissions they choose and the NOSSA Protests Committee shall permit in its sole and exclusive discretion.
5. The NOSSA Protests Committee shall render its decision, in writing, and in so doing shall state briefly the reason(s) for its decision. The decision of the NOSSA Protests Committee shall be final and conclusive and there shall be no right of appeal to any body or court of competent jurisdiction.

D. Sponsorship

Statement: Sponsorship monies shall be apportioned equitably between male and female championships.

Actions: The above statement shall be part of the NOSSA Business Plan.

E. Equity Partnerships

Statement: NOSSA will continue to interact with organizations that include the promotion of gender equity in their mandate (e.g., Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity).

Actions: - NOSSA will continue to share mailing lists and resources with such organizations, and will continue to work on projects that promote gender equity. - NOSSA will search out new partnerships with organizations that support gender equity initiatives.

F. Education

Statement: NOSSA will continue to raise awareness and educate about the issue of gender equity.

Actions: - NOSSA will distribute and promote its gender equity policy.

- NOSSA will encourage Districts to use the OFSAA Gender Equity Checklist as a guideline for developing policies and procedures in their Associations.

- NOSSA will continue to distribute gender equity information through its publications (Bulletin and web site).

G. Research, Evaluation and Monitoring

Statement: NOSSA will continue to monitor and evaluate all policies, programs and initiatives to ensure their adherence to gender equity.

Actions: - NOSSA will continue to gather research material and relevant data to use in this monitoring and evaluating process.

NOSSA
SMOKING AND TOBACCO-FREE POLICY

Revised: June 2023

COMMITMENT

NOSSA recognizes that there is ample research demonstrating the health hazards caused by the use of tobacco products, including smoking, smokeless tobacco and breathing second-hand smoke, and understand our responsibility to the participants of our program to model and promote tobacco-free lifestyles.

We stress to leaders, teachers, coaches, officials, parents, spectators, and all others involved, the importance of maintaining a tobacco-free environment while working with young people.

POLICY

All NOSSA games, activities, tournaments, competitions, sponsored events, and other performances will be tobacco-free. Tobacco free means no smoking, snuffing, dipping, or chewing tobacco by players/participants, coaches/leaders, parents, spectators, and officials.

<i>We will promote the smoking and tobacco-free policy at all our activities by:</i> ▪ Having coaches/leaders explain the policy to players/members and ask them to explain the policy to their parents and others who may come to their game/activity/performance. ▪ Including the policy in the NOSSA handbook and website so all new and returning participants, their parents/guardians, coaches/leaders and officials/managers know about the policy from the start. ▪ Making the policy visible throughout the year/season wherever possible, including logos on uniforms, banners at events and encouraging coaches and older players/members to promote active, healthy, tobacco-free lifestyles.	<i>We will reinforce the smoking and tobacco-free policy at all our activities by:</i> ▪ Encouraging all coaches/leaders, players/ members, and parents to respectfully remind someone using tobacco about the tobacco-free policy – being able to point to a tobacco-free logo on a uniform or banner makes this easier. ▪ Consistently applying consequences with people who repeatedly break the policy – repeated violations by players/members or their parent/guardian may result in a verbal and written warning from the coach/leader, or the association executive in the case of a repeat coach/leader violation. Following a written warning the individual violating the policy again may be asked to leave the activity or game.
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NOSSA HONORARY LIFETIME AWARD

The Robert “Sonny” Gawalko Award for NOSSA Honorary Lifetime Award.

Robert “Sonny” Gawalko dedicated 40 years of volunteering to the success of NOSSA. Sonny was involved in NOSSA as a long time coach, department head, convener, administrator, treasurer, mentor, and (above all) a leader that NOSSA called upon to provide guidance and expert advice through many years of involvement. Sonny truly cared about high school sports in general. His involvement will forever stand as the gold standard to aspire to for NOSSA members in their efforts to develop the best possible regional high school sports championships.

The recipient of this award should:

- a) Have been active at the local level for a minimum of 20 years in any capacity;
- b) Have demonstrated a minimum of 15 years involvement in NOSSA activities;
- c) Have served in different roles at the NOSSA level including coach, convenor, or AGM voting delegate;
- d) Have espoused the highest possible standard of conduct throughout all levels of involvement.
- e) Have been a teacher/coach who is retired or currently employed as a teacher.

Each year, the four districts of NOSSA may nominate individual(s) who shall be awarded The Robert “Sonny” Gawalko Award and inducted into the NOSSA Honorary Lifetime Award List. The individual(s) will be presented the award at the Annual NOSSA AGM. Districts must ensure that the individual(s) are worthy of this award as well as recognizing that a balance between the genders is considered each year.

The district that submits the award recipient(s) is responsible for submitting the following form to the NOSSA Secretary four full weeks prior to the scheduled date of the NOSSA AGM. The information to be submitted will include a biography and a recent photo of the award recipient. The NOSSA Secretary will include the list of the recipients (including biography, photo and district) of this award on the NOSSA website and will update it on a yearly basis. As well, the NOSSA Secretary will include the names of the new recipients in her/his annual report. A presentation will be made at the annual general meeting.

The award will include an engraved plaque and a NOSSA Honorary Lifetime Card. The plaque is to be ordered through the NOSSA Secretary and the cost of the award(s) will be billed back to the nominating district. The NOSSA Honorary Lifetime Card (upon presentation) will allow the card holder free entry into all games (District, NOSSA and OFSAA levels) that are played within the NOSSA area. The recipient(s) of this award will also be entitled to attend the NOSSA AGM luncheon.

Those that choose to attend the luncheon must notify their district secretary one month prior to the NOSSA AGM who in turn, will notify the host district secretary so the numbers can be included for the luncheon. The costs for the honorary members’ luncheons are to be covered by the district that put forth the member’s name.

**THE ROBERT "SONNY" GAWALKO AWARD FOR
NOSSA HONORARY LIFETIME AWARD**

SUBMISSION FORM

NAME:

DATE: _____ DISTRICT: _____

SCHOOL(S) AS TEACHER: (Please list most recent first.)

1) School - _____ Dates - _____

2) School - _____ Dates - _____

3) School - _____ Dates - _____

4) School - _____ Dates - _____

5) School - _____ Dates - _____

ROLE(S) AND YEAR(S) ACTIVE IN DISTRICT:

ROLE(S) AND YEAR(S) ACTIVE IN NOSSA:

DISTRICT SECRETARY: _____ DATE:

NOSSA SECRETARY: _____ DATE:

A current photo of the recipient must be included with this application. Applications must be received by the NOSSA Secretary four weeks prior to the scheduled date of the NOSSA AGM.