Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECORDS SECTION, REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 1
RECEIVED
029386
BY:
DATE:

NOV 03 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 1459 s. 2026

ADOPTION OF PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE REGION I SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. In support of the continuing efforts to strengthen the Region I Sports Development Program, this Office disseminates the proposals, agreed operational directions, and collective commitments developed during the Regional Meeting of Division Sports Officers held on September 23–24, 2026, as contained in the attached Annex A.

2. Schools Division Offices (SDOs) are encouraged to review the attached proposals and recommendations and may adopt and implement those that they determine to be relevant, necessary, feasible, and beneficial to their respective local sports programs and to the overall development of the Region I Sports Development Program.

3. Adoption of any recommendation shall be based on the specific needs, priorities, available resources, and circumstances of each SDO, and shall be consistent with existing DepEd policies, applicable rules and regulations, and approved plans and budgets. The attached recommendations are not intended to require uniform implementation by all SDOs. Establish a pool of qualified and accredited Technical Officials in every Schools Division Office (SDO).

4. Schools Division Superintendents, through their concerned offices and sports personnel, may determine the appropriate actions and arrangements for the recommendations they elect to adopt. Coordination with the Regional Office is encouraged for initiatives that require regional alignment or support.

5. This Memorandum is issued for the information, guidance, and appropriate consideration of all concerned.

ESTELA P. LEON-CARIÑO, EdD, CESO III
Director IV/Regional Director

Encl.: As stated
Reference: None
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index:
under the subjects:
SPORTS
ESSD/smp/(RM/SportsDevelopmentProgram)
October 26, 2026

PROPOSALS, AGREED DIRECTIONS AND COLLECTIVE COMMITMENTS
First Regional Meeting of Division Sports Officers
September 23–24, 2026 | NEAP Region I

SUBMITTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The fourteen (14) Division Sports Officers of DepEd Region I respectfully submit the following **proposals and recommendations, agreed operational directions, and collective commitments** arising from the First Regional Meeting of Division Sports Officers.

These are intended to strengthen learner-athlete development, improve R1AA operations, maximize available resources, strengthen partnerships, and improve Region I's performance in the Palarong Pambansa.

I. PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Early Finalization of R1AA Delegations

Identify and confirm R1AA finalists on or before February 5, 2027 to provide sufficient time for **training, academic preparation, procurement, documentation, and logistics**.

2. Regional Training After R1AA

Conduct a **structured regional training program for Palarong Pambansa qualifiers immediately after R1AA** to sustain training momentum toward national competition.

3. Stronger CID Support for Learner-Athletes

Strengthen **Curriculum Implementation Division (CID)** involvement in providing systematic academic interventions for athletes during intensive training and competition periods.

4. CID Counterpart/Focal Person for Sports

Designate a **CID counterpart/focal person for sports preferably EPS-MAPEH in every SDO** to coordinate learning materials, assessments, catch-up arrangements, and other academic requirements of learner-athletes.

5. Friday Training with Flexible/Modular Learning

Study the feasibility of providing **Friday afternoon as a regular training period for identified learner-athletes**, supported by appropriate modular or flexible learning arrangements, subject to applicable DepEd policies.

Scanned with CamScanner

6. Flexible Academic Preparation

Explore the **flexibility of instruction and learning materials** before intensive training and competition periods to protect athletes' academic performance without lowering learning standards The Regional Office shall issue guidelines on the implementation of the flexibility of instructions during trainings and competitions to protect the grades of the athletes.

7. School-Based Training

Document and consider replication of **Urdaneta City's school-based training practice**, maximizing existing school facilities while reducing disruption and the need for centralized in-house training.

8. Event-Based Billeting Quarters — WITHIN or NEAR Playing Venues

Adopt event-based billeting, with athletes accommodated **WITHIN the playing venue/compound whenever possible; if unavailable, NEAR the playing venue.**

The DSOs identified three major benefits:

- **Cost Efficiency:** Reduced shuttle rentals, fuel, transportation, and personnel requirements. Subject to applicable rules, resources made available through these efficiencies may be prioritized for **training and sports equipment**.
- **Athlete Safety:** Less daily travel reduces transportation exposure and simplifies supervision.
- **Performance and Recovery:** Reduced early waking and commuting helps preserve **rest, energy, recovery, and established athlete routines**.

LESS TRAVEL. MORE REST. MORE RESOURCES FOR ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT.

9. Inter-Division Benchmarking and Best Practices

Establish systematic **benchmarking and sharing of best practices among the 14 SDOs**, particularly to support developing and lower-performing Divisions.

The objective is collective improvement rather than internal competition.

WE RISE BY LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER.

10. Sports Event Directors and Partner LGUs

Designate **Sports Event Directors after R1AA** to ensure continuity of athlete development toward the Palarong Pambansa.

