Subchapter D:

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE AND JUNIOR HIGH

Section 1400: JUNIOR HIGH (SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES)

(a) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE PARTICIPANTS.

(1) *Student's Eligibility*. An individual may participate in UIL competition or contests as a representative of the participant school he/she attends if that student has been in attendance and has passed the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education, and is passing the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education; or is a non-enrolled (home schooled) student seeking participation and is in compliance with all provisions included in section 33.0832 of the Texas Education Code.

(2) Junior high students are not prohibited from competing at a grade level higher than the one in which they are enrolled. Refer to Subchapter M for high school eligibility standards.

(3) To participate in athletic competition, a student who initially entered the seventh or eighth grade during the current school year and has a special needs condition which delayed his or her education by at least one year, and students who are overage due to limited English proficiency, and who have substantiation from a language proficiency assessment committee, may petition the UIL to participate at grade level. The following must be submitted to the UIL for eligibility determination (not required for non-athletic competition).

(A) A special education student must provide documentation of a special education status and documentation that a disability delayed his or her education by at least one year.

(B) A student with a history of a disability must provide documentation from a 504 committee or an ARD committee proving the existence and length of time of the disability that caused the delay of at least one year in his or her education.

(C) A student with limited English proficiency must provide documentation of the recommendation of the LPAC.

(D) Students must provide documentation of date of birth and a copy of a current physical, including height and weight.

(E) The district executive committee may appeal the decision of the UIL to the State Executive Committee.

(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS. An individual may participate in UIL competition or contests as a representative of the participant school he/she attends if that student:

(1) Has been in attendance and has passed the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education and is passing the courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education; or is a non-enrolled (home schooled) student seeking participation and is in compliance with all provisions included in section 33.0832 of the Texas Education Code.

(2) Is a sixth-grade student who will be too old to participate the following year as a seventh grader and who has a special needs condition which delayed his or her education by at least one year. (Applies to athletic competition only – Refer to Section 446).

(3) *No Interscholastic Athletic Competition Below Seventh Grade.* No interscholastic athletic competition is allowed in any conference for teams in the sixth grade and below. This does not apply to annual inter-school elementary field days. This rule would not prohibit a school district from being involved in the facilitation of an enrichment/intervention program which may or may not include athletic activities involving students from their own schools. **Exception**: Certain athletic exceptions allow sixth grade students to participate. Refer to (2) above and Section 1478.

(c) RULES JURISDICTION. All public schools that participate in seventh and eighth grade UIL activities must abide by public school laws, TEA regulations and UIL regulations. Refer to Section 11.

(d) SCHEDULING.

(1) *District Academic Contests.* Schools may use no more than one school day or two half-school days per school year to hold the district academic contests.

(2) *District Music Contests*. Schools may use no more than one school day per school year to hold the concert and sight-reading contests.

Students in seventh and eighth grade may participate in composite groups prior to the end of the academic school day. Refer to Section 1102 for definition of composite groups.

(3) *Other Competitions*. No other game, contest or tournament shall begin prior to the end of the academic school day.

(e) SUNDAY PARTICIPATION. No UIL participant school shall sponsor individuals or teams in any contest or school competition on a Sunday in a UIL contest or a contest similar to one offered by the UIL. Schools shall not conduct practices or teach any plays, formations or skills on Sunday.

(f) NON-TRADITIONAL SCHOOL YEAR. (Refer to Section 383).

(g) LIMITATION OF AWARDS.

(1) *Awards To Individuals*. A participant school may not give and a student may not accept awards for participation in interschool competition in excess of $10 per year (total for all UIL school activities). Certificates awarded by the school, school district or district executive committee to recognize participating students do not count against the $10 limit. A student may accept a symbolic award in recognition of his/her achievement in an interschool contest if it is given by the organization conducting the contest (e.g., all-tournament awards, ribbons, plaques and medals).

(2) *Awards To Schools*. A district championship trophy or award may be awarded by the district executive committee.

(h) AMATEUR RULE. There is no amateur rule for junior high school students competing in junior high competitions. Section 441, Amateur Athletic Status, does not apply to students until the first class day of their ninth-grade year.

(i) MEMBERSHIP.

(1) *School District*. Junior high/middle schools receive membership in the UIL through the paid memberships of their parent high schools.

(2) *K-8 Independent School Districts*. For school systems with no high schools, refer to the membership fee structure in Sections 10 through 14.

(3) *Superintendent's Responsibility*. The superintendent shall have final responsibility for membership. When a school board elects to pay membership fees to join the UIL, it agrees to accept and observe the terms of participation in the contests as set forth in the *Constitution and Contest Rules*. This is a voluntary organization. All conditions surrounding participation are freely accepted and both the letter and spirit of the rules are to be observed. Thus, when disputes arise, they shall be settled by the committees in the prescribed manner.

(j) DISTRICTS.

(1) *No District Assignments*. Junior high schools will not be assigned to junior high districts or conferences by the UIL office. Schools may follow the high school academic and/or athletic district assignments or form their own district. Students will represent their campus in the junior high academic and athletic district meets.

(2) *Required Assignments*. The UIL office reserves the right to assign contestants or teams to districts.

(3) *Composite or Combined Teams.* Students will represent their campus. Combined or composite teams are not allowed in UIL district academic or athletic competitions.

(k) PROTESTS.

(1) *Persons Responsible*. In junior high schools that do not form a district, the district executive committee of the high school which the students will attend shall decide protests for the junior high school that has been protested. In junior highs that do form districts, the junior high school administrators from their schools shall consider all protests and eligibility of the students. In disputes between junior high schools from different junior high districts, neutral representatives from the executive committees of both districts will settle the dispute.

(2) *Time For Protest*. The superintendent or a designated administrator must file the protest in writing with the district executive committee. The protest must be filed within a reasonable time, but not exceeding four days after the contest, unless it involves eligibility or a rule imposing mandatory penalties.

(3) *Appropriate Committees*. All disputes among participant schools shall be settled by the appropriate executive committee.

(4) *Jurisdiction Within District*. The district executive committee shall have jurisdiction over all eligibility cases, disputes and protests within the district. The representative of a protesting school or the school protested is disqualified from the adjudication of the dispute.

(5) *Jurisdiction Outside Of District*. All disputes and

protests arising between schools belonging to different districts shall be resolved through a meeting with equal representation from each district including the two teams involved. The disputing school and the school charged with violation shall not be allowed to vote.

(l) VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.
  (1) *Penalties*. Penalties are applicable to the appropriate violator as stated in Sections 27 and 29.
  (2) *May Not Play Suspended Schools*. No school in the UIL shall engage in any contest, game or scrimmage with a suspended school, and any school violating this rule may be suspended. This prohibition applies only to the contest in which the school is suspended.
  (3) *Minimum Penalty*. Forfeiture of the contest is the minimum penalty for using an ineligible contestant.
  (4) *Receiving High School*. The receiving high school will be notified of any violations. The associated high school may be suspended by the State Executive Committee in the activity in which the junior high violates rules if the junior high does not abide by the ruling of the district executive committee.

(m) INDIVIDUAL PLANS. Specific requirements and regulations may be found in the individual contest plans.
  (1) *Academic*. Sections 1410-1474.
  (2) *Athletics*. Section 1478.

Section 1401: A+ PROGRAM ACADEMIC PLAN

(a) PURPOSES. Participation in UIL academic contests should help students develop oral language and communication skills, become independent readers and writers, develop conceptual understanding, learn to solve problems and apply knowledge to all facets of their lives.
  (1) All A+ competitions should be conducted so that educational objectives are achieved, highest standards of sportsmanship are upheld, and no single phase of the program is promoted at the expense of other programs.
  (2) Schools are encouraged to participate in a full range of contests, to offer as many opportunities for competition as possible, to administer all contests fairly and efficiently, to provide specific, positive feedback and to see that competition is conducted in a nurturing and educational environment.
  (3) Faculty leaders are encouraged to fully prepare students for competition while insuring that broad educational objectives are never compromised in the pursuit of victory.
  (4) Administrators should help create learning environments, structures and policies that encourage educational competition while adhering to the school's general educational mission.

