



Book	Policy Manual
Section	2000 Program
Title	INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AND DISTRICT ACTIVITIES
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2431 - **INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AND DISTRICT ACTIVITIES**

Philosophy

Co-curricular activities and athletics are considered a regular part of the educational program and offer opportunities that are unique. The privilege of participating in athletic programs and activities is extended to all students providing they are willing to assume certain responsibilities. The greatest benefit for student participants is to be a credit to themselves, their parents, school and community. The Board of Education recognizes the value to the District and to the community of a program of interscholastic athletics for as many students as feasible and in accordance with Policy 2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity. The Board believes that it is the purpose of an interscholastic program to provide the benefits of an athletic experience to as large a number of students as feasible within the District.

Therefore, it is always expected that student participants display the following:

- A. high standards of social behavior;
- B. outstanding sportsmanship;
- C. proper respect for members of their organizations, opponents and those in authority, to include teachers, coaches and officials; and
- D. use language which is socially acceptable; profanity will not be tolerated.

This document is designed to provide information to parents and students regarding District athletics and activities, grades 6-12. The WIAA and its guidelines govern many of the rules and regulations in this booklet. The Athletics/Activities Director is responsible for enforcing an athletic and activities code to which District students must adhere. It is required that all students and parents involved in athletics and activities listed in Sections II and III read, understand, and sign documentation as determined by administration indicating their understanding of the information contained in this document. Ignorance of the rules within this document is not a valid excuse for noncompliance.

Athletic Eligibility

- A. Medical Eligibility: At the beginning of each season all athletes (gr 9-12) must have a District physical card or alternative year card on file.
- B. Academic Eligibility: To be eligible for interscholastic athletic participation, a student must be enrolled as a full time student and:
 - 1. receive no more than one failing/incomplete evidence (IE) grade during the most recent quarter or semester grading period; and

2. maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average for grades 9-12.

NOTE: Students enrolled in a special education or at-risk program who do not achieve a 2.0 grade point average may be declared eligible if satisfactory progress is being made in their IEP or individualized program. Decisions pertaining to eligibility will be made by the school's administration with consultation and recommendation from the students' IEP team.

3. Grades will be checked on the first day of practice/tryouts. Students who are determined to be ineligible will have grades reviewed at noon on the 5th school day of that sport season. At the time of the review, the student's grades must be at or above 2.0 grade point average and include no more than one (1) F/I in order to regain eligibility.

Example: If the season starts on a Monday, grades are reviewed on Friday at noon. If the season starts on a Tuesday, grades are reviewed the following Monday at noon, etc.

4. Students declared academically ineligible as of the five (5) day review must remain out of competitions for fifteen (15) school days.
5. On the 15th day, the athlete must request a grade review from the athletic office. If the athlete is eligible the coach will be notified.

- a. All students wishing to regain eligibility for the fall sports season must adhere to academic eligibility dates established by the WIAA.

- b. Impact of summer school on fall eligibility:

Students who enroll in summer school may have their eligibility reinstated based on the successful completion within like courses, at the discretion of administration. This only applies to course grades from 2nd semester of the prior school year.

C. Age: A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition if s/he reaches his/her 19th birthday before August 1 of any school year.

D. Financial Obligations:

1. The established athletic fee is required per athlete per year. The fee may be partially waived for free/reduced lunch participants.
2. All financial obligations must be settled prior to participation in a sport.
3. Athletes and/or their parents will be held financially responsible for any lost, misplaced, or damaged equipment.

Activity Eligibility

A. Definitions: In this code/section, major student activities are defined as those activities that meet the following criteria: include aspects of competition and travel, consistency in membership, meeting times during the school day, and represent the school in a public manner. Major activities are subject to eligibility determinations and mandatory disciplinary consequences for code violations. A consistent district-wide list of such activities shall be published by each school to the students on an annual basis. Such activities may include:

Academic Decathlon

Band

Choir

DECA

Debate

Drama-Plays

FBLA

FCCLA

Forensics

HOSA

One Act Play

Orchestra

For other activities that do not meet the above criteria, consequences for code violations may be applied depending on the nature of the offense.

B. Financial Obligations

1. All financial obligations must be settled prior to participation in any activity.
2. Students and/or their parents will be held financially responsible for any lost, misplaced, or damaged equipment.