Where appropriate, the **LGU supporting the winning or best-performing Division/event may be recommended as partner LGU** to sustain training, facilities, equipment, logistics, and other athlete-development support.

Scanned with CamScanner

11. Regional Recognition of Supporting LGUs

Provide **regional recognition to LGUs that significantly support winning or best-performing Division sports programs.**

When a Division receives recognition for outstanding performance in a particular sport, its supporting LGU may likewise receive an appropriate **plaque, trophy, or regional recognition** to encourage sustained DepEd–LGU partnership.

12. Athlete Recovery and Competition Protection Protocol

Establish an **Athlete Recovery and Competition Protection Period** before R1AA and the Palarong Pambansa.

During the prescribed period, qualified athletes shall refrain from participating in lower-level or non-priority competitions and concentrate on **training, recovery, conditioning, and injury prevention.**

The appropriate period—whether **two weeks, one month, or another scientifically appropriate duration**—shall be determined with medical, sports science, coaching, and technical inputs.

II. AGREED OPERATIONAL DIRECTIONS

13. Streamlined R1AA — Focus on the Actual Games

The DSOs agreed to recommend the discontinuance of **searches, pageants, additional contests, and other non-essential ancillary activities** and to concentrate R1AA resources on **athletes, actual games, technical operations, safety, medical services, and competition management.**

14. Fixed Maximum Delegation Ceiling

Strictly observe the **authorized maximum official delegation per SDO.**

If the approved ceiling is **950, the host prepares for 950 only.** Additional personnel shall arrange accommodation outside official billeting quarters and shall not form part of host-managed accommodation and logistical projections.

15. Fixed Technical Officials Allocation

The agreed fixed allocation for delegation planning and procurement shall be:

Large/Provincial Division — 80 TOs
Medium Division — 65 TOs
Small Division — 65 TOs

Identification and deployment shall remain subject to regional accreditation and qualification requirements.

Scanned with CamScanner

16. Flexible Coach Allocation

SDOs shall have **reasonable flexibility in determining their R1AA coaching complement** based on available resources, participating events, number of athletes, and actual coaching requirements.

Divisions with sufficient capacity should provide the recommended coaching complement. **Athlete safety, supervision, child protection, and technical coaching requirements shall not be compromised.**

17. Post-Competition Medical Check-Up

The DSOs agreed on the conduct of a **post-competition medical check-up for learner-athletes after every major competition level:**

DIVISION MEET → MEDICAL CHECK-UP
R1AA → MEDICAL CHECK-UP
PALARONG PAMBANSA → MEDICAL CHECK-UP

Optional flu vaccination for the athletes and if warrants shall be chargeable against MOOE, other school funds available subject to usual rules and regulations.

The purpose is to identify injuries or conditions requiring **treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, or further medical evaluation** before athletes resume intensive training or proceed to the next competition.

18. Recognitions and Incentives

The Regional Office shall provide appropriate recognition and incentives to outstanding divisions, athletes, coaches, technical officials, members of the Technical Working Group (TWG), and partner stakeholders in acknowledgment of their exemplary performance, dedication, and significant contributions to the successful implementation and development of sports programs and competitions at the regional and national level.

III. COLLECTIVE PERFORMANCE COMMITMENT

Increase Region I's Palarong Pambansa Medal Performance by At Least 30%

The fourteen (14) Division Sports Officers collectively commit to work toward an **increase of at least thirty percent (30%) in Region I's Palarong Pambansa medal performance**, using the previous Palarong Pambansa performance as the baseline.

The commitment shall be supported through:

Early athlete identification • Better training • Stronger coaching • Performance monitoring • Athlete protection and recovery • Focused preparation for medal-potential events • Inter-Division collaboration

Scanned with CamScanner

This is a **shared regional target**, not an individual competition among the fourteen Divisions. Therefore, there should be a strong support from the Regional Office through the issuance of guidelines and provision of support funds.

The success of one Division shall contribute to the success of the entire Region.

COLLECTIVE STATEMENT

The foregoing **proposals and recommendations** are respectfully submitted for the consideration and approval of the Regional Director. The **agreed operational directions** reflect the consensus reached by the Division Sports Officers, subject to appropriate regional approval and applicable policies.

The fourteen Division Sports Officers likewise reaffirm their collective commitment to pursue measurable improvement in Region I's national sports performance.

Protect the learner. Protect the athlete. Strengthen training. Simplify operations. Use resources efficiently. Share what works. Rise together. We plan as one. We serve as one. REGION I WE RISE AS ONE.