(b) A+ MEET CODE. The general A+ Meet Code means to:
  (1) participate in contests in the spirit of fairness and sportsmanship, observing all rules – both in letter and in spirit;
  (2) sponsor and advise individuals and teams without resorting to unethical tactics, trickery which attempts to skirt the rules or any other unfair tactic which detracts from sound educational principles;
  (3) accept decisions of officials and judges without protest and extend protection and courtesy to officials;
  (4) regard opponents as guests or hosts while placing personal and/ or team integrity above victory at any cost. Maintain grace and poise in victory or defeat. Conduct that berates, intimidates or threatens competitors, based on gender or ethnic origin, has no place in interscholastic activities;
  (5) provide information or evidence regarding eligibility of any contestant or school to local school administrators or to the appropriate judicial bodies upon request;
  (6) understand and appreciate the educational values of competition and abstain from modifying or soliciting another teacher to modify grades for eligibility purposes, knowing that such behavior defeats the character-building purposes of extracurricular competition;
  (7) abstain from any practice that makes a student feel pressured to participate in non-school activities; and
  (8) at all times, ensure that competition is relative to a more important overall educational effort, using competition as a tool in the preparation of students for citizenship and successful adulthood.

(c) SALARY/STIPEND. Any salary or stipend arrangement which makes it to the financial interest of a coach, director or sponsor to win a UIL contest will be in violation of the A+ Meet Code, and the member school district, participant school and the school district personnel shall be subject to the range of penalties outlined in Sections 27 and 29.

(d) CONTESTS. The Academic Meet Plan covers these

A+ Academic Activities for the grade levels indicated in parentheses:

(1) Art (4-8)
(2) Calculator Applications (6-8)
(3) Chess Puzzle (2-8)
(4) Creative Writing (2)
(5) Dictionary Skills (5-8)
(6) Editorial Writing (6-8)
(7) Impromptu Speaking (6-8)
(8) Listening (5-8)
(9) Maps, Graphs, & Charts (5-8)
(10) Mathematics (6-8)
(11) Modern Oratory (6-8)
(12) Music Memory (2-8)
(13) Number Sense (4-8)
(14) One-Act Play (6-8)
(15) Oral Reading (4-9)
(16) Ready Writing (3-8)
(17) Science (6-8)
(18) Social Studies (5-8)
(19) Spelling (3-8)
(20) Storytelling (2-3)

Instructions and required contest procedures are found in the A+ Handbook.

(e) MEMBERSHIP IN UIL; FORMING DISTRICTS.

(1) *Membership.* Elementary, middle and junior high schools receive membership in the UIL through the paid memberships of their parent high schools. The superintendent shall have final responsibility for membership. For school systems with no high schools, refer to the membership fee structure in Sections 10 through 14.

(2) *Statement of Participation.* Elementary, middle and junior high schools should indicate their desire to participate in UIL activities by registering with the UIL office. Deadline for registration is designated on the official UIL calendar.

(3) *Compliance with the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.* Contest directors shall not deviate from the *Constitution and Contest Rules* in administering UIL A+ academic contests. The district executive committee may elect to add or delete UIL contests from its specific meet plan.

(4) The UIL's elementary contest plan is restricted to academic competition. No interscholastic athletic competition is allowed in any conference for teams in the sixth grade and below. This does not apply to annual interschool elementary field days. For athletic exceptions to allow sixth grade students to participate, Refer to Section 1478 (c).

(5) Elementary and junior high school contestants do not qualify to a higher post-district meet.

(f) ORGANIZING THE DISTRICT. Elementary, middle and junior high schools will not be assigned to districts or conferences by the UIL office. Schools may follow the high school Academics Meet district assignments or form their own district.

(1) *Required Assignments*. The UIL office reserves the right to assign contestants or teams to districts.

(2) *Composite or Combined Teams*. Students will represent their campus. Combined or composite teams are not allowed in UIL district academic competitions.

(3) *District Executive Committee*. This body shall be composed of an administrator from each of the participating schools in the district. Duties include: enforcing the eligibility rules in the district; selecting the district director; selecting the site and date for the meet; arranging for financing the meet; determining which events will be offered and for which grade levels; designing a district meet entry form; notifying members of the district of the events and entry restrictions; soliciting entries from each school; cooperating with the schools in effecting and promoting a district organization; and adjudicating disputes arising within the district subject to provisions of Subchapter E of the Constitution.

(4) *District Information and Materials Order*. This information shall be submitted to the UIL office online through the UIL website. The meet director's name shall be included. Submission deadlines are designated on the official UIL calendar for district meets held between December 1 and January 31, and for meets held between February 1 and the Saturday before Memorial Day. This may be done by either the district executive committee or the district director.

(5) *District Director*. Each district shall select a district director for A+ activities. Duties include: selecting the directors of the contests in accordance with individual contest plans; arranging for necessary facilities; requisitioning all contest materials from the UIL office; distributing the materials to contest directors; assuming immediate responsibility for conducting the meet in an orderly manner; being available to assist contest directors

when questions arise; and seeing that a list of winners is compiled immediately from the reports furnished by the contest directors. The district director shall notify all participant schools regarding the dates and contest schedule of the meet, but each school has the final responsibility for ascertaining the dates and schedule.

Section 1405: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Students are eligible so long as they have been in attendance and are passing all classes in accordance with state law and rules of the State Board of Education and the Texas Education Agency. The UIL has no age limit for elementary academic competition, nor does it have a residence rule.

(a) COMPETING OUT OF GRADE LEVEL. Elementary students are not prohibited from competing one grade level higher than the one in which they are enrolled. However, a student shall not compete in two or more grade levels of the same contest in the same year.

(b) AMATEUR RULE. There is no amateur rule for students competing in elementary school or junior high school competitions. Section 441, Amateur Athletic Status, does not apply to students until the first class day of their ninth-grade year.

Section 1408: INVITATIONAL/DISTRICT MEETS

(a) SUNDAY PARTICIPATION. No UIL participant school shall sponsor individuals or teams in any contest or school competition on a Sunday in a UIL contest or a contest similar to one offered by the UIL.

(b) SCHEDULING. Schools may use no more than one school day or two half-school days per school year to hold the district academic contests.

(c) INVITATIONAL MATERIALS. The UIL will provide three sets of elementary and junior high materials for the contests listed below with exceptions noted under the individual contests. Schools requiring invitational materials for meets to be held between November 1 and April 1 should order invitational materials at least four weeks prior to their meet date. No materials from the UIL invitational contests may be returned to contestants before April 1.

(d) DISTRICT ENTRIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS. Each district may devise its own entry forms for entering contestants in academic contests or use the form found in the *A+ Handbook*. Policies regarding due dates, late entries and substitutions should be determined by each district prior to the academic meet.

(e) CONTEST MATERIALS.

(1) *Confidentiality*. Coaches, contest directors and contestants are responsible for maintaining confidentiality of district meet contest materials. Transfer of information relative to the tests shall be considered a violation of the A+ Meet Code and subject to penalties as outlined in Section 27 and Section 29.

(2) *Materials*. Contest materials supplied by the UIL office will be prepared for the grade levels designated in each contest plan. Two or more grade levels will, in most cases, take the same test.

(3) *District Contest Materials*. District contest materials for A+ activities will be available for fall/winter district meets held between December 1 and January 31, and for spring district meets held between February 1 and the Saturday prior to Memorial Day. It is permissible for districts to schedule meets outside those time frames, but tests will not be available from the UIL office for those meets. Materials necessary for conducting district meets shall be requisitioned from the UIL office by the district director. No materials from the fall/winter district contest may be returned to contestants before January 31. No materials from the spring district contest may be returned to contestants before the Saturday prior to Memorial Day.

(f) OPTIONAL CONTEST.

(1) *Speech*. The middle or junior high schools in any A+ district may hold any of the speech contests listed in the high school Academics Meet Plan in Section 1000. Winners do not advance to a higher level. A student may participate in no more than two speech events.

(2) *Additional Grade Levels.* With the approval of the A+ district executive committee, districts may elect to create a division of a contest for each designated grade level or additional grade levels.

(3) *Other Contests.* Districts may pilot contests that are not described in the Constitution or may alter other high school contests in a manner appropriate for the particular grade level.

(g) TESTS /JUDGING.

(1) *Philosophy.* Critiques of tests and performances should first comment on the positive aspects of the competition and then offer constructive criticism. When comments are possible, they need not be long, but they should be specific. Strictly objective tests do

not need commentary.

(2) *Corrections.* Any corrections to contest material will be made available to meet director.

(3) *Changing Answer Keys.* If there is consensus among the graders, judges and coaches that an answer on the answer key is incorrect, the contest director is authorized to correct the answer key. This decision shall be made before the official results are announced.

(h) POINTS. In determining the overall championship, points shall be awarded according to the following chart. Points shall be awarded for all places in which a contestant participated. For example, if only two contestants participate in an event, both contestants receive points according to the results of the event.