C. Sports not designated as "School Sports" by policy #5460

1. All sports not sanctioned by the WIAA or listed in policy 5460 will be considered activities.
2. All students (gr 9-12) must submit a District physical card prior to participation.

D. Activities that are part of an academic class or earn a grade or credit are not subject to the activity eligibility section listed above.

1. Students will be expected to perform in graded concerts or the designated alternative assignment determined by the teacher and approved by administration.
2. Opportunities to attend overnight trips, special performances during or after the school day, or other activities may be revoked during the period of ineligibility.

Rules of Conduct

In compliance with WIAA regulations and District policy, the following rules of conduct have been established:

- A. A student participating in athletics and activities is bound by the Rules of Conduct. Students participating in athletics and activities are under the requirements of the code at all times during the calendar year (or 365 days and nights per year). The rules of conduct shall be enforced year-round.
- B. Prior to any athlete participating in sports each school year, both student-athlete and parent(s) must read, indicate understanding, and sign off on these rules detailed in the school's Athletic Code. School athletic codes must also contain expected parent behaviors at athletic events and/or other events that may be attended. A student-athlete may not participate until all signatures are on file with the Athletics/Activities Director.
- C. Student Absence: Under normal circumstances, students must attend the last fifty percent (50%) of their classes the day of practice in order to participate in that practice. On the day of competition/event, students must be in attendance for the entirety of the school day. All absences must conform to the attendance policies. Students suspended from school may not participate in any rehearsals, practices or events the date(s) of the suspension.
- D. Additional Rules: Athletes may be required to follow any additional rules set by individual coaches/advisors, providing those rules have been distributed to all participants and parents. These rules may not be contrary to the District Rules of Conduct or the rules and regulations of the WIAA.

Investigation and Enforcement

Alleged violations of the Rules of Conduct may be presented to the Athletics/Activities Director or his/her supervisor or designee by a parent, coach, advisor, student, teacher, administrator, school district employee, law enforcement officer, or other responsible community member. Unless impractical or untimely, all alleged violations must be submitted in writing, must be signed, and must state the essential supporting details of the alleged violation. The Athletics/Activities Director shall determine the validity of the alleged violation, and shall take the following action:

- A. Give the student oral notice of the alleged violation.
- B. Provide the student an opportunity to present his/her version of the incident.
- C. Give the student an explanation of the information, which the school authorities have received, that may support a finding that s/he has violated the Rules of Conduct.
- D. The Athletics/Activities Director will have communication with the parents.
- E. The Athletics/Activities Director must make a determination as to whether the student has violated the Rules of Conduct. If it is determined that the student has violated the Rules of Conduct, the Athletics/Activities Director shall provide the family with written notice of this suspension and the reason for said suspension.

F. The students and parents shall have the right to appeal. You have seven (7) days to appeal upon notification from the school.

Penalties - Athletic

- A. First Violation: Suspension from participation for up to twenty percent (20%) of the entire season's contests (refer to Appendix A).
- B. Second Violation: Suspension from participation in fifty percent (50%) of the entire season's contests (refer to Appendix A).
- C. Third Violation: Suspension from participation for one (1) calendar year from the date of notification.
- D. Fourth Violation: Permanent suspension from participation in high school athletics and activities.

In all cases, the student will be suspended immediately from participation in the above stated number of contests in the current sport. If the student is not participating in athletics at the time of the violation (or insufficient contests remain in the current season) the suspension shall be enforced at the beginning of the next sport season in which the student participates. Any student serving an athletic code suspension must participate in that sport season for its duration after the suspension has been served and finish the season in good standing in order to fulfill the disciplinary requirement.

During suspension, athletes will be expected to attend all scheduled practices and team meetings unless otherwise directed by the Athletics/Activities Director.

Penalties - Activities

For students participating in activities any of the offenses listed in the student rights and responsibilities policy under "unacceptable conduct" (Appendix B) may be considered an activity rule of conduct. Consequences for code violations shall be up to the discretion of the Athletics/Activities Director with consultation from the activity advisor. If the activity includes a related class that earns a grade, a consequence that would result in the lowering of a student's grade would normally not be used. Due to the different nature of the activities offered in the district, consequences include but are not limited to (not in any order):

- A. extra duty within the activity
- B. community service hours (in school or in the community)
- C. removal for one (1) or more of the events or performances
- D. complete removal from the activity (serious offenses), or
- E. other consequence

Consequences shall be as consistent as practicable from school to school and activity to activity. To ensure consistency school to school, activities directors from schools shall consult with other schools when administering consequences for activities violation.

