

OLDHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY

ATHLETIC POLICY

4015

The Board believes that a comprehensive athletic program is a vital part of the total school program in Oldham County and it is the intention of the Board to provide the personnel and facilities to establish and maintain an athletic program as herewith described.

The Board believes:

- a. The athletic program is an integral part of the Oldham County Schools' program and should not be set apart as a separate entity.
- b. The athletic program should be conducted in a manner so that the individual welfare of each participant is the primary concern.
- c. The pupil may try out for as many sports as he/she desires without jeopardizing his/her status in other sports.
- d. The athletic program should provide an opportunity for each pupil to develop fully his/her athletic potentials.

The Board intends that the policy statements included in this guide supplement and not conflict with the policies of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA). Should such a conflict arise, the Superintendent will decide which policy shall take precedence.

4015.01 PURPOSE OF ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The Oldham County Schools recognize the value of a comprehensive athletic program in interscholastic and intramural sports that will accomplish the specific objectives as herein listed.

- a. Provide an athletic program that will encourage pupils to become active participants.
- b. Provide an athletic program that will enable pupils to develop a high level of physical skills
- c. Provide an athletic program that will enable the participants to develop and appreciate the elements of competition.
- d. Provide an athletic program that will enable the participants to develop more fully their potential for leadership and responsibilities.
- e. Provide an athletic program that will demonstrate to the participants the value of self-discipline.
- f. Provide an athletic program that will require the participants to function as an integral part of a larger group.
- g. Provide a wholesome recreational program for participants and spectators alike.
- h. Provide an athletic program that is consistent with the growth and development characteristics of the participants.
- i. Provide an athletic program consistent with the mandates of Title IX.

4015.02 COMPOSITION OF OLDHAM COUNTY ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Outline of Oldham County interscholastic athletic program.

FALL

HS & MS Football
HS & MS Cross Country
HS Soccer
HS & MS Volleyball
HS & MS Golf
HS Field Hockey
MS Field Hockey (NOMS only)
MS Tennis
HS&MS Dance and Cheer

WINTER

HS & MS Basketball
HS & MS Wrestling
HS Swimming
HS Archery

SPRING

HS Baseball
HS & MS Track/Field
HS Tennis
HS Softball
*HS Football
HS Lacrosse
MS Soccer
MS Golf

*Each football high school may conduct ten (10) practice periods of not more than two (2) hours in length and not more than one practice per day over ten (10) days during the three calendar weeks following the school's elimination from post-season play in basketball. All equipment authorized by the football playing rules may be used during this period. There can be no inter-school competition during this period, and all participants must be eligible according to all KHSAA eligibility rules.

Intramural sports may be offered at the elementary and middle school level.

4015.03 PROVISIONS

General Provisions

1. To be eligible to participate in athletics at any Oldham County School District school, a student must be enrolled in the Oldham County Schools. Specific eligibility requirements are determined by each school's school-based decision-making council and/or the school's athletic director and may be found in the school's Student Handbook.
2. The athletic schedule should be formulated so that all conference, district, or regional requirements are fulfilled.
3. Games should be scheduled with schools of a comparable size and classification or schools with reputable athletic programs.
4. Games should be scheduled with schools so that travel distances will be minimal; however, we recognize the value of a team taking a trip outside of their immediate area.
5. Scheduled games should be postponed or canceled whenever school has been dismissed because of inclement weather, unless there is a very definite improvement in weather and travel conditions prior to departure time for visiting team.
6. The Athletic Director is responsible for scheduling competition upon agreement with Principal and Coach. Schedules must be finalized one month prior to opening of season. There will be no deviation from submitted schedule. This includes all levels of competition.
7. Personnel for the athletic program shall be provided based on the programs actually operated and the availability of funds.
8. All participants in interscholastic athletics shall have student accident insurance. The method of payment for this insurance is left up to the individual schools (Middle and High).
9. All KHSAA regulations must be adhered to strictly.

Specific Provisions for High School Athletics

1. Limitation of Seasons, including the scheduling of contests and the maximum number of contests for each sport, shall in accordance with KHSAA Bylaw 23.
 - a. Bylaw 23 can be accessed on the KHSAA website (<https://khsaa.org>)
https://khsaa.org/common_documents/handbook/bylaws.pdf
 - b. The KHSAA Sports Season Reference Calendar can be accessed at:
<https://khsaa.org/news-stats-pubs/publications/sport-season-calendar>
 - c. Pursuant to KHSAA Bylaw 24, the Dead Period for all high school athletic teams is June 25-July 9, inclusive.
2. Individual Participation
Individual students may participate in KHSAA regional and our statewide competition. Participation in such events will be pursuant to KHSAA regulations that govern said participation. The Board requires that a certified staff member and/or para-professional shall accompany and supervise each individual participant(s) during competition at regional and/or state levels. Participants shall meet all local requirements for participation in extra-curricular athletic activities.