CONTESTS	PLACES AND POINTS					
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Art	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Art	8	6	4	0	0	0
Calculator Applications	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Calculator Applications	8	6	4	0	0	0
Creative Writing	15	12	10	8	6	4
Chess Puzzle	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Chess Puzzle	8	6	4	0	0	0
Dictionary Skills	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Dictionary Skills	8	6	4	0	0	0
Editorial Writing	15	12	10	8	6	4
Impromptu Speaking	15	12	10	8	6	4
Listening	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Listening	8	6	4	0	0	0
Maps, Graphs, & Charts	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Maps, Graphs, & Charts	8	6	4	0	0	0
Mathematics	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Mathematics	8	6	4	0	0	0
Modern Oratory	15	12	10	8	6	4
Music Memory	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Music Memory	8	6	4	0	0	0
Number Sense	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Number Sense	8	6	4	0	0	0
One-Act Play						
Ranked Plays	22	18	15	0	0	0
Individual Awards	8	4	2	0	0	0
Oral Reading	15	12	10	8	6	4
Ready Writing	15	12	10	8	6	4
Science	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Science	8	6	4	0	0	0
Social Studies	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Social Studies	8	6	4	0	0	0
Spelling	15	12	10	8	6	4
Team Spelling	8	6	4	0	0	0
Storytelling	15	12	10	8	6	4

(1) *One-Act Play Points*. The first-place play receives 22 points, the second-place play receives 18 points and the third-place play receives 15 points. Individual awards shall consist of first place (each best performer), second place (each all-star cast) and third place (each honorable mention all-star cast). Individual awards may not exceed those specified in Section 1033. An all-star cast award assigned by the judge to a chorus or other group of players counts as only one individual award and shall be allocated the appropriate points.

(2) *Ties in Individual and Team Competition.* In contests in which a tie cannot be broken, tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which the tie exists. Two schools tied for first place in a contest shall add first and second place points and divide equally. The school ranking next shall receive third place points. Two schools tied for second place shall add second and third place points and divide equally, and no third place points shall be awarded. Ties for remaining places shall be decided in the same manner, except that schools tied for last place shall divide equally the points assigned to that place.

(i) CHAMPIONSHIPS. An overall academic district champion may be named, and a trophy awarded to the winning elementary, middle and/or junior high school, at the discretion of the district executive committee. Points won by an elementary, middle or junior high school shall not be counted toward the overall championship in a high school meet and vice versa. No school shall be eligible for the overall championship that does not place in at least three events.

(j) TROPHIES AND AWARDS. The district executive committee may authorize the purchase of a standard or approved district championship trophy to be given to the winning school.

(k) LIMITATION OF AWARDS. There is no Awards Rule for students in grades 2 through 6 who compete in UIL elementary academic contests. Awards for elementary students are determined by the participating schools.

(l) INDIVIDUAL PLANS. Specific requirements and regulations may be found in the individual contest plans.

(1) *Academic.* 1410 through 1474.

(2) *Athletic.* Section 1478.

Section 1410: ART

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. This contest involves the study of paintings from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. and paintings from selected Texas museums. The *Art Smart Bulletin* is the source for test material of history and art elements relative to the art selections. As

part of their study, students will demonstrate an understanding of art history and interpret ideas and moods in original artworks while making informed judgments about the artwork.

(2) *Contest Format.* Part A requires contestants to identify the artist's name, as it appears on the official list, and the title of 15 paintings selected randomly from the official list of 30 paintings as published in the *Art Smart Bulletin* and on the UIL website. Part B consists of 30 questions about art elements and principles and art history characteristic of the 30 art selections. Both Parts A and B of the contest shall be conducted. Approximately 30 minutes will be allotted for Part A and 30 minutes for Part B of the contest exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Section 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition*. For each division, each school may enter as many as five contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition*. If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of all contestants in each division from a school, divided by the number of contestants from that school, shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have at least three contestants compete to participate in team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students, with the exception of the person choosing the selections to be used in Part A of the contest. This person shall not be the coach of any student in the competition.

(2) ***Verification Period.*** Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(3) ***Official Results.*** After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(4) ***Points and Ties.*** Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists. Should there be a tie for first place, there will be no second place. Should there be a tie for second place, there will be no third place, etc.

(5) ***Certificates***. Students who score 100% in both sections of the contest at the district competition are eligible to receive a Certificate of Achievement.

(6) ***Returning Materials.*** No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1414: CALCULATOR APPLICATIONS

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. This contest is designed to stimulate the development of mathematical and calculator skills. Goals are both intellectual and practical: developing mathematical reasoning and knowledge and requiring the application of problem-solving skills toward realistic problems.

(2) *Contest Format*. Students will take a test containing 80 problems. The contest consists of problems that may include calculations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, roots and powers. It also includes straightforward calculation problems and simple geometric and stated problems similar to those found in recently adopted textbooks. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each divi-

sion from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) ***Verification Period***. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision will be final.

(3) ***Official Results***. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(4) ***Points and Ties***. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). Tied individual or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists. Should there be a tie for first place, there will be no second place. Should there be a tie for second place, there will be no third place, etc.

(5) ***Returning Materials.*** No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1416: CHESS PUZZLE

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* The study of chess teaches analytical thinking, pattern recognition and creativity, which in turn improve student performance in reading, writing, history, geography, and math.

(2) *Contest Format.* Students will take an objective test containing approximately 20 chess puzzles, plus a tiebreaker section. Answer formats may include fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice and/or true/false. Thirty minutes will be allotted for the testing period and an additional five minutes will be allotted for the tiebreaker, exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in the contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Verification Period*. Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official answer keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(3) ***Official Results.*** After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(4) *Points and Ties.* Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which the tie exists. Should there be a tie for first place, there will be no second place. Should there be a tie for second place, there will be no third place, etc.

(5) ***Returning Materials.*** No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1418: CREATIVE WRITING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to promote creativity in an academic format and to encourage writing skills at an early grade level. Through preparation for the contest, students will be able to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others.

(2) *Contest Format.* Contestants will be given a prompt with several captioned pictures. From these pictures, the students will create an original story based on their selections. The stories shall contain at least one of the pictured items, but it is not required that all items on the page be included. Thirty minutes will be allotted for writing exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in the second grade who

are eligible under Section 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. This contest will consist of only one division.

(3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in creative writing.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* The contest director may be the coach of a participating student.

(2) *Viewing Period*. An optional period not to exceed 15 minutes may be arranged for coaches and contestants to review their own evaluations, stories and verify identification.

(3) ***Official Results.*** After the viewing period has ended and all contest papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(4) ***Returning Materials.*** No materials from the district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1422: DICTIONARY SKILLS

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. Thorough knowledge of the dictionary is a way to increase a student's ability to find the information that is needed for class work as well as everyday living. The subject matter of all tests is taken from *Merriam Webster's Intermediate Dictionary.* Contestants may use other dictionaries in the contest. In preparation for this contest, students will develop skills to communicate effectively.

(2) *Contest Format.* Each test consists of 40 objective questions. Contestants use dictionaries in the competition. Twenty minutes will be allotted for the testing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants competing to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Verification Period.* Contestants and coaches shall be given a period not to exceed 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Unofficial results should be posted. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(3) *Official Results.* After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(4) *Points and Ties.* Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists. Should there be a tie for first place, there will be no second place. Should there be a tie for second place, there will be no third place, etc.

(5) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1424: EDITORIAL WRITING CONTEST

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* Editorial writing teaches critical and analytical thinking, as well as the ability to write persuasively and concisely. Students learn to examine both sides of an issue, select and develop a stance and support that stance with logical, clear writing.

(2) *Contest Format*. Contestants will be provided a fact sheet from which they will develop and write an editorial. Forty-five minutes will be allotted for the writing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Section 1400 or 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in Editorial Writing.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* The contest director may be the coach of a participating student. A single or an odd number of judges should be selected. Judge(s) shall not be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Options for Writing.* Contestants may handwrite their editorials or may bring and use their own computers. If contestants choose to use their own computers, they shall bring their own printers, associated hardware, software and paper. Spell check and thesaurus functions may be used. Students who opt to compose their entries on computers accept the risk of computer malfunction. In case of computer malfunction, the contestant may use the remaining allotted time to complete the composition in handwriting. Contestants may use electronic or printed dictionaries and thesauruses.

(3) *Viewing Period.* An optional period not to exceed 15 minutes may be arranged for coaches and contestants to review their own evaluations and stories and verify identification.

(4) *Official Results.* After the viewing period has ended and all contest papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announce, are final.

(5) *Points and Ties.* Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). There can be no ties in this contest.

(6) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1426: IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* This contest gives students experience in formulating and organizing clear thoughts and effectively delivering those thoughts to an audience. The contest provides opportunities for students to explore the use of the voice and body in speaking situations; to examine different purposes for speaking; to organize ideas and deliver speeches on a variety of topics; to evaluate speeches given by others; and to develop self-confidence.

