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## **PREFACE / INTRODUCTION**

Bladen County Schools are governed by the policies and procedures established by the State Board of Education, Bladen County Board of Education, and the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

## **PHILOSOPHY**

Interscholastic athletics is a co-curricular activity and is an integrated part of the educational process for student athletes in Bladen County Schools. Athletics provides not only an avenue for the development of athletic skills, but for the development of the total person. Athletics teaches life skills, including: ***RESPONSIBILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, TEAM BUILDING, FAIR PLAY, and DETERMINATION.***

# Athletic Directors

## 2022 - 2023

- **Bladenboro Middle School - *BULLDOGS***
  - Steve Thurman      [smthurman@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:smthurman@bladen.k12.nc.us)      910-863-3232
- **Clarkton School of Discovery - *BLUE DEVILS***
  - Chris Callihan      [bccallihan@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:bccallihan@bladen.k12.nc.us)      910-647-6531
- **Elizabethtown Middle School - *COUGARS***
  - Larry Williams      [clwilliams@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:clwilliams@bladen.k12.nc.us)      910-876-4429
- **Tar Heel Middle School - *PANTHERS***
  - Brett Jackson      [brjackson@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:brjackson@bladen.k12.nc.us)      910-862-2475
- **East Bladen High School - *EAGLES***
  - Patty Evers      [psevers@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:psevers@bladen.k12.nc.us)      910-862-9072
- **West Bladen High School - *KNIGHTS***
  - Travis Pait      [tmpait@bladen.k12.nc.us](mailto:tmpait@bladen.k12.nc.us)      910-234-4318

# **Bladen County Schools / NCHSAA**

## **Coaching Requirements**

- Complete the Bladen County Schools Faculty or Non-Faculty coaching form and return to the school's Athletic Director.
  - This will include a background check that will need to be completed every year for non-faculty coaches.
  - The faculty forms are to be completed every year by employed coaches.
  - New coaches who have never coached in Bladen County must complete the tax forms.
  
- Head Coach of all sports must have CPR/AED certification
  - Certifications must be kept up to date
  - Athletic Directors are responsible for knowing certification expiration dates
  
- Complete the following requirements of the NCHSAA which can be found at [NFHSlearn.com](http://NFHSlearn.com)
  - Fundamentals of Coaching (\$35.00 - one time only)
  - Concussion Certification (FREE - YEARLY)
  - Sudden Cardiac Certification (FREE - YEARLY)
    - *Must be completed if you are not a head coach and do not have CPR certification*

# **Bladen County Schools / NCHSAA**

## **Coaching Requirements**

*(continued)*

- **RULES CLINIC**
  - VARSITY HEAD COACHES must complete the required rules clinic
    - Online Clinic - Specific to each sport
  
- **Certificates**
  - Coaches will email all certificates to the Athletic Director of their school
  - Athletic Director will keep certificates on file
  
- **Bus License**
  - Athletic Directors are responsible for knowing bus license expiration dates
  - HIGHLY RECOMMENDED - all coaches obtain a bus license

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Coaches Code of Conduct**

- Coaches are now required to review the NCHSAA power point presentation on eligibility rules prior to the season in which they coach.
- The coach has tremendous influence upon student- athletes and shall never place winning above the value of instilling the highest desirable ideals of character.
- The coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct with the student-athlete, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public.
- The coach shall discipline athletes who display unacceptable behavior.
  - Discuss discipline procedures with Athletic Directors as well as Administration
- The coach shall know the game rules and be responsible for their interpretation to team members. Additionally, the coach shall not try to seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
- The coach shall promote and work in harmony with the entire interscholastic program of the school.
- The coach shall respect and support contest officials by avoiding conduct which will incite players or spectators against the officials.

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Coaches Code of Conduct**

*(continued)*

- The coach shall actively promote good sportsmanship of spectators by working closely with administrators, cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, and booster clubs.
- The coach shall meet and exchange greetings with the opposing coach before and after the contest to set and maintain a positive tone for the event.
- The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse, while stressing the importance of a healthy lifestyle.



# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Coaches Code of Ethics**

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student should be treated with the utmost respect, and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by the coach at all times. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the NFHS Board of Directors.

- ***THE COACH SHALL . . .***

- be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.
- uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with students, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
- take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.
- avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.
- promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Coaches Code of Ethics**

*(continued)*

- master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
- exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.
- respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.
- The coach should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.
- The coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give students special consideration.
- not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or state high school athletic association.

