

Dominican High School



Athletic Handbook

(Revised 2023)

DOMINICAN HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide young adults with a co-educational, Catholic, college-preparatory experience based on the teachings of Jesus. Our faith-driven school community fosters spirituality and creativity, and encourages intellectual, social, physical and artistic development. We commission our students to develop a heightened sense of social responsibility and respect for human dignity based on the values articulated by our sponsoring congregation, the Sinsinawa Dominicans:

Truth, Compassion, Justice, Community, Partnership.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The information contained in the Dominican Athletic Handbook is intended to inform and educate students and parents. It is not intended to restrict or hinder your athletic experience, but to provide uniformity within the athletic programs and to ensure that students and parents are aware of all rules, policies and procedures with in the athletic programs at Dominican. When used in conjunction with the Parent-Student Handbook, the WIAA Senior High Handbook, the WIAA Season Regulations, information contained in the WIAA website, the Metro Classic Conference rules, and rules and regulations of Dominican High School, this manual further explains pertinent policies and procedures. as well as the athlete's role in carrying out those policies and procedures regarding Dominican's interscholastic athletic programs.

After you thoroughly review the materials in this manual, please sign the forms provided and submit them to the Athletic Director prior to the beginning of your season. If you have any questions, please seek clarification prior to signing.

II. MISSION

The mission of Dominican athletics is to provide every student with the opportunity to benefit from the numerous positive experiences that can come out of participating in athletics. Our goal is to provide trained and qualified coaches in every sport in order to maximize our student's athletic experience.

III. PHILOSOPHY

Dominican High School believes that participation in interscholastic activities can be both physically and educationally beneficial to the overall growth of our students. We feel that through practices and competition, students athletes can gain valuable experience in areas such as team work, problem solving, work ethic, and leadership.

IV. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

A student is placed on academic/athletic probation for one or more of the following reasons:

- i. Earning two (2) or more failing grades during the most recent grading period.
- ii. Achieving a grade point average (GPA) below 1.67 during the most recent grading period (Academic Quarter or Semester).
- iii. Failing a course whose academic credit is required to achieve graduation.
- iv. Earning three (3) or more 'incomplete' grades during the most recent grading period.

- **The Dean of Students has the discretion to recommend academic/athletic probation for any student (regardless of GPA) who may benefit from a period of more intensive academic monitoring or attention.**
- The status of student athletes is determined on eight review dates, consisting of the end of the four academic quarters and four mid-quarter reviews. Initial eligibility for the beginning of the first quarter for returning students has already been determined. All incoming freshmen students are considered eligible unless previously determined upon admission. The Dean of Students will communicate eligibility notice directly to the Athletic Director, coaches, and organizational moderators, who will notify affected students. Eligibility appeals may be made to the Principal. *** Student athletes will be notified of their updated status within two (2) school days or less after each review date.*
- Co-curricular eligibility for athletics, theatre, clubs and organizations, field trips and school travel is linked directly to academic probation. Co-curricular ineligibility stipulates that a student may not participate in any co-curricular activity while placed on academic probation. Students may appeal their co-curricular ineligibility to the Dean of Students after fifteen school days into the probation period. A formal ‘probationary review’ shall be conducted to determine co-curricular eligibility at this time.

Additional Notes:

At the end of Quarter Two/Semester One and Quarter Four/Semester Two, the higher G.P.A. (quarter/semester) applies toward this code.

All summer school courses must be pre-approved by Counseling/Administration BEFORE summer sessions begin. Students may remediate a course failure toward eligibility during the summer session, but the G.P.A. from Quarter Four/Semester Two is not updated with summer school grades for eligibility purposes.

V. ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Dominican High School recognizes the importance of participation beyond the classroom and realizes its role in the education of the student. The student, in turn, must recognize and accept the responsibility s/he carries as a representative of Dominican High School. The student must strive to be physically, mentally, socially and academically fit and understand all rules, regulations and responsibilities to others, school and self. All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is a credit to their personal integrity, to their parents, and to the school. A Dominican student is loyal, respectful, fair and knows and accepts the rules of participation.