(2) *Contest Format.* Contestants will draw three topics, select one, and have three minutes to prepare a speech, which shall be presented without any notes. Contestants may not use costumes or props in the contest. The maximum time limit for each speech is five minutes. There is no minimum time limit. Students who exceed the allotted five minutes shall be penalized one rank. For example, if the judges rank a student second who has gone overtime, that student shall be assigned third place and the student who was ranked third will be given second place. No speaker may be coached or prompted in any manner during the presentation. Audiences are permitted.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Section 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest. A student may enter no more than two speech events.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* The contest director may be the coach of a participating student. A timekeeper should be provided for each section. Contest officials should select one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges shall not be coaches of participating students. So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.

(2) *Sections.* A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter a division of impromptu speaking, they shall be divided into sections according to official contest procedures.

(3) *Rankings, Ties and Points.* Contestants shall be ranked as specified in official contest procedures. There can be no ties in this contest.

Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(4) *Verification Period.* If a panel of judges is used, a verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that tabulation of rankings is correct. The decisions of the judges are not subject to question. Evaluation sheets may be viewed by contestants and coaches during the verification period and shall be returned to the contest director at the end of the verification period. For rounds with single judges, a 15-minute viewing period is recommended.

(5) *Official Results*. The contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(6) *Returning Materials*. No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1430: LISTENING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to help students recognize the importance of effective listening skills and to identify problems they may have in listening effectively. It also provides a challenging format to test the improvement of their listening abilities. Through preparation for the contest, participants will listen to a variety of material and learn to evaluate and critically analyze a speaker's message. The objective tests will measure skills such as identifying the main idea and supporting ideas, listening for details, drawing conclusions and distinguishing fact from opinion.

(2) *Contest Format*. Contestants will listen to a script ranging from approximately seven to 10 minutes in length, take notes as needed, and use their notes to answer 25 objective questions. Ten minutes will be allotted for the testing period.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students except the script reader. The reader may not be a coach of any contestant entered in the contest.

(2) *Ties and Points*. No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(3) *Verification Period*. A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(4) *Official Results.* After verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(5) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1434: MAPS, GRAPHS AND CHARTS

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* This contest is designed to help students learn to get information from a variety of maps, graphs and charts including world maps, pie charts, bar charts and local area maps. The objective test will measure skills such as using an atlas as a reference book to locate information, making comparisons, estimating and approximating, using scale and interpreting grid systems, legends and keys.

(2) *Contest Format*. Some subject matter will be taken from the designated official sources(s). Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 75 objective questions. Contestants may use an atlas during the

contest; an atlas will be needed to answer some test questions. Forty-five minutes will be allotted for the testing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Ties and Points*. No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). Tied contestants or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.

(3) *Verification Period.* A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(4) *Official Results.* After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(5) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1438: MATHEMATICS

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. Learning to complete math problems quickly is a valuable skill in all facets of life. This contest includes problems covering, but not limited to: numeration systems, arithmetic operations involving whole numbers, integers, fractions, decimals, exponents, order of operations, probability, statistics, number theory, simple interest, measurements and conversions. Geometry and algebra problems may be included as appropriate for the grade level.

(2) *Contest Format*. The contest consists of 50 multiple-choice problems. Thirty minutes will be allotted for the testing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contest-ants per division in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Ties and Points*. No ties are to be broken in either the individual or the team component of this contest. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(3) *Verification Period*. A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(4) *Official Results.* After verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced,

are final.

(5) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1442: MODERN ORATORY

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* In this contest, the contestant will select one of the topics, determine the critical issues in the topic, and acknowledge both pro and con points citing support discovered in their research. Students will choose a side they will defend and support that side with additional evidence. Along with the skills of analysis, research, note-taking, documentation, evaluation and decision-making come those of memorization and delivery.

(2) *Contest Format.* The UIL will provide a selection of topics each academic year from which the student will pick one. Contestants will deliver a three to six-minute speech on their topic without the use of notes. Contestants shall not use costumes or props in the contest. Students going over the maximum or under the minimum time limit shall be penalized one rank. For example, if the judges rank a student second who has gone over the time limit, that student shall be assigned third place and the student who was ranked third will be given second place. No speaker may be coached or prompted in any manner during the presentation. Audiences are permitted.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Section 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest. A student may enter no more than two speech events.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* The contest director may be the coach of a participating student. Contest officials should select one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges shall not be coaches of participating students. So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.

(2) *Sections.* A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter a division of modern oratory, they shall be divided into sections according to official contest procedures.

(3) *Rankings, Ties and Points*. Contestants shall be ranked as specified in official contest procedures. There can be no ties in this contest. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(4) *Verification Period*. If a panel of judges is used, a verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that tabulation of rankings is correct. The decisions of the judges are not subject to question. Evaluation sheets may be viewed by contestants and coaches during the verification period. For rounds with single judges, a 15-minute viewing period is recommended.

(5) *Official Results.* The contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(6) *Returning Materials.* No confidential materials are used in this contest. Therefore, evaluation sheets may be returned to contestants at the conclusion of the contest.

Section 1446: MUSIC MEMORY

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. The focus of this contest is an in-depth study of fine pieces of music taken from a wide spectrum of genres to expose students to great composers, their lives and their music. In the course of preparing for the contest, students should be given the opportunity to describe and analyze the music, relate the music to history, to society and to culture, and to evaluate musical performance. The UIL will publish each year the official UIL Music Memory List and provide sources for obtaining recordings of the music and information on the pieces and composers.

(2) *Contest Format*. Students in grade 2 will listen to and identify short excerpts of 10 musical selections. Additional optional components may be available for district consideration. There is no tiebreaker section for the grade 2 contest. Students in grades 3 and 4 will

complete a matching section and will listen to and identify short excerpts of up to 20 musical selections. Students in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 will listen to and identify short excerpts of up to 20 musical selections. Specific test formats for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 may differ by grade level and may include tiebreaker sections or optional components for district consideration. The current *A+ Handbook* includes complete rules and instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individuals.* Each participant school may enter as many as five contestants in each division in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of all contestants in each division from a school, divided by the number of contestants from that school, shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have at least three contestants compete to participate in team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Ties and Points*. Ties shall be broken, when applicable, by applying the tiebreaker rules for that grade level. If a tie remains after the tiebreaker has been scored, the tie will stand. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.

(3) *Certificates*. Students having a 100% correct paper on the district test selections are eligible for a Certificate of Achievement. The four tiebreaking questions are not to be considered in determining 100% papers.

(4) *Verification Period.* A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(5) *Official Results.* After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(6) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1450: NUMBER SENSE

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. Individuals are called upon every day to use their ability to make quick mental calculations to make decisions. The development of such abilities should be an integral part of the math curriculum. Concepts covered include, but are not limited to: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, proportions, and use of mathematic notation.

(2) *Contest Format*. Students will be given a fill-in-the-blank test which they shall complete without doing calculations on paper or on a calculator. Erasures, mark-overs and mark-outs are not permitted. Requirements for numeric forms shall be as specified in official contest procedures. Exactly 10 minutes shall be allotted for the testing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Ties and Points*. Ties are not to be broken in either individual or team competition. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i). Tied individuals or teams split the total points equally for the two or more places in which a tie exists.

(3) *Verification Period.* A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(4) ***Official Results.*** After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(5) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1454: ONE-ACT PLAY

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. Students will have the opportunity to work in all aspects of the production of a 40-minute play. During the production of the play they will be able to:

(A) satisfy the competitive, artistic spirit with friendly rivalry among schools, emphasizing high quality performance in this creative art;

(B) foster appreciation of good acting, good directing and good drama;

(C) promote interest in that art form most readily usable in leisure time during adult life;

(D) learn to lose or win graciously, accepting in good sportsmanship the judge's decision and criticism with a view to improve future productions; and

(E) increase the number of schools that have adopted theatre arts as an academic subject in school curricula.

(2) *Contest Format.* Schools will produce a play in strict accordance to the rules and regulations in the current *One-Act Play Handbook* and Sections 1033 and 1034, with the following exceptions:

(A) all deadlines and schedules are to be determined by the district executive committee;

(B) enrollment and Title Entry Forms are not required for junior high schools and will not be available from the UIL office; and

(C) directors for eighth grade and below do not have to be full-time employees of the school district as required by 1033 (b) (5) (A).

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in the seventh and eighth grades who are eligible under Section 1400 may enter this contest. Sixth graders who are eligible under Section 1405 may participate in the contest if they are on the same campus as the seventh and eighth grade. Participants shall be full-time students in grades six, seven or eight at the school they represent.

(2) *Divisions*. This contest consists of one division.

