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By: [Signature]
Date: FEB 2018 Time: 10

January 26, 2018

MEMORANDUM
No. 20, s. 2018

**ELIGIBILITY OF HOME SCHOOL PUPILS/STUDENTS
TO PARTICIPATE IN DEPED PALARO**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Division School Sports Officers/Coordinators
All Others Concerned

1. Enclosed is the Palarong Pambansa Board Memorandum No. 4, 2017 dated November 14, 2017 entitled "**Eligibility of Home School Pupils/Students to Participate in DepEd Palaro**", the contents of which are self-explanatory for information and guidance of all concerned.
2. Immediate dissemination and compliance of this Memorandum is desired.

[Signature]
WILFREDO E. CABRAL
Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Regional Director

Encl.: as stated.

essd/foan



Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Education
PALARONG PAMBANSA BOARD
 School Sports Division



3/F Mabini Bldg. DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

Office of the Secretary-General

14 November 2017

PALARONG PAMBANSA BOARD MEMORANDUM

No. 4, s. 2017

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 RECORDS DIVISION

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**ELIGIBILITY OF HOME SCHOOL PUPILS/STUDENTS
 TO PARTICIPATE IN DEPED PALARO**

Department of Education
 National Capital Region
 AND PUBLICATION UNIT

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By: [Signature]
 Date: 22 JAN 2018 Time: 4:45

To: Regional Directors
 Regional and Division School Sports Officers/Coordinators
 All Others Concerned

This is in reference to the provision in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Palarong Pambansa Act of 2013, specifically Rule V, Section 22, Paragraph (e) which prescribes the documentary requirements for athletes under the Alternative Delivery Modes (Home Study Program or Modified In School Out School Approach or Open High School Program) and qualifies pupils/students under this category to participate in DepEd Palaro from school, cluster, district, division and regional levels up to the Palarong Pambansa.

However, the same provision did not specifically provide as to where the right to participate of ADM pupils/students can be enjoyed, in cases of ADM pupils/students enrolled under the Home Study Program or the Open High School Program considering that the location of their school, in most cases, may be different from the location of their homes where they are engaged in (actual schooling). Under this set-up, such pupils/students who excel in sports may lose their chance and be disqualified since they may not be affiliated with any of the competing regular schools, districts, divisions or regions where their homes are located.

Hence, consistent with and upholding the principles of "inclusive education"; "equal opportunity to excel in sports"; and "best interest of the child being given more importance in the interpretation of any rule in case of ambiguity", this memorandum is issued informing the field that athletes enrolled under Alternative Delivery Modes (ADM) who excel in any of DepEd-recognized sports, shall not be denied participation if they so desire, subject to the following conditions:

1. that they complied with all other requirements of the Palaro as to eligibility;

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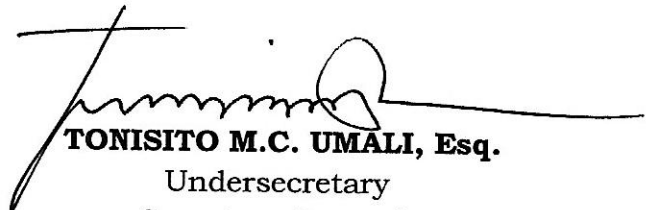
2. should they be adopted by any of the schools within their home locality, their participation should start from the school level palaro, otherwise their participation starts at the Division level palaro;
3. in case said athletes start at the Division level Palaro, their parents shall designate a qualified coach, subject to the approval of the Schools Division Superintendent; and
4. home locality, for purposes of this memorandum, shall mean the place of residence of the ADM pupil/student-athlete as indicated in his/her school records.

In no case shall an athlete be disqualified solely by reason of being a pupil/student under the Alternative Delivery Mode.

All Regional Screening and Accreditation Committee (RSAC) and the National Screening and Accreditation Committee (NSAC) are hereby directed to include the above guidelines on the eligibility of home school pupils/students to participate in DepEd Palaro in their respective screening and accreditation rules, guidelines and policies. This memorandum should not prejudice any inconsistent ruling by any RSAC or the NSAC in the screening and accreditation of an ADM pupil/student-athlete prior to the issuance and effectivity of this memo.

This memorandum shall take effect immediately.

For your kind information and strict compliance.


TONISITO M.C. UMALI, Esq.
Undersecretary
Secretary-General