Specific Provisions for Middle School Athletics

Football

- a. The maximum number of middle school games including any applicable postseason events is 15; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. No games will be scheduled before the Saturday prior to the start of the high school varsity season.
- c. Pre-season practices may not start prior to July 10th (helmets only); July 25th (shoulder pads); and August 1st (full contact).
- d. Season ends after Kentucky Middle School Football Association State championship.

Basketball

- a. Per KHSAA rules, the number of regular season games shall not exceed 30, which includes all regular season and postseason tournament games.
- b. No games will be scheduled prior to the third full week of September for girls; or last week of October for boys.
- c. Preseason practices may not start prior to August 15th for girls; or September 15th for boys.
- d. Season ends after Mid-Bluegrass Conference Tournament for girls; Kentucky Basketball Commission State for boys.

Volleyball

- a. The number of regular season games shall not exceed 20; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. Tournament games are not part of the regular season.
- c. No games will be scheduled prior to the second full week of August.
- d. Preseason practices may not start prior to July 15th.
- e. Season ends after MBC/Jefferson Region Tournament.

Cross Country

- a. The number of regular season meets shall not exceed 13; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. Tournament meets are not part of the regular season.
- c. No meets will be scheduled prior to August 11th.
- d. Preseason practices may not start prior to July 15th.
- e. Season ends after Kentucky Track and Cross-Country Coaches Association State Meet.

Tennis

- a. The number of regular season matches shall not exceed 15; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. Tournament matches are not part of the regular season.
- c. No matches will be scheduled prior to August 1st.
- d. Preseason practices may not start prior to July 15th.
- e. Season ends at the end of league play.

Wrestling

- a. The number of regular season matches shall not exceed 17; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. Regional Tournament matches and above are not part of the regular season.
- c. The maximum number of weeks for regular season middle school competition is thirteen (13) weeks.
- d. Preseason practices may not be scheduled prior to October 15th.
- e. Season ends at the conclusion of the Kentucky State Wrestling Association tournament.

Soccer

- a. The number of regular season games shall not exceed 12; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. Tournament games are not part of the regular season.
- c. No games will be scheduled prior to the first week of March.
- d. Preseason practices may not be scheduled prior to February 15th.
- e. Season ends at the conclusion of the Mid-Bluegrass Conference tournament.

Track

- a. The number of regular season meets shall not exceed 19; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. Tournament meets are not part of the regular season.
- c. No meets will be scheduled prior to March 1st.
- d. Preseason practices may not be scheduled prior to February 15th.
- e. Season ends after Kentucky Track and Cross-Country Coaches Association State Meet.

Golf

- a. The number of regular season meets shall not exceed 10; teams may have 2 scrimmages.
- b. Tournament matches are not part of the regular season.
- c. No matches will be scheduled prior to March 1st.
- d. Preseason practices may not be scheduled prior to February 15th.
- e. Season ends after the conference tournament.

Competitive Cheerleading

- a. The number of regular season competitions shall not exceed three (3), not including Regional or State competitions.
- b. No competitions will be held prior to August 1st.
- c. Preseason practices may not be scheduled prior to July 15th.
- d. Season ends on March 1st.
- e. Tryouts may be conducted over a two-week period in April.

Competitive Dance

- a. The number of regular season competitions shall not exceed three (3), not including Regional or State competitions.
 - b. No competitions shall be held prior to August 1st.
 - c. Preseason practices may not be scheduled prior to July 15th.
 - d. Season ends on March 15th.
 - e. Tryouts may be conducted over a two-week period in April.
2. The dead period for middle school sports is June 25th through July 9th.
 3. Student participation shall be subject to the following limitations:
 - a. A student who turns fifteen (15) years of age prior to August 1 of the current school year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades eight (8) and below.
 - b. A student that turns fourteen (14) years of age prior to August 1 of the current school year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades seven (7) and below; and
 - c. A student that turns thirteen (13) years of age prior to August 1 of the current school year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades six (6) and below;
 - d. Students in grades 4 through 6 may participate in middle school sports if permitted by the middle school's SBDM policy.

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4015.04 DEFINITION OF ATHLETIC SEASONS

The athletic seasons include both practice and regular season games. A practice session is a period of time that is spent in preparation for the competitive athletic events, and they will normally be comprised of the following elements: a majority of the participants are present, attendance of participants is expected, the activities are organized, and the activities are supervised by a coach. Tryouts cannot begin until the specified date stated in KHSAA bylaws for the individual sport. No tryouts are to take place during an extended scheduled Board break (fall, winter or spring break).

4015.05 FINANCE AND CARE OF EQUIPMENT

The Board will pay salaries of coaches and provide funds for equipment in emergency situations. The general rule is that all operating and equipment needs for all interscholastic athletics are to be financed with gate receipts from the total athletic program, to the extent possible.

The school principal is responsible for the financial accounting (as outlined in section 3005.05) and for developing administrative procedures to assure proper care of equipment.