(c) OFFICIAL RESULTS. The decision of the critic judge or judges is final. The winner of a junior high school one-act play contest shall not advance beyond the district level. Winners shall be ranked first, second and third.

(d) MATERIALS. No printed materials are shipped for A+ One-Act Play contests. All instructions and forms are available for download from the UIL website.

Section 1458: ORAL READING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. Reading a text out loud serves four purposes: to analyze the text as a literary critic; to grow and to develop as a performer; to communicate a message to an audience; and to perform an artistic creation. All of these apply to the Oral Reading competition, which should be an extension of the classroom literary and language arts activities in poetry, short stories and children's fiction.

(2) *Contest Format.* Requirements for acceptable selections shall be as specified in official contest procedures. The maximum time for each presentation is six minutes. There is no minimum time limit. Students who exceed the allotted six minutes shall be penalized one rank. For example, if the judges rank a student second who has gone overtime, that student shall be assigned third place and the student who was ranked third will be given second place. Contestants may not use costumes or props in the contest. No speaker may be coached or prompted in any manner during the presentation. Audiences are per-

mitted.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest at the district meet. Eligible ninth grade students may also enter oral reading. At the district meet, students in grades four through eight may enter no more than two speech events. Ninth grade students are limited by the requirements in Section 1000 (b).

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* The contest director may be the coach of a participating student. A timekeeper should be provided for each section. Contest officials should select one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges shall not be coaches of participating students. So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.

(2) *Sections.* A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter a division of oral reading, they shall be divided into sections according to official contest procedures. Winners from the preliminary rounds will compete in a final round.

(3) *Rankings, Ties and Points.* Contestants shall be ranked as specified in official contest procedures. There can be no ties in this contest. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(4) *Verification Period*. If a panel of judges is used, a verification period shall be provided, during which unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that tabulation of rankings is correct. The decisions of the judges are not subject to question. Evaluation sheets may be viewed by contestants and coaches during the verification period and shall be returned to the contest director at the end of the verification period. For rounds with single judges, a 15-minute viewing period is recommended.

(5) *Official Results*. The contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(6) *Returning Materials.* No confidential materials are used in this contest. Therefore, evaluation sheets may be returned to contestants at the conclusion of the contest.

Section 1462: READY WRITING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* Texas has put a great emphasis on writing skills at all levels of school and all levels of statewide testing. Ready Writing builds upon those skills and helps students refine their writing abilities. In particular, this contest helps them learn to write clearly and correctly a paper that is interesting and original.

(2) *Contest Format*. Contestants are given a choice between two prompts, each of which defines the audience and provides the purpose for writing. Students should be encouraged to analyze the prompts for purpose, format, audience and point of view. The format may be, for example, a letter, an article for the newspaper or an essay for the principal. Various writing strategies may be stated or implied in the prompt. Some of these include:

(A) description to inform – describe the happening or person/object from imagination or memory;

(B) narration – write a story;

(C) persuasion – describe and argue just one side of an issue; describe both sides of an issue then argue only one side; write an editorial; write a letter to persuade, etc.

There is no minimum or maximum number of words the contestants may write. Two hours are allowed for writing the composition. The District Executive Committee may shorten the length of the contest period to conform to the needs of the grade level.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three

contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.*

(A) Contest Director. The contest director may be the coach of a participating student. A single or an odd number of judges should be selected. Judge(s) shall not be coaches of participating students.

(2) Options For Writing. Contestants may hand-write their essays or may bring and use their own computers. If contestants choose to use their own computers, they shall bring their own printers, associated hardware, software and paper. Spell check and thesaurus functions may be used. Students who opt to compose their entries on computers accept the risk of computer malfunction. In case of computer malfunction, the contestant may use the remaining allotted time to complete the composition in handwriting. Contestants may use electronic or printed dictionaries and thesauruses.

(3) *Viewing Period* An optional period of time not to exceed 15 minutes may be arranged for coaches and contestants to review their own evaluations and compositions, and verify identification.

(4) *Ties and Points*. There can be no ties in this contest. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(5) *Official Results*. After the optional viewing period has ended and all compositions have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official winners. Official results, once announced, are final.

(6) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1466: SCIENCE

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. Emphasis for the Science contest will be placed on knowledge of scientific fact, understanding of scientific principles and the ability to think through scientific problems. The contests are designed to test not only memory but the ability to think critically about science and scientific processes and concepts. Such concepts include, but are not limited to: matter and energy, equilibrium, force and motion, physical and chemical properties, the relationship between organisms and the environment, the components of our solar system, the composition of matter and genetics. The contests will build upon the vast body of changing and increasing knowledge described by physical, mathematical and conceptual models.

(2) *Contest Format.* Each test will consist of approximately 50 objective questions that will be taken primarily from current state-adopted science textbooks and the curriculum. Forty-five minutes will be allotted for the testing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Section 1400 or 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Verification Period.* A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(3) *Ties and Points.* Ties shall not be broken. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is not third, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(4) *Official Results.* After the verification period has ended and all test papers and answer sheets have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(5) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1468: SOCIAL STUDIES

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. This contest is designed to encourage students to expand their knowledge of social studies, particularly in the areas of history, government systems, economics, citizenship and culture. Subject matter used for the test will be taken from currently adopted social studies textbooks and identified primary sources.

(2) *Contest Format*. Students will be given an objective test containing approximately 40 questions. Thirty minutes will be allotted for the testing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants*. Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel*. All personnel in this contest may be coaches of participating students.

(2) *Verification Period*. A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decision shall be final.

(3) *Ties and Points*. No ties are to be broken. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(4) *Official Results*. After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(5) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1470: SPELLING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary*. This contest is designed to give students exposure to a wide variety of vocabulary words. It is not a contest of memorization. For the most educational value, preparation for this contest should include instruction in the rules of the English language, meanings and definitions, and root words. In addition to learning to spell proficiently, contestants will learn to write clearly and to capitalize words properly. Words will come from the appropriate UIL spelling list, state adopted textbooks and words of common usage. Approximately 20 percent of the test words will come from sources other than the UIL spelling lists. The source designated in official contest procedures will serve as the authority for all words in the contest

(2) *Contest Format*. Students will write down words given by the pronouncer on their paper at a rate of approximately five words per minute.

(A) Grades 3 and 4: 50 words; tie breaker, 15 words.

(B) Grades 5 and 6: 80 words; tie breaker, 20 words.

(C) Grades 7 and 8: 110 words; tie breaker, 30 words.

The tiebreaker is given to all contestants immediately following the initial test. Contestants who do not take the tiebreaker shall be disqualified.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Sections 1400 and 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* For each division, each participant school may enter as many as three contestants in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* If the district has elected to include team competition, the combined scores of the three contestants in each division from a school shall constitute the school's team score. A team shall have three contestants compete to participate in the team competition.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel*. The contest director will be in charge of running the contest and resolving any problems that arise. The director may also serve as the pronouncer as long as he/she is not the coach of any student in the contest. The pronouncer shall not be a coach of any contestant entered in the contest. Responsibilities of the pronouncer are as specified in official contest procedures. Additional required and recommended contest personnel are specified in official contest procedures.

(2) *Verification Period*. A verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Contestants and coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to examine their test papers with official keys. Questions should be directed to the contest director, whose decisions shall be final.

(3) *Ties and Points.* Ties in individual competition are to be broken by scoring the tie breaker test of only those involved in the tie. When calculating team scores, do not include scores from the tie breaker portion of the test unless a tie exists. If a tie exists in team competition, calculate the tie breaker scores for only those teams involved in the tie. If the tie remains after scoring the tie breaker, the tie shall stand. If there is a tie for first place, there is no second place. If there is a tie for second place, there is no third place, etc. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(4) *Certificates*. Students who score 100% in district competition are eligible to receive a Certificate of Achievement. Words misspelled on the tie breaker do not disqualify a student from a certificate.

(5) *Official Results.* After the verification period has ended and all test papers have been collected, the contest director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(6) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1474: STORYTELLING

(a) THE CONTEST.

(1) *Summary.* To tell a story, the participant should develop skills in listening, thinking and speaking. This contest also allows for the development of creative expression. For practice, teachers can use stories from any good children's books or magazines.

(2) *Contest Format*. Contestants shall listen to a storyteller read a brief story (between 600 and 1100 words long) only once, and then retell that story in their own words before a judge or judges. Contestants shall not use costumes or props in the contest. No materials or notes may be used during the presentation. There is no minimum or maximum time limit for the presentation. Contestants may not receive prompting of the story plot or details. Audiences are permitted to hear contestants tell their stories.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) *Contestants.* Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Section 1400 or 1405 may enter this contest.