CONCURRED AND RECOMMENDED BY:

DIVISION SPORTS OFFICERS

Schools Division Office	**Signature**
SDO Alaminos City	
SDO Batac City	
SDO Candon City	
SDO Dagupan City	
SDO Ilocos Norte	
SDO Ilocos Sur	
SDO La Union	
SDO Laoag City	

Scanned with CamScanner

Schools Division Office	Signature
SDO Pangasinan I	
SDO Pangasinan II	
SDO San Carlos City	
SDO San Fernando City	
SDO Urdaneta City	
SDO Vigan City	

Prepared by:

MAURISON S. AQUINO
Secretary, Association of Region 1-Division Sports Officers

REYNALDO L. TOMAS
President, Association of Region 1-Division Sports Officers

Endorsed and submitted by:

DR. SHEILA MARIE A. PRIMICIAS, CESO VI
Regional Sports Program Head
DepEd Regional Office I

Scanned with CamScanner

PROPOSALS, AGREED DIRECTIONS AND COLLECTIVE COMMITMENTS
First Regional Meeting of Division Sports Officers
September 23–24, 2026 | NEAP Region I

SUBMITTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The fourteen (14) Division Sports Officers of DepEd Region I respectfully submit the following **proposals and recommendations, agreed operational directions, and collective commitments** arising from the First Regional Meeting of Division Sports Officers.

These are intended to strengthen learner-athlete development, improve R1AA operations, maximize available resources, strengthen partnerships, and improve Region I's performance in the Palarong Pambansa.

I. PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Early Finalization of R1AA Delegations

Identify and confirm R1AA finalists on or before February 5, 2027 to provide sufficient time for **training, academic preparation, procurement, documentation, and logistics**.

2. Regional Training After R1AA

Conduct a **structured regional training program for Palarong Pambansa qualifiers immediately after R1AA** to sustain training momentum toward national competition.

3. Stronger CID Support for Learner-Athletes

Strengthen **Curriculum Implementation Division (CID)** involvement in providing systematic academic interventions for athletes during intensive training and competition periods.

4. CID Counterpart/Focal Person for Sports

Designate a **CID counterpart/focal person for sports preferably EPS-MAPEH in every SDO** to coordinate learning materials, assessments, catch-up arrangements, and other academic requirements of learner-athletes.

5. Friday Training with Flexible/Modular Learning

Study the feasibility of providing **Friday afternoon as a regular training period for identified learner-athletes**, supported by appropriate modular or flexible learning arrangements, subject to applicable DepEd policies.

Scanned with CamScanner

6. Flexible Academic Preparation

Explore the **flexibility of instruction and learning materials** before intensive training and competition periods to protect athletes' academic performance without lowering learning standards The Regional Office shall issue guidelines on the implementation of the flexibility of instructions during trainings and competitions to protect the grades of the athletes.

7. School-Based Training

Document and consider replication of **Urdaneta City's school-based training practice**, maximizing existing school facilities while reducing disruption and the need for centralized in-house training.

8. Event-Based Billeting Quarters — WITHIN or NEAR Playing Venues

Adopt event-based billeting, with athletes accommodated **WITHIN the playing venue/compound whenever possible; if unavailable, NEAR the playing venue.**

The DSOs identified three major benefits:

- **Cost Efficiency:** Reduced shuttle rentals, fuel, transportation, and personnel requirements. Subject to applicable rules, resources made available through these efficiencies may be prioritized for **training and sports equipment.**
- **Athlete Safety:** Less daily travel reduces transportation exposure and simplifies supervision.
- **Performance and Recovery:** Reduced early waking and commuting helps preserve **rest, energy, recovery, and established athlete routines.**

LESS TRAVEL. MORE REST. MORE RESOURCES FOR ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT.

9. Inter-Division Benchmarking and Best Practices

Establish systematic **benchmarking and sharing of best practices among the 14 SDOs**, particularly to support developing and lower-performing Divisions.

The objective is collective improvement rather than internal competition.

WE RISE BY LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER.

10. Sports Event Directors and Partner LGUs

Designate **Sports Event Directors after R1AA** to ensure continuity of athlete development toward the Palarong Pambansa.

Where appropriate, the **LGU supporting the winning or best-performing Division/event may be recommended as partner LGU** to sustain training, facilities, equipment, logistics, and other athlete-development support.

Scanned with CamScanner

11. Regional Recognition of Supporting LGUs

Provide **regional recognition to LGUs that significantly support winning or best-performing Division sports programs.**

When a Division receives recognition for outstanding performance in a particular sport, its supporting LGU may likewise receive an appropriate **plaque, trophy, or regional recognition** to encourage sustained DepEd–LGU partnership.

12. Athlete Recovery and Competition Protection Protocol

Establish an **Athlete Recovery and Competition Protection Period** before R1AA and the Palarong Pambansa.