The Athletics/Activities Director may modify penalties when warranted by extenuating circumstances. In all cases, the student will be suspended immediately from participation in the current activity. If the student is not participating in an activity at the time of the violation (or insufficient performances/events remain in the current season) the suspension shall be enforced at the beginning of the next season in which the student participates. Any student serving an activity code suspension must participate in that activity for its duration after the suspension has been served and finish the activity in good standing in order to fulfill the disciplinary requirement.

Middle School Penalties

Penalties assigned in Middle School do not transfer to the High School level unless noted in a local behavioral or pre-expulsion contract. A student entering 9th grade will be given a clean slate.

Dually Participating Students

When a student is involved in both athletic and major activities, consequences must be given in the athletic area. Consequences imposed in athletics may be taken into account when imposing activity penalties.

Honesty and Cooperation Clause

Students involved in co-curricular athletics and activities shall be verbally counseled about honesty before and during disciplinary procedures. Since honesty is expected, any finding of dishonesty during disciplinary investigations or during disciplinary procedures may result in an extension (up to doubling) of any penalty authorized in this guideline.

The Athletics/Activities Director has the discretion to modify the first offense penalty, listed as up to twenty percent (20%) suspension, if a student self-reports in advance of the investigation. The self-report would need to happen within seventy-two (72) hours of the incident, and the student must provide an accurate written statement that is full and complete as verified by the investigation.

All students are expected to cooperate with investigations. If a student does not cooperate, as determined by the administration, they could be subject to suspensions from athletic/activity events and/or school.

Violations Requiring Additional Penalties

Any code violation that involves the following will result in an extension (up to doubling) of any penalty authorized in this guideline: organizing, hosting, or having gatherings where drinking or use of controlled substances takes place; selling, providing, or distributing alcohol or controlled substances, or; using anabolic/androgenic steroids, or human growth hormone.

Appeal Procedure for Co-Curricular Activities and Athletics

The sequence of appeals will be directed to the Principal, then to the Superintendent. The Principal and Superintendent may uphold, modify or reverse a penalty imposed by the Athletics/Activities Director following an appeal. An appeal must be submitted in writing (letter, e-mail, and/or fax) and must include a reason(s) for the appeal. The appeal must be submitted to the Principal within seven (7) days upon notification of suspension from the Athletics/Activities Director at the school. After receiving the decision from the Principal, an appeal to the Superintendent must be received within seven (7) days. The penalty for an offense will begin immediately upon conclusion of the investigation. The Superintendent or Principal(s) may designate the Athletics/Activities Director Committee to develop an educational or restorative plan that must be met first before a modification to the suspension.

APPENDIX A

SPORT	20%	50%
Cross Country (11)	2 meets	6 meets
Football (9)	2 games	5 games
Football Freshmen (8)	2 games	5 games
Cheerleading-Fall (9)	2 games	5 games
Dance-Fall(5)	1 games	3 games
Soccer (24)	5 games	12 games
Swimming (15)	3 meets	8 meets
Volleyball (15)	3 meets, multiples = 1 event	8 meets, multiples = 1 event
Basketball (22)	4 games	11 games
Cheerleading-Winter (11)	2 games	6 games
Dance-Winter (11)	2 games	6 games
Hockey (20)	4 games	10 games
Wrestling (14)	3 meets, multiples = 1 event	7 meets, multiples = 1 event
Golf (14)	3 meets	7 meets
Softball (20)	4 games	10 games
Track (20)	4 meets	10 meets
Baseball (30)	6 games	15 games
Tennis (14)	3 meets, multiples = 1 event	7 meets, multiples = 1 event
Gymnastics (14)	3 meets	7 meets

Note: All percentages are based on the maximum number of games allowed by the WIAA during the regular season. "Multiples" are tournaments in which the athletes compete against more than one (1) opponent in the course of the day.

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T.C. 9/19/19

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P.I. 9.03(1)(h), Wis. Adm. Code