

INCREASING PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS Is it the impact of club sports or a trend ?



2021 NADC CONFERENCE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13TH • 1:30PM-2:30PM



WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS



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MAINE



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WASHINGTON



CATHERINE NELSON

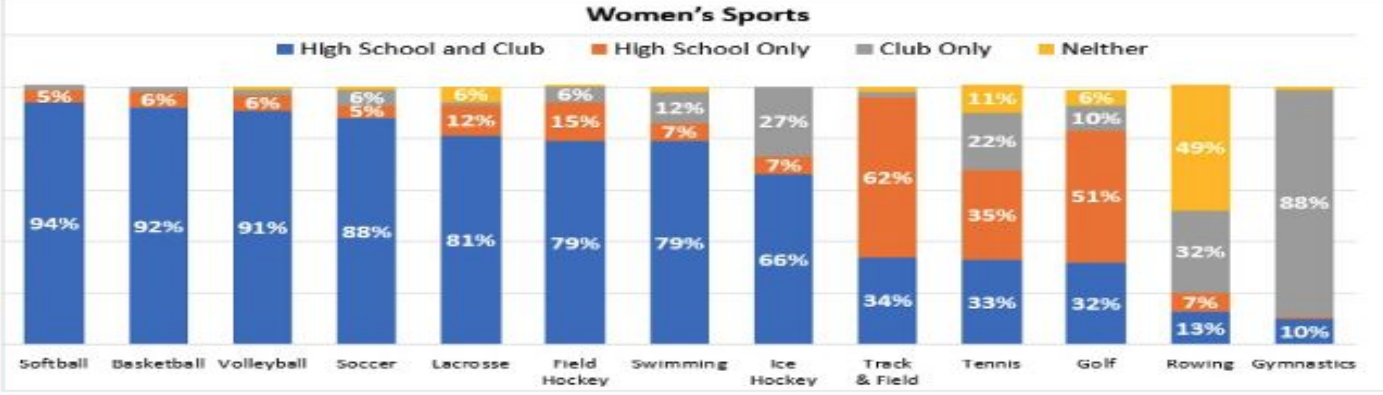
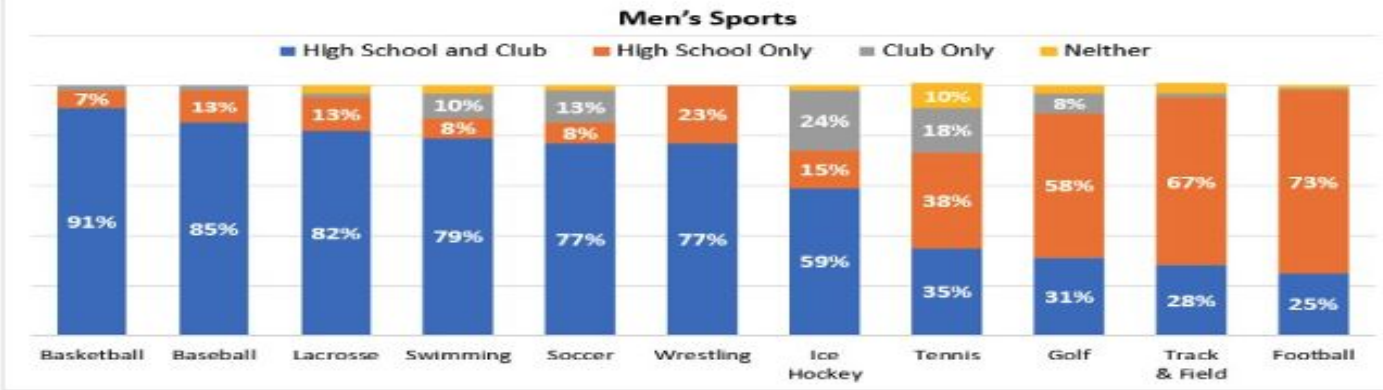
Former Club Director of
WEBFOOT Jrs

OREGON



Did NCAA Student-Athletes Compete on High School or Club Teams?

Charts sorted by Percent 'High School and Club' Participation



Note: Self-report from 2019 NCAA GOALS study. Club participation includes AAU, national, academy or other elite teams not affiliated with the high school. Categories labeled if 5% or higher.



WHAT IS THE ISSUE ?