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Coaches Area of Liability**

- Failure to properly supervise an activity.
- Failure to complete eligibility requirements.
- Failure to teach fundamentals and protective skills.
- Negligently entrusting duty to an unqualified individual.
- Failure to provide and maintain a safe coaching and playing environment.
- Failures to inspect, repair, or recondition equipment properly.
- Failure to provide proper effective equipment.
- Failures to know, document, and follow school policies.
- Failure to properly administer First Aid.
- Failure to warn athletes and parents of inherent dangers.
- Failure to assess an injury of an athlete.
- Failure to keep adequate and accurate records.

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Concussion Compliance**

Athletes and Personnel must complete the Gfeller-Waller NCHSAA School & Athletic Personnel Concussion Statement Form prior to participation

[https://www.nchsaa.org/sites/default/files/attachments/GW\\_SAPLG\\_ConcussionInform-Feb2021\\_0.pdf](https://www.nchsaa.org/sites/default/files/attachments/GW_SAPLG_ConcussionInform-Feb2021_0.pdf)

- Athletic Directors will make sure that all Gfeller-Waller NCHSAA School & Athletic Personnel Concussion Statement Forms are completed by all athletes and are up to date prior to participation
- A concussion can affect a student-athlete's ability to perform everyday activities, their ability to think, their balance and their classroom performance.
- Concussions can't always be seen, it is up to the coaches / personnel to know as well as notice signs of a concussion in a student-athlete right away. However, signs/symptoms can show-up hours or days after the injury.
- If a coach / personnel suspects a student-athlete has a concussion, it is their responsibility for removing them from the activity and referring them to a medical professional trained in concussion management.
- A coach will not allow any student-athlete to return to play or practice if it is suspected that the athlete has received a blow to the head or body that resulted in signs or symptoms consistent with a concussion.
- A coach should not allow any student-athlete exhibiting signs and symptoms consistent with concussion to return to play or practice on the same day.

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Concussion Compliance**

*(continued)*

- Coaches must acknowledge that student-athletes must receive written clearance from a medical professional, trained in concussion management, in order to return to play or practice after a concussion.
- Coaches should acknowledge that following concussion, the brain needs time to heal. Coaches understand that student-athletes are more likely to sustain another concussion or more serious brain injury if they return to play or practice before symptoms resolve.
- In rare cases, repeat concussions can cause serious and long-lasting problems.

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (PPE)**

Instructions for Completing the NCHSAA Student-Athlete Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (PPE)

[https://www.nchsaa.org/sites/default/files/attachments/June1\\_2021\\_PPE\\_English\\_0\\_4.pdf](https://www.nchsaa.org/sites/default/files/attachments/June1_2021_PPE_English_0_4.pdf)

- In order to be medically eligible for participation in practice or in interscholastic athletic contests, a student must have a completed NCHSAA PPE and submit it to the school.
- The PPE is four (4) pages in length and includes the History Form, the Physical Examination Form, and the Medical Eligibility Form.
- The PPE History Form (pages 1-2) is completed and signed by the parent or legal custodian on behalf of the student-athlete.
- The completed and signed PPE History Form must then be presented to the examining Licensed Medical Professional (LMP) (physician licensed to practice medicine (MD/DO), nurse practitioner or physician assistant) for review when they fill out the Physical Examination Form.
- The completed PPE Physical Examination Form (page 3) is signed and dated by the LMP who performed the examination. The physical examination builds on information obtained in the medical history.
- The PPE Medical Eligibility Form (page 4), which is also signed and dated by the LMP, indicates the student-athlete is either medically eligible or not medically eligible for sports participation.

# **Bladen County Schools / NCHSAA**

## **Lightning Guidelines**

Athletic Directors WILL develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby safe areas.

[https://www.nchsaa.org/sites/default/files/attachments/guidelines\\_on\\_handling\\_practices\\_contests\\_during\\_lightning\\_thunder\\_disturbances\\_march\\_2018.pdf](https://www.nchsaa.org/sites/default/files/attachments/guidelines_on_handling_practices_contests_during_lightning_thunder_disturbances_march_2018.pdf)

These guidelines provide a default policy to those responsible for sharing duties for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of practices and contests based on the presence of lightning or thunder.

The preferred sources from which to request such a policy for your facility would include your state high school activities association and the nearest office of the National Weather Service. **PROACTIVE PLANNING**

- Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during practices and contests.
- Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby safer areas and determine the amount of time needed to get everyone to a designated safer area:
  - A designated safer place is a substantial building with plumbing and wiring where people live or work, such as a school, gymnasium or library. An alternate safer place from the threat of lightning is a fully enclosed (not convertible or soft top) metal car or school bus.
- Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
  - When thunder is heard or lightning is seen\*, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for at least 30 minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously designated safer location immediately.
  - 30-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed\* prior to resuming play.

# **Bladen County Schools / NCHSAA**

## **Lightning Guidelines**

*(continued)*

- Any subsequent thunder or lightning\* after the beginning of the 30-minute count will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.
  