RULES & REGULATIONS

The following are to be observed by all Dominican students:

1. No smoking/vaping or other use of any tobacco products. No use, possession or distribution of any alcohol, non-prescription drugs or controlled substances (or distribution of prescription drugs).
2. Students are expected to abide by all school rules as outlined in the entire Student Handbook.
3. Since practice is the backbone of many programs, particularly sports, it is essential that every student be in attendance unless s/he notifies her/his supervisor prior to the start of practice.
4. Players are expected to be attend all practices and games during a sports season. Families are asked to schedule any potential conflicts around the team schedule, and if a player is unable to attend a game or practice, it can affect the player's standing on the team.
5. The school absentee list will be checked each day. In the event that a student's name appears on such a list, s/he will not be permitted to participate that day unless excused by the Dean of Students or Principal.
6. All athletes are governed by the rules set down by both the WIAA Constitution and Bylaws and those rules established by the Metro Classic Conference.

VIOLATIONS OF ATHLETIC RULES AND REGULATIONS CONSEQUENCES

A first offense will result in a suspension from one or more events. Any subsequent offense could result in further suspensions or dismissal from the group and loss of recognition.

SANCTIONS FOR USE/POSSESSION OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS

1st Offense: Suspension of all co-curricular eligibility for 30% (or equivalent) of the remainder of the season/activity cycle. This may be reduced to 15% with completion of drug awareness program or other appropriate requirements assigned by the Dean of Students and/or Guidance Counselor.

2nd Offense: Suspension of all co-curricular eligibility for 100% (or equivalent) of the remainder of a season/activity cycle. Portions of seasons are prorated. Eligibility for subsequent co-curricular involvement (beyond the time-frame of the current season/activity) may also be suspended. A student must complete the required practices/team obligations through the end of a season to get credit toward the following season.

3rd Offense: Suspension for one calendar year*

Student athletes may also be required to forfeit his/her award (letter or other), and other recognitions such as team captain, conference nominations, etc.*

VI. ATHLETIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Every student who participates in athletics at Dominican High School must:

1. Maintain the standards and adhere to the policies and requirements of Dominican High School, the DHS Athletic Department, the Metro Classic Conference, and the WIAA.
2. While attendance at practice remains mandatory, no student is allowed to participate in a practice or event until officially registered through the online portal: dominicanhighschool.com.
3. Have signed and on file in the school office the policy acknowledgment card that accompanies the Student/Parent Handbook.
4. **Have a Physical Examination Card/Alternate Year Health Card on file with the Athletic Director prior to the first practice.** All new and transfer students must have a newly completed Physical Examination Card on file.
5. Transportation agreement.
6. Liability and Insurance agreement.
7. Have a signed concussion form on file prior to their first practice.
8. Be in good academic and behavioral standing.

POLICY ON QUITTING

Extra-curricular activities teach responsibility toward others and also require students to carefully budget their time and prioritize other responsibilities including academic, family, work and social obligations. Quitting once the athletic season is officially underway is irresponsible and unfair to others. Unless there is a valid reason which is confirmed by an athlete's parents/guardians or Dominican Administration, a student who quits a team may be ineligible for future participation. A student may follow the appeal procedure outlined below if a mutual agreement with the coach/Athletic Director is not reached.

Students seeking to transfer from one sport to another within a season must obtain written approval from parent/guardian, the head coaches of the sports involved, and the Athletic Director. Students who quit a sport must contact the Athletic Director prior to the next athletic season to have their eligibility reinstated.

APPEAL PROCESS

Students have the right to appeal athletic disciplinary cases to their respective coach, Athletic Director, or Dean of Students. The student may do so by making a request in writing as to why such an appeal should be considered. The request must be received no later than three (3) days after the student has been notified of the consequence in question. The Athletic Director and Dean of Students will determine if an appeal meeting should take place. In such cases, a council designated by the Dean of Students will meet to review the appeal. The student and her/his parent will be notified with the decision regarding the appeal within three (3) school days of receipt of

request for appeal. A student may not participate in practices or games if s/he has been suspended, regardless of appeal status. Reinstatement as a participant can only occur if the appeal results in a decision conveyed by the Athletic Director to rescind the suspension. The decision of the appeal is final.

CONFERENCE AND STATE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Dominican High School is a member of the Metro Classic Conference, which is a member conference of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association [WIAA]. Accordingly, Dominican adheres to all WIAA rules, regulations, and requirements in our athletic programs.

E. WIAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Enrollment:

1. The student must be in grades 9-12 with an academic program of at least 4 full credits.
2. The student must be enrolled in the school within 17 days of the start of the semester.
3. A student is ineligible for participation after 8 semesters.
4. A student is ineligible for interscholastic competition if he/she turns 19 years old before August 1st of any given year. (what about our WIA kids?)

Transfer Students:

1. Unless a transfer is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the 5th calendar day of such transfer.
2. A student is eligible only upon his/her 1st transfer from a non-WIAA school (parochial or private), unless there is a change in residence on the part of the parents.
3. A student who transfers is ineligible to participate in his/her school's summer program, unless such transfer involves change of residence and includes registration and certification.
4. A student may not have eligibility in more than one school at the same time. Parents/legal guardians who move from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total move.
5. A student who transfers from any school with a status on ineligibility for disciplinary reasons retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.
6. No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

Amateur Status:

1. All contestants in WIAA must be amateurs.
2. Students will lose their amateur status and become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program if he/she:
 - Accepts reimbursement, in any form; salary, cash, merchandise of any kind or amount, or share of game or season proceeds, for achievement in athletics.

- Signs a professional contract or agreement for services as a participating athlete.
 - Receives compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete, or provides endorsement, as an athlete, in the promotion of a commercial or profit-making event, item, plan, or service.
 - Plays in any contest under a name other than his/her own name.
3. Students may accept reimbursement for food, travel, or lodging for participation as well as their uniform and symbolic awards.

METRO CLASSIC CONFERENCE SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS

The Metro Classic Conference believes that good sportsmanship is essential to a successful high school extra-curricular program. The elements of fairness, courteous behavior, and gracious acceptance of positive human relations must be a priority.

With these objectives in mind, the Metro Classic Conference strongly supports the following fundamentals of sportsmanship:

- a. Respect is to be shown opponents at all times.
- b. Officials are to be accorded respect at all times. Officials should be recognized as impartial arbitrators who are trained to do their job and who can be expected to do it to the best of their ability. Good sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials.
- c. The rules of the contest are to be known, understood, and appreciated. A familiarity with the current rules of the game and the recognition of their necessity for a fair contest is essential. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.
- d. Self-control must always be maintained. A prerequisite of good sportsmanship requires one to understand her/his own bias or prejudice and the ability to prevent the desire to win from overcoming rational behavior. A proper perspective must be maintained if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized. Good sportsmanship is concerned with the behavior of all involved in the game.
- e. Skill in performance regardless of affiliation is to be recognized and appreciated. Applause for an opponent's good performance is a demonstration of generosity and good will that should not be looked upon as treason. The ability to recognize quality in performance and the willingness to acknowledge it without regard to team membership is one of the most highly commendable gestures of good sportsmanship.

SPECTATOR RESPONSIBILITIES AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

At Dominican High School, all persons who enter a field, gymnasium, or court spectator areas are expected to be mindful that every participant in high school athletic events is:

- A child of God and of her/his own parents.
- A student whose academic and spiritual growth are vital.
- An athlete expected to demonstrate respect for the dignity of others at all times.

Dominican High School parents/guardians, staff, and alumni are expected to be leaders by reinforcing sportsmanship in our students at all times at home and away events. No student or adult has the right to speak, yell, gesture, or sign in any manner that can demean or humiliate a high school student-athlete or spectator.

The motto of the DHS athletic department is clear and simple: **We cheer for, not against.**

METRO CLASSIC CONFERENCE SPECTATOR REGULATIONS AT ATHLETIC CONTESTS

Students attending a school in the Metro Classic Conference are expected to follow these spectator behavior rules:

- a. All spectators shall behave in a manner which respects others, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, place of origin, nationality or physical or mental disability.
- b. All spectators are to refrain from using tobacco on school property.
- c. There are to be no noisemakers at any athletic events.
- d. No pep signs can be posted in or carried into the events.
- e. Spectator language should be such that it will reflect favorably on the school and the students.
- f. Spectators under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be removed with parent and/or police notification.
- g. Spectators must be seated in the section or area designated for their school whenever possible.
- h. If students leave an event, they will not be allowed to return.
- i. Common courtesy shall be shown to all visiting spectators and their cheers.
- j. Spectators shall respect all decisions of contest officials.