During the prescribed period, qualified athletes shall refrain from participating in lower-level or non-priority competitions and concentrate on **training, recovery, conditioning, and injury prevention.**

The appropriate period—whether **two weeks, one month, or another scientifically appropriate duration**—shall be determined with medical, sports science, coaching, and technical inputs.

II. AGREED OPERATIONAL DIRECTIONS

13. Streamlined R1AA — Focus on the Actual Games

The DSOs agreed to recommend the discontinuance of **searches, pageants, additional contests, and other non-essential ancillary activities** and to concentrate R1AA resources on **athletes, actual games, technical operations, safety, medical services, and competition management.**

14. Fixed Maximum Delegation Ceiling

Strictly observe the **authorized maximum official delegation per SDO.**

If the approved ceiling is **950, the host prepares for 950 only.** Additional personnel shall arrange accommodation outside official billeting quarters and shall not form part of host-managed accommodation and logistical projections.

15. Fixed Technical Officials Allocation

The agreed fixed allocation for delegation planning and procurement shall be:

Large/Provincial Division — 80 TOs
Medium Division — 65 TOs
Small Division — 65 TOs

Identification and deployment shall remain subject to regional accreditation and qualification requirements.

Scanned with CamScanner

16. Flexible Coach Allocation

SDOs shall have **reasonable flexibility in determining their R1AA coaching complement** based on available resources, participating events, number of athletes, and actual coaching requirements.

Divisions with sufficient capacity should provide the recommended coaching complement. **Athlete safety, supervision, child protection, and technical coaching requirements shall not be compromised.**

17. Post-Competition Medical Check-Up

The DSOs agreed on the conduct of a **post-competition medical check-up for learner-athletes after every major competition level:**

DIVISION MEET → MEDICAL CHECK-UP
R1AA → MEDICAL CHECK-UP
PALARONG PAMBANSA → MEDICAL CHECK-UP

Optional flu vaccination for the athletes and if warrants shall be chargeable against MOOE, other school funds available subject to usual rules and regulations.

The purpose is to identify injuries or conditions requiring **treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, or further medical evaluation** before athletes resume intensive training or proceed to the next competition.

18. Recognitions and Incentives

The Regional Office shall provide appropriate recognition and incentives to outstanding divisions, athletes, coaches, technical officials, members of the Technical Working Group (TWG), and partner stakeholders in acknowledgment of their exemplary performance, dedication, and significant contributions to the successful implementation and development of sports programs and competitions at the regional and national level.

III. COLLECTIVE PERFORMANCE COMMITMENT

Increase Region I's Palarong Pambansa Medal Performance by At Least 30%

The fourteen (14) Division Sports Officers collectively commit to work toward an **increase of at least thirty percent (30%) in Region I's Palarong Pambansa medal performance**, using the previous Palarong Pambansa performance as the baseline.

The commitment shall be supported through:

Early athlete identification • Better training • Stronger coaching • Performance monitoring • Athlete protection and recovery • Focused preparation for medal-potential events • Inter-Division collaboration

Scanned with CamScanner

This is a **shared regional target**, not an individual competition among the fourteen Divisions. Therefore, there should be a strong support from the Regional Office through the issuance of guidelines and provision of support funds.

The success of one Division shall contribute to the success of the entire Region.

COLLECTIVE STATEMENT

The foregoing **proposals and recommendations** are respectfully submitted for the consideration and approval of the Regional Director. The **agreed operational directions** reflect the consensus reached by the Division Sports Officers, subject to appropriate regional approval and applicable policies.

The fourteen Division Sports Officers likewise reaffirm their collective commitment to pursue measurable improvement in Region I's national sports performance.

Protect the learner. Protect the athlete. Strengthen training. Simplify operations. Use resources efficiently. Share what works. Rise together. We plan as one. We serve as one. REGION I WE RISE AS ONE.

CONCURRED AND RECOMMENDED BY:

DIVISION SPORTS OFFICERS

Schools Division Office	Signature
SDO Alaminos City	
SDO Batac City	
SDO Candon City	
SDO Dagupan City	
SDO Ilocos Norte	
SDO Ilocos Sur	
SDO La Union	
SDO Laoag City	

Scanned with CamScanner

Schools Division Office	Signature
SDO Pangasinan I	
SDO Pangasinan II	
SDO San Carlos City	
SDO San Fernando City	
SDO Urdaneta City	
SDO Vigan City	

Prepared by:

MAURISON S. AQUINO
Secretary, Association of Region 1-Division Sports Officers

REYNALDO L. TOMAS
President, Association of Region 1-Division Sports Officers

Endorsed and submitted by:

DR. SHEILA MARIE A. PRIMICIAS, CESO VI
Regional Sports Program Head
DepEd Regional Office I

Scanned with CamScanner