- When lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. However, you should never depend on the reliability of these devices and, thus, hearing thunder or seeing lightning\* should always take precedence over information from a mobile app or lightning-detection device. \* – At night, under certain atmospheric conditions, lightning flashes may be seen from distant storms. In these cases, it may be safe to continue an event. If no thunder can be heard and the flashes are low on the horizon, the storm may not pose a threat. Independently verified lightning detection information would help eliminate any uncertainty.
  
- Review the lightning safety policy annually with all administrators, coaches and game personnel and train all personnel.
  
- Inform student-athletes and their parents of the lightning policy at the start of the season.



**Bladen County Schools**  
**Outdoor Equipment Inventory Form**

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Coaching Supplements**

# Bladen County Schools

## Resource Links / Contacts

*Please use the following links for the most current information on these resources.*

### **LINKS**

- NCHSAA Sport Preparticipation Examination Forms:
  - <https://www.nchsaa.org/health-and-safety>
  
- Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act Forms:
  - <https://www.nchsaa.org/parents-students/health-safety/concussion-awareness>
  
- Checklist for a Comprehensive Approach to Addressing Harassment:
  - <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/checklist.html>
  
- U.S. Department of Education - Athletic Equity (Title IX) Resources:
  - <https://www.2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/frontpage/pro-students/issues/sex-issue04.html>

# Bladen County Schools

## Resource Links / Contacts

*(continued)*

***Please use the following links for the most current resource contact information.***

### **CONTACTS**

- Electronic copy of the ***Middle / Junior High School Athletic Manual***
  - <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/k-12-standards-curriculum-and-instruction/programs-and-initiatives/nc-healthy-schools/athletics>
  
- DPI Staff Person - Middle School Athletics / K-12 Program Areas Section
  - Phone: (984) 236-2816
  
- National Federation of State High School Associations
  - [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)
  - [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com)
  
- North Carolina High School Athletic Association
  - [www.nchass.org](http://www.nchass.org)
  - Phone: (919) 240-7401
  
- North Carolina Athletic Directors Association
  - [www.ncada.net](http://www.ncada.net)
  
- National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association
  - <http://niaaa.org>

# **Bladen County Schools**

## **Resource Links / Contacts**

*(continued)*

- North Carolina Coaches Association
  - [www.nccoach.org](http://www.nccoach.org)
  - Phone: (336) 379-9095
  - Fax: (336) 379-0874
  
- North Carolina Athletic Trainers Association
  - <http://www.ncathletictrainer.org>
  
- NC Alliance for Athletics, Health, Physical Education, Recreation Dance and Spot Management
  - <http://www.ncaahperd-sm.org>

## Coaches' Pledge

As a coach, I acknowledge that I am a role model. I know that the principles of good sportsmanship are integrity, fairness, and respect. While teaching the skills of the game, I must also teach student athletes how to win and lose graciously, and that sport is meant to be educational and fun. I know the behavior expectations of me by this school, conference, and the NCHSAA, and hereby accept my responsibility to be a model of ethical behavior, integrity, and good citizenship.

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Coach Signature

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Date

## Student Athlete Pledge

As a student athlete, I know I am a role model. I understand the spirit of fair play while playing hard. I will refrain from engaging in all types of disrespectful behavior, including inappropriate language, taunting, trash talking, and unnecessary physical contact. I know the behavior expectations of my school, my conference, and the NCHSAA and hereby accept the responsibility and privilege of representing this school and community as a student athlete.

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Student Athlete Signature

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Date

## Student Athlete's Parent Pledge

As a parent, I acknowledge that I am a role model. I will remember that school athletics is an extension of the classroom, offering learning experiences for the students. I must show respect for all players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. I will participate in cheers that support, encourage, and uplift the teams involved. I understand the spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship expected by our school, conference and the NCHSAA. I hereby accept my responsibility to be a model of good sportsmanship that comes with being the parent of a student athlete.

---

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

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Date

### Promesa de los padres del estudiante atleta

Como padre o madre, reconozco que soy un modelo para mis hijos. Recordaré ese atletismo escolar son una extensión del salón de clase y que ofrecen a los estudiantes oportunidades de aprendizaje. Debo mostrar respeto por todos los jugadores, entrenadores, espectadores y grupos de apoyo. Participaré en aclamaciones que apoyan, animan y elevan los equipos implicados. Entiendo el espíritu de juego limpio y deportividad buena esperada por nuestra escuela, conferencia y el NCHSAA. Por este medio acepto mi responsabilidad de ser un modelo de la deportividad buena que viene con ser un padre de un atleta estudiante.

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Firma del padre/tutor legal

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Fecha