(2) *Divisions*. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level or combined grade level divisions as specified in official contest procedures.

(3) *Individual Competition.* Each participant school may enter as many as three contestants per division in the district meet.

(4) *Team Competition.* There is no team competition in this contest.

(c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Personnel.* The contest director may be the coach of a participating student. If the contest director is not the coach of a participating student, the contest director may serve as the storyteller or may appoint a qualified person to act in this capacity. Responsibilities of the storyteller are as specified in official contest procedures. The storyteller may not be the coach of a participating student. Contest officials should select one judge or an odd-numbered panel of judges for each section. Judges shall not be coaches of participating students. So far as possible, judges should not know what school any contestant represents.

(2) *Sections.* A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter a division of storytelling, they shall be divided into sections according to

official contest procedures. Winners from the preliminary rounds will compete in a final round.

(3) *Rankings, Ties and Points*. Contestants shall be ranked as specified in official contest procedures. There can be no ties in this contest. Points are awarded as specified in Section 1408 (i).

(4) *Verification Period*. If a panel of judges is used, a verification period shall be provided. Unofficial results should be posted. Coaches should be given no more than 15 minutes to verify that tabulation of rankings is correct. The rankings given by judges are not subject to question. Evaluation sheets may be viewed by contestants and coaches during the verification period and shall be returned to the contest director at the end of the verification period. For rounds with single judges, a 15-minute viewing period is recommended.

(5) *Official Results.* The director shall announce the official results. Official results, once announced, are final.

(6) *Returning Materials.* No materials from district contests may be returned to contestants prior to official release dates.

Section 1478: SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE ATHLETIC PLAN

(a) PURPOSES. The UIL is vitally interested in the welfare and development of every youngster. A properly administered athletic program can enhance their overall education. Junior high programs need to take into consideration the substantial range in individual differences among seventh and eighth grade students, i.e., age, body build, interests, ability, experience, health, and stages of physiological, emotional and social maturity. Exploring a wide range of activities rather than specializing in one area, and what is best for the greatest number of participants involved should be emphasized. Each local district has final responsibility for enforcement of all objectives, guidelines and codes in the junior high program of competition. The purposes of the junior high athletic program of the UIL include the following.

(1) To conduct the athletic program so that educational objectives are achieved, highest details of sportsmanship are upheld, and no single phase of the athletic program is promoted at the expense of other programs.

(2) To provide broad and varied athletic programs with an opportunity for equitable competition for all students. A desirable program involves participation in intramural competition at several ability levels and interschool competition for the more advanced students.

(3) To equalize competition and administer the programs so that mismatching of teams or individuals is not permitted. Individual schools shall have the final responsibility of enforcing this concept.

(4) To integrate the athletic program with all other activities essential to junior high school youth, avoiding an excessive activity load for any student.

(5) To require that participants are properly examined, approved, equipped, classified, instructed and supervised.

(6) To administer the program so that there will be a minimum loss of school time, proper but minimal publicity, competent officiating, limited awards, and the program kept in its proper perspective.

(7) To provide qualified faculty leadership who understand this adolescent age group, the objective of this modified sports program, and the emphasis on safety and welfare of the student.

(8) To foster proper respect for authority and avoidance of all evidences of undesirable athletic mannerisms.

(9) To compete within the spirit of the rules, giving every opponent due credit and respect, and making every effort to be gracious in victory or loss.

NOTE: All middle and junior high coaches are required to comply with Section 1202 (j), (k), and (l).

(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE PARTICIPANTS. An individual may participate in UIL athletic competition or contests as a representative of a participant school if he/she:

(1) has met the requirements of Section 1400 (a) regarding general eligibility;

(2) for seventh grade athletic competition, has not reached his/her 14th birthday on or before September 1, and has not enrolled in the ninth grade;

(3) for eighth grade athletic competition, has not reached his/her 15th birthday on or before September 1, and has not enrolled in the ninth grade; and

(4) a student who initially entered the seventh or eighth grade the current school year and is too old for seventh or eighth grade participation may participate according to age,

that is, seventh graders on the eighth grade, ninth grade, high school junior varsity or high school varsity team, and eighth graders on the ninth grade, high school junior varsity or high school varsity team.

(A) Four Consecutive Years. A student has only four consecutive calendar years to complete high school varsity eligibility. **Exception:** Refer to Section 463.

(B) Athletic Class. Overage junior high school students who have reached their 15th birthday on or before September 1 of that school year may be assigned to high school athletic periods if they are participating with the high school sub-varsity or varsity. Otherwise seventh and eighth grade students remain in their junior high school athletic class throughout the school year.

(C) Full Participation Allowed. Only seventh and eighth grade students who are too old to represent the eighth-grade team may participate on the high school's athletic team. Overage junior high school students who participate with a high school ninth grade, sub-varsity or varsity team, may participate fully under the rules for high school athletes in that sport, including, but not limited to, rules governing number of games, post-season games, etc.

(5) Is a full-time student in grade seven or eight at the school he/she represents, or is a non-enrolled (home schooled) student seeking participation and is in compliance with all provisions included in section 33.0832 of the Texas Education Code. **Exception:** Seventh and eighth grade students from public K-8 ISDs that do not field a team, may participate on the seventh and eighth grade baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball and/or volleyball teams at the junior high school in the attendance area where they reside or which is a part of the designated receiving school district. (Parochial, private schooled students are not eligible.)

(6) Has been in attendance and has passed the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education, and is passing the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education; or is a non-enrolled (home schooled) student seeking participation and is in compliance with all provisions included in section 33.0832 of the Texas Education Code.

(7) Has not changed schools for athletic purposes.

Note : Eligibility is lost for one to three years for seventh grade "A" team, eighth grade "A" team or combined seventh and eighth grade "A" team. An "A" team is the same as a high school varsity team.

(c) SIXTH GRADE PARTICIPATION.

(1) *No Interscholastic Athletic Competition Below Seventh Grade.* With only the exceptions noted below, no interscholastic athletic practice or competition is allowed in any conference for teams in the sixth grade and below. Sixth grade students may not practice with or against junior high students. This does not apply to annual inter-school elementary field days, assuming there is no awarding of place ribbons or determination of team champions.

(2) *Student's Eligibility*. A sixth grader may participate in UIL competition or contests as a representative of a participant school only if he/she:

(A) is a student with a disability which delayed his or her education by at least a year and therefore will be too old to participate the following year as a seventh grader;

(B) has met the requirements of Section 1400 (a) regarding general eligibility;

(C) Is a full-time student in grade six at the school he/she represents;

(D) has been in attendance and has passed the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education, and is passing the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education; and

(E) has not changed schools for athletic purposes.

(3) **Exceptions.** A sixth grader may also participate in UIL competition or contests as a representative of a participant school under the following circumstances.

(A) In Conference 1A and 2A schools or in small junior high schools whose enrollment corresponds to Conference 1A and 2A enrollment, sixth graders may be used when their participation is vital to field one combined seventh and eighth grade baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball or volleyball team on the first day of the season. Sixth graders may not

be used on either team when a school has more than one team playing baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball or volleyball team on the first day of the season. (**Exception:** Pilot program for the 2023-24 school year: 1A and 2A schools are allowed to use sixth graders to field as many as two (2) teams under this rule. Also, once a school qualifies to use sixth graders under this rule, it would qualify to use sixth graders for any activities that follow on the calendar.) The first day of the season is defined as the first day of practice outside the school day or the day of the first competition, whichever occurs sooner. If fewer than the below listed number of seventh and eighth grade students report the first day of the season, then sixth graders shall be notified the next day that they may try out for the combined seventh and eighth grade team and may participate for the entire season. If the number of seventh and eighth graders reporting the first day of the season meets or exceeds the number listed below, then sixth graders shall not be used anytime during the entire season.

Baseball - 18
Basketball - 10
Football: 6-man - 12
Football: 11-man - 22
Soccer - 22
Softball - 18
Volleyball - 12

If a coach intentionally prevents seventh or eighth graders from reporting at the beginning of the season (so as to permit sixth graders to participate) it will be considered a violation of the Athletic Codes and subject to penalty.

(B) Individual Sports. Sixth graders shall not represent a UIL seventh and eighth school in individual sports (cross country, golf, swimming, tennis, track and field and wrestling), except students with disabilities who meet the criteria of the provisions of Section 1478 (c) (2). (**Exception:** Pilot program for the 2023-24 school year: Sixth graders are allowed to participate in individual sports in conference 1A and 2A if they participated in any team sport under the guidelines of section 1478 (c)(3)(A).)

(C) Schools must provide evidence of compliance with the rule above to the DEC to utilize sixth graders.