School
MAINE

State Association
WASHINGTON

Club
OREGON



RULES THAT IMPACT PARTICIPATION



Washington

18.23.0 NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION - Students may participate on a non-school team or teams or in a non-school instruction program while also participating on a school team.

18.23.1 Schools may not give students special treatment or privileges on a regular basis to enable them to participate in non-school athletic activities. Some examples of special treatment or privileges include reduced practice times, special workouts, late arrivals, early dismissals or missing a practice or contest. Regular is defined as being no more than once per week.



RULES THAT IMPACT PARTICIPATION



Maine: Bona Fide Team Rule

A member of a school team is a student athlete who is regularly present for and actively participates in team practices and competitions. Bona fide members of a school team are prevented from missing high school practice or competition to compete or practice elsewhere.

- Two waivers per student athlete per sport season may be granted by the administrator on a case-by case basis for extraordinary circumstances.
- This policy is not intended to restrict dual sport participation in schools that allow dual participation.
- Penalty for violation of this policy:

1st Violation Suspension from play for one game/contest

2nd Violation Removal from team for remainder of season



WHY DO KIDS PLAY CLUB ?



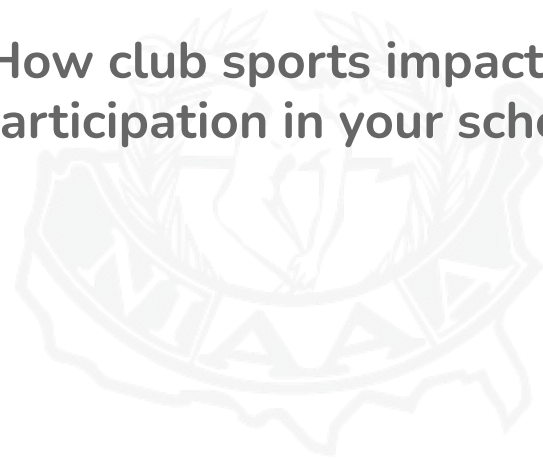
- Longer Season / Better Training
- Opportunity to travel and be seen by college coaches for next level participation
- Expanding their social circle / building relationships

REFLECTION



Discuss one of these:

- Rules in place in your state and how they impact participation.
- How club sports impact participation in your school.





COMMON THEMES



- Small schools need athletes to participate in sports year-round for success and program survival.
- Athletes participating in 2 sports at the same time and attending multiple practices in a day are going to get injured and negatively impact both sports.
- Athletes that participate on a club team assume they should be a starter on their high school team.
- Athletes that participate on a club team at the same time as a high school team may have conflicting schedules and teammates on one or the other are impacted.



NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR LEADERSHIP POWER



- School Districts may own the facilities that Club programs utilize.
- Use this leverage to prioritize programs with best practices.

How sports can help rebuild America

(Article - June, 2020)





REALITIES



CLUB SPORTS

They are not going away.
Should be supported as an opportunity for kids that want to specialize or test the waters of competition.

SCHOOL SPORTS

They are not going away.
Provides opportunities to represent your school.





TAKEAWAYS



ONE

KIDS FIRST

TWO

BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND

Focus on participation for as many youth as possible. Improved access, Quality coaches.

THREE

COLLABORATION

Better integration of community, club, and school sports. Less undue external pressure on kids.

FOUR

RETHINK PRIORITIES

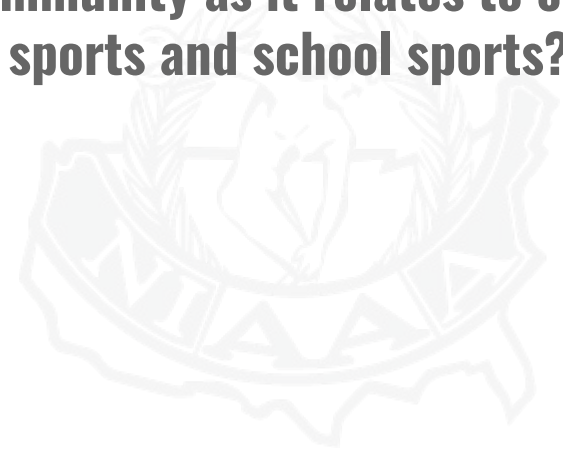
Preserve programs / intramurals. Partner with organizations with the similar goals. Level the playing field.



REFLECTION



What are ways you can positively impact the culture in your community as it relates to club sports and school sports?





Thank You



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