

Northwood Middle School Athletic Code of Conduct

The following policies and guidelines are to be adhered to and enforced by all administrators and coaches at Northwood Middle School. It should be noted that these policies and guidelines are a direct result of the FWCS Middle School Athletic conference (MSAC) and the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA).

Athletic Statement

Northwood Middle School Athletic policies and procedures are governed by the MSAC Handbook. This athletic document is designed to inform athletes and their parent/guardian of the rules, regulations, and information that are specific to Northwood Middle School. Participation in middle school athletics is a privilege, which carries with it varying degrees of honor, responsibility and sacrifice. Since athletic competition on middle school teams is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate will be expected to follow the MSAC Code of Conduct as well as the Northwood Code of Conduct established by the administration, teachers, and other specific coaches' rules for their sport. Athletes represent their school and student body and are to conduct themselves in a manner that is becoming to their family, Northwood Middle School, and the Fort Wayne community.

Athletic Philosophy/Mission

The goal of Northwood Middle School Athletic Department is to provide the best opportunities for student-athletes to excel in teamwork, sportsmanship, self-discipline and moral character. The department's purpose is to provide each participant with experiences that will be positive and memorable. The Northwood Athletic Department seeks to help the athlete develop the capacity for commitment to a cause, accept responsibility, and develop loyalty towards any chosen endeavor.

Eligibility

The eligibility of all contestants shall be certified by the principal of the school in accordance with the following guidelines (MSAC Handbook Section #6).

1. Students enrolled in the sixth grade will have three consecutive years of athletic eligibility. If a student is retained, the year of retention will count as a year of eligibility. In other words, an eighth grader who has been retained for one school year is ineligible for athletic participation for his/her eighth grade year.
2. Any student-athlete who receives one F in a subject on a grade card is declared ineligible for interscholastic sports.
3. Ineligible athletes may not practice with the team.
4. Students who are ineligible remain ineligible until the next scheduled grade card is issued.
5. Fourth quarter grades determine eligibility for the next school year.
6. Any class that meets every day shall be counted as a class. Any two classes that meet on alternated days shall be averaged together as one class.
7. Students who are ineligible at the end of a grading period are ineligible until the next (9) week grading period.

8. A student, who is granted an official transfer from Placement/Records office of Student Services Division and/or Special Education Department, will be considered eligible for middle school athletics.
9. If a parent or guardian moves from one FWCS middle school district to another, the student may change schools at the time of the move, the end of a season, at the end of the semester, or remain for the year in the school he/she was first enrolled and will retain athletic eligibility.
10. Students must be in school ½ day either AM or PM in order to compete on that given day.
11. A ½ day is defined as before or after 11:00 AM.
12. In order for a student-athlete to compete in any MSAC events, games, or matches in the regular season or during tournaments, including city championships, the student must be a member of an MSAC sanctioned team at his/her home school.

Conduct

Contestants' conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as (a) not to reflect discredit upon their schools, or (b) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, or educational environment in the schools (MSAC Handbook/Rule 7 Section 1).

Should a student violate a Northwood or FWCS rule-the following will be the consequences:

Athletes Grades (during athletic season)

Grades will be checked **daily by 8:00 a.m.** If a student is failing a class, the student will not be able to participate in any competition that day and will need to go home. If it is not a competition day, the student will be required to attend study tables with that teacher, who teaches the class they are failing, until 3:10 PM. Student may attend practice after 3:10 PM. The teacher will sign off once the student is passing and at that time, the student may participate in competitions.

Tardies (Per Season/Per School and Grade Level Guidelines)

3 Tardies	Conference with athlete/parents/coach
5 Tardies	Loss of next athletic contest
10 Tardies	Loss of next two athletic contests <i>AND</i> review with athlete/parents/admin/coach for possible removal from the team
15 or more tardies	Removal from team

Referrals (Per Season)

1 st Referral	Warning and conference with coach
2 nd Referral	No practice and no games the day of infraction
3 rd Referral	No practice or games for 1 week. Conference with athlete/parents/admin/coach
4 th Referral	No practice or game for 2 weeks. Review with athlete/parents/admin/coach for possible removal from team

***** Coaches/admin reserve the right to skip steps if deemed necessary**

In-School Suspension (Per Season) (1/2 a day or more)

1 st Offense	No practice and no game for the day of infraction
2 nd Offense	No practice and no game for the week
3 rd Offense	No practice and no game for two weeks AND review with athlete/parent/admin/coach for possible removal from team

Out of School Suspension (Per Season)

1 st Offense	No practice or game for that week
2 nd Offense	Student is ineligible for sports the remainder of year (per MSAC Handbook)

Transportation (Activity Bus Routes/To and From Competitions)

- The school bus is an extension of the school building. Students are expected to follow all FWCS rules while riding the bus.

1 st Offense	Removal from Activity Bus route to/from competitions for 1 week
2 nd Offense	Removal from Activity Bus route to/from competitions for remainder of season

Cutting Policy

The coaching staff are hired for their knowledge, expertise and willingness to spend extra hours working with students in a particular sport. It is at the discretion of the coaching staff to decide who will be members of a team. Team members may be cut from the team at any time during the season for violation of rules.

School Insurance/Physicals

All students participating in inter-school athletics are required to be covered by school athletic insurance. Accident or injury insurance is provided by FWCS at no cost to the parents as secondary coverage insurance only. Athletes are covered primarily through their parents' health insurance programs. When an injury occurs, the student must immediately inform the coach. The coach will then file an accident report in the school office. In order to participate in athletics, all participants must have a physical on file in the school office. The physical must be completed after May 1st prior to the school year of participation.

Athletic Equipment

All equipment must be turned in when called for and missing items settled for at that time. Students who willfully neglect to turn in athletic equipment will be ineligible for all athletics until they return the equipment and are in good standing with the school.

Excused/Unexcused Attendance

Athletes are expected to be in attendance for all practices and games. It is the athletes responsibility to notify a coach if he/she is unable to attend practice or a game. Each coach will determine if a missed practice/game is excused or unexcused.

1 st Unexcused Practice/Game	Warning and conference with coach/athletic director
2 nd Unexcused Practice/Game	No game(s) for one week
3 rd Unexcused Practice/Game	No game(s) for two weeks
4 th Unexcused Practice/Game	Removal from team

Return this form to your coach

I understand the FWCS/Northwood Middle School Athletic Code and agree to abide by the guidelines listed. All participants in a school athletic program shall be governed by local and state laws, the FWCS Behavior Code, the Middle School Athletic Code and the individual school rules for participation.

STUDENT'S NAME (please print)

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE

PARENT'S SIGNATURE

DATE _____

**This form must be returned to the coach before the student will be allowed to participate on a team.*