(d) GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR ATHLETIC COMPETITION. Prior to all athletic games, meets, matches and practices the following shall be adhered to, if applicable.

(1) *Scheduling*. No game, contest, scrimmage or tournament, including district competition, shall begin prior to the end of the academic school day for all participants. Refer to 1478 (b) (4) for junior high students who participate on a high school team and for scheduling athletic classes.

(2) *No Post-district Competition*. There shall be no post-season playoffs or competition in any athletic event.

(3) *Non-Discrimination Policy In UIL Junior High School Contest Plans*. Refer to Section 360 of the Constitution.

(4) *Pre-Participation Physical Examination.* Upon entering the first year in junior high athletics a physical examination signed by a physician, a physician assistant licensed by a state board of physician assistant examiners, a registered nurse recognized as an advanced practice nurse by the board of nurse examiners or a Doctor of Chiropractic is required. Standardized pre-participation physical examination forms, available from the UIL office and authorized by the UIL Medical Advisory Committee are required.

(5) *Medical History Form.* Each year prior to any practice or participation a UIL medical history form signed by both student and a parent or guardian is required. A medical history form shall accompany each physical examination and shall be signed by both student and a parent or guardian.

(6) *Concussion Acknowledgement Form*. According to Section 38.155 of the Texas Education Code, "a student may not participate in an interscholastic athletic activity for a school year until both the student and the student 's parent or guardian or another person with legal authority to make medical decisions for the student have signed a form for that school year that acknowledges receiving and reading written information that explains concussion prevention, symptoms, treatment, and oversight and that includes guidelines for safely resuming participation in an athletic activity following a concussion

….." This section also applies to students participating in the cheerleading program at the school.

(7) *Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form*. Each year prior to any practice or participation in athletics, a UIL Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness form signed by both student and a parent or guardian is required.

(8) *Sunday Participation*. No UIL participant school shall sponsor individuals or teams in any contest or school competition on a Sunday in a UIL contest or a contest similar to one offered by the UIL. Schools shall not conduct practices or teach any plays, formations or skills on Sunday. Any showing of films to or meetings of athletes for the purpose of instruction or reviewing of plays, formations or skills in any sport will be construed as a violation. This does not prevent coaches from meeting on Sunday or from seeing films or planning an instructional program, provided that no student athletes are involved in the meeting.

(9) *Holiday Restriction*. A school shall not conduct contests or practices, use school facilities, personnel or equipment during five consecutive days of December. Any organized or required practice will be a violation of this regulation. Schools may choose any five consecutive days which include December 24, 25 and 26, with the following exceptions.

(A) When December 26 falls on a Thursday, schools may participate in a tournament game on December 26.

(B) When December 26 falls on a Thursday, schools shall still follow a five consecutive day restriction, including December 24 and 25.

(C) No practice shall be permitted on any of the five consecutive days.

(D) Travel is permitted on the 26th if a tournament game is scheduled on December 27; however, no practice shall be permitted on the 26th.

(E) Travel will not be permitted on December 25.

(F) A team that has a game on December 23 could travel home on December 24 and still be in compliance with this section.

(10) *Officials*.

(A) Responsible School. Home school is responsible for obtaining officials. Unless mutually decided otherwise UIL member schools shall use UIL registered officials for non-varsity games.

(B) Fee Schedule. The flat fee schedule and travel reimbursement, as approved by the Legislative Council, shall be posted on the UIL website.
www.uiltexas.org/athletics/officials

(11) *Tournament Regulations*. Definition: at least three teams assembled on days other than Sunday for an elimination contest. Tournament games shall not begin prior to the end of the academic school day for all participants. Games do not have to be scheduled on consecutive days. Round robin tournaments limited to four teams and pool play tournaments limited to 16 teams shall be permitted. Refer to team sports plans for further regulations.

(12) *Recommended Standards*. It is recommended that seventh and eighth grade activities be held on a Saturday or on a non-school night, or end competition to allow students to be back at home no later than 10 p.m. on a school night. It is highly recommended that no contest be scheduled on a night prior to a semester or a six-weeks exam.

(13) *Physical Education/Athletic Periods*. No student shall be enrolled in more than one physical education or athletics class per school day. Schools may use a seventh, eighth or zero period concept for athletics, provided no student enrolled in the class is enrolled in any other physical education/athletics class. This period shall not exceed 60 minutes per day (or 300 minutes per week on a block schedule) and the allotted time includes time for dressing and re-dressing in street clothes. Refer to Section 1206 (d). This provision applies to a non-enrolled (home schooled) student participating in accordance with section 33.0832 of the Texas Education Code.

(e) ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS FOR TEAM SPORTS: BASEBALL, BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, SOCCER, SOFTBALL AND VOLLEYBALL.

(1) *Coaches Involvement with Non-school Teams*. For non-school competition seventh- and eighth-grade school coaches shall not schedule matched games for students in grades 7-12 from their attendance zone during the school year. Coaches may assist in organizing, selecting players and coaches, and supervising facilities for non-school UIL play. School coaches shall not coach or instruct students from their school district attendance zone,

except their own adopted or birth children.

(2) *Rule Modification*. Any extension of a game in baseball, softball, basketball, football or soccer shall involve different players from those who participated in the earlier contest. Any extension means any additional time, i.e., another quarter played at the end of the regulation junior high contest. The additional play shall count as one of the allowable contests per school week, calendar week, and season for the individuals participating. Schools shall count the contest as one of the allowable B team contests in that sport. Schools are allowed to pay an additional partial game fee to officials.

(3) *Summer Camps*. Refer to Section 1209.

(4) *Summer Strength/Conditioning Programs and Sport Specific Skill Instruction* Refer to Section 1206 (h).

(5) *Prescheduled District Tournaments - Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball*. Junior high prescheduled district baseball, basketball, soccer, softball and volleyball tournaments may be played in addition to invitational tournament(s) provided each game/match in the prescheduled tournament is counted as a game/match on the regular season record. Example: A junior high school could participate in nine regular season basketball games, two invitational tournaments and a three-game district tournament. Schools need to save enough games/matches to cover all possible district tournament games.

(f) BASEBALL AND GIRLS' SOFTBALL.

(1) *Number of Games*. No team or individual shall compete in more than 12 games and 2 invitational or district tournaments. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. A scrimmage counts as one of the 12 contests.

(2) *Number of Games Per Week*. One game or scrimmage may be played per calendar week. A tournament may be played in the same calendar week of a game.

(3) *Number of Tournament Games Per Day*. Contestants or teams shall play no more than two tournament games per calendar day, except contestants or teams may play in three games in a one-day tournament scheduled on a Saturday.

(4) *Season for Workouts and Games*. Schools shall have 97 consecutive calendar days to practice outside the school day and to complete scrimmages and games. The season can be held anytime during the school year, provided it does not exceed the number of consecutive calendar days listed above.

(g) BASKETBALL.

(1) *Number of Games*. No team or student shall compete in more than 12 games and two invitational or district tournaments. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. If a team or student does not play in any invitational or district tournaments, four additional games may be played. A scrimmage counts as one of the 12 games.

(2) *Number of Games Per Week*. One game or scrimmage may be played per calendar week. A tournament may be played in the same calendar week of a game.

(3) *Number of Tournament Games Per Day*. Contestants or teams shall play no more than two tournament games per calendar day, except contestants or teams may play in three games in a one-day tournament scheduled on a Saturday.

(4) *Season for Workouts and Games*. Schools shall have 121 consecutive calendar days to practice outside the school day and to complete scrimmages and games. The season can be held anytime during the school year, provided it does not exceed the number of consecutive calendar days listed above.

(5) *Eight Minute Quarters*. Junior high schools may, by mutual consent, play eight-minute quarters. Refer to Basketball Manual.

(h) FOOTBALL.

(1) *Number of Games*. No team or student shall compete in more than nine (but recommend eight) football games. A scrimmage counts as one of the allowable games.

(2) *Number of Games Per Week*. One game or scrimmage may be played per calendar week. There shall be a minimum of five days between contests.

(3) *Season for Workouts and Games*.

(A) Practice. Practice shall not begin prior to the first day of school. Football equipment may be checked out to the players on any one day during the week preceding the first day of school. The first five days of practice shall consist of the following acclimatization period. The first two days of practice shall be conducted without any contact equipment except helmets. On the third and fourth days of practice, helmets, shoulder pads and padded girdles (shells) may be worn, but no player to player contact is allowed. On day five of the

acclimatization period, helmets, shoulder pads and padded girdles (shells) may be worn, and player to player contact is permitted. During the five-day acclimatization period, no full contact activities shall be permitted. All student athletes who arrive after the first day of practice are required to undergo a five-day acclimatization period. No interschool scrimmages or games shall be allowed until after a period of at least seven days of contact football.

