

**Subject:** Integrity Update: EGC Vote Results & The 2025-26 Disqualified List  
**Sent:** February 21st- 7 PM (CST)  
**To:** NCHC Eligibility Guidelines Committee (EGC)

Fellow Leaders, Directors, and EGC Voting Members,

Stewardship is rarely easy. As we get into full gear for championship season, we write to you not just as administrators, but as partners in this mission.

If you noticed that our compliance processes felt more rigorous this year, you were not mistaken. The heart of the NCHC has always been to provide a home for every homeschool athlete. However, true compassion for those student-athletes also requires protection. It requires ensuring that when your team steps onto the court, the playing field is level. Over the past decades, leaders like you on the Eligibility Guidelines Committee (EGC) & Eligibility Advisory Board (EAB) have made difficult decisions to establish the standards, eligibility guidelines, and precedent that protect our association's invitationals. The NCHC did not make these decisions to be exclusionary; we made them to protect the investment of the 1,500 compliant basketball and volleyball teams that follow the rules.

In the next 30 days alone, a record 999+ teams are scheduled to attend one of our three Regionals and/or Nationals in Springfield, MO!

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## **I. EGC VOTE RESULTS: Policy Ratification, Affirmation, & Sanctions Vote**

This week, the Eligibility Guidelines Committee (EGC) concluded an [urgent vote](#) on a late-season eligibility challenge involving a student whose public MaxPreps and local Secondary State Athletic Association websites showed they had exhausted their eligibility before joining an NCHC member roster. The community's response was definitive.

- **SECTION 1: Affirming Precedent (Confidence Vote) – Over 95% AFFIRMATION** The EGC has overwhelmingly affirmed the NCHC's authority to maintain strict third-party verification and the immediate removal of athletes who have exhausted their eligibility.

- **SECTION 2: Policy Ratification (Sections 4.6 & 4.7) – Over 95% RATIFICATION** The rulebook now explicitly reflects the clarifications to eliminate any future ambiguity regarding the guidelines: Once a student has exhausted their eligibility on their previous track (including State/Tebow Law or local state associations like the SSAA, etc.), they have no remaining NCHC eligibility.
  - **SECTION 3: The Sanctions Vote (The Precedent of Cooperation) – Over 90% MAJORITY (Leniency)** Because the Athletic Director in this specific case took immediate ownership of the initial oversight and re-established Organizational Control by removing the player from the roster, an overwhelming majority of the community voted for leniency (Options A & B). To ensure absolute compliance, the Executive Committee is officially extending the 1-Year Probationary Period (Option B), conditional upon the organization completing specific administrative cures (including correcting their public-facing rosters and media). If these final conditions are met, the organization will be shielded from a standard multi-year self-sanctioned probation.
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## **II. OFFICIAL INTEGRITY REPORT: 2025-26 SUSPENSIONS**

**The Mandate of Transparency (Article VI.b)** Before listing the organizations affected, we want to directly address why the NCHC publicly releases the names of ineligible programs. Under Article VI (b) of the Association Bylaws, the "Naming of Ineligible Parties" in communications to our members is a designated protocol for disciplinary action.

*This bylaw does not exist to embarrass; it exists to protect you.*

When an organization is suspended for eligibility violations, a failure to cure a breach, or a refusal to comply with an audit, transparency is our only defense against contamination. If we keep suspensions a secret, a suspended program could simply change its name, or a suspended coach could quietly join a compliant member's bench next season, jeopardizing your organization's good standing. We name these programs so that you are fully equipped to protect your rosters and verify who you are competing against.

**Student-Athlete Pathway (Team USA):** Before addressing the programs below, we must address their players. We do not wish to punish innocent student-athletes for the administrative failures of their leadership. Any eligible player from any of the disqualified or suspended programs listed below may register as an individual for Team USA at NCHCLive.com.

*Integrity Note: To protect the suspension, players can be assigned to composite teams; suspended programs or coaches may not "re-form" rosters under the Team USA banner.*

**2025-26 POSTSEASON ELIGIBILITY & SANCTIONS** Per Article VI (a) and (b), any organization that withdraws to avoid an audit, refuses to rectify a violation, or fails to meet a mandatory compliance deadline is subject to a Maximum Ban (3-Year Suspension) and loss of "Good Standing."

**Disqualified for Eligibility Violations or Material Breach:** The BASKETBALL TEAMS of the following organizations have been removed from Good Standing, denied entry, or failed to meet mandatory compliance standards for the 2025-26 season.

- Elevate Academy Eagles (TX)
- Royal Hurricanes (TN/MS)

**Ineligible for 2025-26 Entry: Declined Conditions, Failure to Cure, or Missed Deadline:** The BASKETBALL TEAMS of the following organizations have not met the mandatory compliance standards required for the 2025-26 season. These programs are not cleared for entry, whether by explicitly declining probationary entry terms, failing to cure past violations, or attempting to register after mandatory reinstatement deadlines have passed.

*Note: This list does not include the nearly dozen organizations that were deferred to reapply next season.*

- Mid-South Mustangs (TN)
- OKC Storm (OK)
- Texas Lions (TX)

*Note: Leadership personnel from these organizations carry these same penalties indefinitely, even if they depart for another program. Any future re-entry for any of the organizations listed above or below, or their direct rebrands, will require a*

*comprehensive Reinstatement Audit and a transparent Association Members Vote.*

**PERMANENT INELIGIBILITY & LEGACY SANCTIONS** The following organizations remain under active suspension or permanent removal (collectively classified as 'Not in Good Standing'). These sanctions remain attached to the organization's name and legacy indefinitely to prevent non-compliant programs from re-forming or re-applying to the NCHC under previous banners:

- 10 Ten Titans (AR)
- Augusta Eagles (GA)
- DCA Christian Athletes (TX)
- DMI Defenders (IA)
- Flower Mound Rebels (TX)
- Grand Rapids Angels (MI)
- Green Country Defenders (OK)
- God's Academy (TX)
- Mountain Home Eagles (AR)
- RCHA Pride (TX)
- TACA Storm (TX)
- Zion Prep (TX)

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### **III. A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE: QUALITY CREATES GROWTH**

We are often told that strict enforcement will drive teams away. The data proves the opposite. The community has cast a resounding vote of confidence in this standard. Our Flagship Events are surging to record highs:

- Nationals (Basketball): 410+ Teams (RECORD)
- Midwest Regionals: 250+ Teams (RECORD)
- Big South Regionals: 228+ Teams (RECORD)
- Volleyball Nationals: 200+ Teams (RECORD)
- Heartland Basketball: 100+ Teams (3 straight years)

**THE VITAL TRUTH** This confirms what we have always believed: High standards do not repel real homeschoolers; they attract them. Over the last 20+ years, three separate groups have disagreed with our standards and attempted to start

their own competing "Nationals-type" events with looser eligibility rules. All three no longer exist. They found out exactly what we already knew: Homeschool families, players, and coaches do not want to invest thousands of dollars and travel across the country for a tournament where the playing field isn't level.

Our community wants the strict eligibility guidelines that our Association members have collaboratively put in place and are committed to enforcing over the past 35 years (since 1991). Because of this demand for integrity, none of those alternative organizations have tournaments in 2026.

With your support, we will continue to hold the line to ensure that the NCHC remains the Gold Standard for the next 35 years & beyond.

Respectfully,

**NCHC Staff** *On behalf of the NCHC Executive Committee*