(B) Schools shall have 80 consecutive calendar days to practice outside the school day and to complete scrimmages and games. Schools must start their 80 days no later than the date set forth by the UIL calendar for junior high football start deadline.

(C) For schools choosing not to start their 80 days on the first day of school, students may be in an athletic period, but cannot participate in any football activities outside the school day until the first day of the 80 consecutive calendar days.

(D) During the season, football players are not allowed to participate in more than ninety (90) minutes of full contact practice per week. Refer to the Junior High Coaches Manual for explanations of full contact.

(4) *Off-Season Workouts*. Accelerated physical education activities, calisthenics, individual football skills, strength training or conditioning exercises may be conducted during the school term within the school day, (provided such activities do not exceed one regular class period not to exceed 60 minutes per day (or 300 minutes per week on a block schedule). Practice may include 11-on-11 drills without contact equipment or activities. Activities before or after school or during the lunch period are specifically prohibited. Allowed equipment is limited to a football, shoes with cleats, passing and punting machines and physical education attire. Air or padded blocking dummies or devices, and other similar devices are prohibited. Refer to Section 1206 (d).

(5) *Preseason or Summer Practice for Junior High or Elementary School Students*.

(A) Eighth Grade and Below Pre-Season Practice Prohibited. Schools shall not hold any preseason football practice in junior high school (eighth grade and below) or elementary school, individual or team, prior to the opening day of school.

(B) Eighth Grade and Below Spring Training Prohibited. Schools shall not conduct any spring training either in elementary school or junior high school (eighth grade and below) the preceding spring.

(C) Exception for Ninth Graders Not on High School Campus. Students in the ninth grade may participate in spring training in Conference AAAAAA and AAAAA schools provided that such participation is on a site and at the same time as the high school squad practices and that said high school is the one which the ninth grade students will attend the following fall.

(D) Violations. Penalty for violations shall be assessed by the appropriate executive committee.

(6) *Tied Games*. The NCAA tie breaker system shall not be used by junior high school teams.

(i) SOCCER.

(1) *Number of Games*. No team or student shall compete in more than 10 games and two invitational or district tournaments. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. A scrimmage counts as one of the 10 games.

(2) *Number of Games Per Week.* One game or scrimmage may be played per calendar week. A tournament may be played in the same calendar week of a game.

(3) *Number of Tournament Games Per Day.* Contestants or teams shall play no more than two tournament games per calendar day, except contestants or teams may play in three games in a one-day tournament scheduled on a Saturday.

(4) *Season for Workouts and Games*. Schools shall have 86 consecutive calendar days to practice outside the school day and to complete scrimmages and games. The season can be held anytime during the school year, provided it does not exceed the number of consecutive calendar days listed above.

(j) GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL.

(1) *Number of Matches*. No team or girl shall compete in more than 12 matches and two invitational or district tournaments. Two matches may be substituted in place of a tournament. If a team or student does not play in

any invitational or district tournaments, four additional matches may be played. A scrimmage counts as one of the 12 matches.

(2) *Number of Matches Per Week*. One match or dual match or scrimmage may be played per calendar week. A tournament may be played in the same calendar week of a match.

(3) *Number of Tournament Matches Per Day*. Contestants or teams shall play no more than three tournament matches per calendar day, except contestants or teams may play in four matches per calendar day in a one day tournament scheduled on a Saturday.

(4) *Season for Workouts and Matches*.

(A) Traditional School Years. Practice shall not begin prior to the first day of school. Schools shall have 86 consecutive calendar days to practice outside the school day and to complete scrimmages and matches. Volleyball equipment may be checked out to the players on any one day during the week preceding the first day of school. The season can be held anytime during the school year, provided it does not exceed the number of consecutive calendar days listed above.

(B) Non-traditional School Years. Schools should schedule their season to coincide with the schools in the UIL playing district they will compete against.

(k) ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL SPORTS: CROSS COUNTRY, GOLF, SWIMMING, TENNIS, TRACK AND FIELD AND WRESTLING.

(1) *Number of Meets/Tournaments*. No team or student shall compete in more than six meets or tournaments, including the district meet/tournament.

(2) *Exception to Six Meet/Tournament Limitation*.

(A) Cross Country, Golf, Swimming, Track and Field and Wrestling. Schools may also hold competitions with three or fewer schools provided there is no loss of school time.

(B) Tennis. If four teams meet for the purpose of playing tennis dual matches, it shall not be counted as one of the six tournaments allowed the team or the individual if no school time is lost and if no tournament draw is set to determine a champion.

(3) *Number of Contests Per Week*. Individual sport participants are limited to one contest, meet or tournament per calendar week.

(4) *Season for Meets/Tournaments and Workouts*. Practice and/or competition shall not begin prior to the first day of school. There is no mandated season length however, there is the limitation of six meets/tournaments per school year.

(l) TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS. The recommended track and field events and order of events, is as follows. The district executive committee may by majority vote, alter the distance of certain events or authorize additional events.

(1) *Boys' and Girls' Running Events*.

Girls' 2400-meter run,*
Boys' 2400-meter run*
Girls' 400-meter relay
Boys' 400-meter relay
Girls' 800-meter run
Boys' 800-meter run
Girls' 100-meter hurdles 30"
Boys' 110-meter hurdles 36"
Girls' 100-meter dash*
Boys' 100-meter dash*
Girls' 800-meter relay*
Boys' 800-meter relay*
Girls' 400-meter dash
Boys' 400-meter dash
Girls' 200-meter low hurdles
Boys' 200-meter low hurdles
Girls' 200-meter dash
Boys' 200-meter dash
Girls' 1600-meter run
Boys' 1600-meter run
Girls' 1600-meter relay
Boys' 1600-meter relay

*These events shall be run at the metric distance only. All other events may be run in yard equivalents.

(2) *Boys' and Girls' Field Events*.

Girls' Pole vault
Girls' 6-pound shot put
Girls' Discus
Girls' High jump
Girls' Long jump
Girls' Triple jump
Boys' Pole vault
Boys' High jump
Boys' 4-kilo shot put
Boys' Long jump
Boys' Discus
Boys' Triple jump

(3) *Event Limitations*.

(A) No contestant shall be allowed to compete in more than three running events,

including the relays, or in more than five total events.

(B) No contestant shall be allowed to enter more than two of the following events: 400-meter dash, 800-meter run, 1600-meter run or 2400-meter run. This does not prevent a 400, 800, 1600 or 2400-meter contestant from running on the relays provided he/she is entered in no more than three total running events.

(C) Contestants may enter a maximum of five field events provided they are not entered in any running events.

(4) *Day of Week and Starting Time*. Students or teams representing a participant school are permitted to participate in a track and field meet only after the end of the academic day for all participants. **Exception**: Two of the six allowable meets may start no earlier than 2:00 p.m.

(m) WATER POLO PROGRAM

(1) *Number of Games*. No team or individual shall compete in more than 12 games and 2 invitational or district tournaments. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. A scrimmage counts as one of the 12 contests.

(2) *Number of Games Per Week*. One game or scrimmage may be played per calendar week. A tournament may be played in the same calendar week of a game.

(3) *Number of Tournament Games Per Day*. Contestants or teams shall play no more than three tournament games per calendar day, except contestants or teams may play in four games per calendar day in a one-day tournament scheduled on a Saturday.

(4) *Season for Workouts and Games*. Schools shall have 70 consecutive calendar days to practice outside the school day and to complete scrimmages and games. The season can be held anytime during the school year, provided it does not exceed the number of consecutive calendar days listed above.

(n) CHEERLEADERS; SPIRIT GROUPS. All cheer and spirit performances at any UIL activity shall be in accordance with safety standards as prescribed by the National Federation High School Spirit Handbook. Cheerleading sponsors are required to complete a course regarding Safety Risk Minimization for Cheerleading and present proof of course completion to the school district.

(o) CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL. At all UIL athletic activities (including practices and contests), including cheerleading, schools shall implement and follow a concussion management protocol as prescribed by Texas Education Code Section 38.155 Subchapter D. * This section also applies to students participating in the cheerleading program at the school.

(p) CATASTROPHIC INJURY REPORTING. UIL member schools shall file reports of catastrophic injuries, as defined by the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research (NCCSIR), that occur during UIL practices and/or competitions utilizing the online reporting form available on the UIL web site.

(q) AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) USE REPORTING. UIL member schools shall file a report after an AED is used in conjunction with any UIL event, practice and competition, utilizing the online reporting form available on the UIL web site.

(r) EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS. UIL member schools are required to develop and implement a venue specific emergency action plan (EAP) for each venue utilized for UIL athletic practices and/or competitions.