

Bowling Green Middle School Athletic Handbook 2023-2024



**Eric Radabaugh - Principal
Mike Headley - Assistant Principal
Dan DeWitt - MS Athletic Director
Michele Wolf - HS Athletic Director**

Table of Contents

Message from the Principal	4
Philosophy	4
Associations	5
Equal Opportunity and Non-Harassment	5
Interscholastic Goals and Objectives	5
Responsibilities of the Athlete	6
Responsibilities of the Parent/Guardian	6
Required Forms	7
Eligibility Requirements	7
Medical Examinations	7
Parent and Coach Meeting	7
Risk of Participation	7
Injury Procedure	8
Summer Moratorium Week	8
Attendance Policy	8
Changing/Quitting Teams	8
Scheduling Conflicts	8
Financial Obligations	9

Pay to Participate Policy	9-10
Travel and Transportation	10
Summer and Off-season	10
Middle School Awards	10
Interscholastic Code of Conduct	11
Unacceptable Behavior	11
Unacceptable Behavior Consequences	12
Due Process and Chain of Communication	13
District Student Release from Transportation	14

Bowling Green Middle School Interscholastic Handbook

A Message from the Principal

Dear parents and guardians of student athletes,

On behalf of the administration, athletic director, faculty, and coaching staff of Bowling Green Middle School, I wish to welcome you to the start of another school year. We hope this year brings success to your child both in the classroom and in the competitive arena. We look forward to helping you make it a success.

The information contained in this interscholastic handbook is the result of a special effort on our part to communicate to you how to become a contributing and successful parent or guardian of a student participating in interscholastic activities. Please take time to read it carefully and use it as a reference throughout the year.

The purpose of interscholastic activities is to help students achieve success and become a productive member of a team while fostering a sense of self-worth and respect for others. By accepting and developing the responsibilities and obligations of interscholastic competition, we hope that your child will grow into a fully mature adult aware of the positive role he or she can play within society.

It is our role as educational leaders to make rules that govern the spirit of competition within our school and community. These rules need a broad basis of community support and this is best achieved through open communication with you. It is our hope to establish and accomplish this communication through this interscholastic handbook for students and parents.

Sincerely,

Eric Radabaugh
Principal

Philosophy

The mission statement of Bowling Green City Schools is:

Bowling Green City Schools is committed to high academic expectations and extracurricular opportunities in an inclusive, caring, safe, and healthy environment. We empower and support our teachers to be responsive to each student through a challenging and engaging curriculum. We partner with families and community to ensure student success.

It is our belief of the Athletic Department at Bowling Green City Schools that interscholastic athletics exists and allows for academically and behaviorally qualified students to fulfill this mission.

Within this context, it is the purpose of the school to foster and promote:

- Age-appropriate physical, social, and psychological development.
- The idea of competition, teamwork, and sportsmanship while achieving the goals of success and participation.
- The development of self-confidence, self-discipline, organization, decision-making skills, and goal orientation.
- The concept of an integral relationship between a sound mind and body leading to a lifetime appreciation of physical fitness and good health.
- A positive feeling of school loyalty and pride which can be shared by all participants, students, parents, and community.
- Access and availability to all students regardless of their race, religion, gender, disability or national origin.

Associations

Bowling Green City Schools Athletics operate under the guidelines of several associations. Please refer to their specific handbooks for specific policies. Those governing authorities include:

1. Bowling Green City Schools
2. Northern Lakes League (NLL)
3. Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA)

Equal Opportunity and Non-Harassment

We believe in the ability of the individual to participate in our athletic programs. Therefore, our policy is to provide our athletes and coaches with the opportunity to participate in our programs without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, disability, ethnicity, or national origin. Furthermore, the Athletic Department firmly believes in treating people with respect. Respect of each other is an expectation of each athlete and coach. We prohibit harassment of any kind for any reason including, but not limited to: Sexual harassment, race, color, religion, gender, age, disability, ethnicity, or national origin. Harassment can be defined as, but is not limited to slurs, threats, derogatory comments, unwelcome jokes, teasing, sexual advances, inappropriate conduct, and requests for sexual favors. Any individual who feels that he or she is a victim of such harassment should immediately report the matter to school personnel. The Athletic Department will investigate all such reports promptly and as confidentially as possible. Adverse action will not be taken against an individual who, in good faith, reports or participates in the investigation of a violation of this policy. Violations of this policy are not permitted and may result in disciplinary action.

Bowling Green Middle School Interscholastic Policy

The Bowling Green Middle School Interscholastic Program will provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life. The interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Education policies, school rules, and team regulations. While the Board of Education takes great pride in successful programs, it does not condone "winning at any cost" and discourages any and all pressures that might tend to neglect good sportsmanship and good mental health. At all times the athletic program must be conducted in such a way so as to justify it as an educational activity.

Interscholastic Goals and Objectives

Our Goal- Our student athletes will become more effective citizens in an inclusive school community committed to academic excellence and integrity.

Our Specific Objectives - Our student athletes will learn teamwork, self-discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. Athletes must place the team and its objectives higher than personal desires.

1. *To Be Successful* - Our society is very competitive and our student athletes will not always win. However, they will succeed when they continually strive to do so by developing a desire to excel and by striving to win with earnest dedication.

2. *To Be a Good Sport* - Our student athletes will accept success properly and defeat gracefully knowing they have done their best. They will learn to treat others as they themselves would like to be treated. Our student athletes will develop positive social traits including emotional control, honesty, cooperation, and dependability.

3. *To Improve* - Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. Our student athletes will establish positive and attainable goals for in the classroom and on the playing field and will constantly try to reach those goals.

4. *To Enjoy Athletics* - Our student athletes will acknowledge all of the personal rewards they derive from competition and will have fun in doing so. Coaches will instill a sense of pride and a desire to promote and improve the program.

5. *To Develop Desirable Personal Health Habits* - It is important that our student athletes obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits. Additionally, they will develop a desire to maintain this level of physical fitness even after formal competition is over.

Responsibilities of a Bobcat Athlete

Being a member of a Bobcat interscholastic team is the fulfillment of an early ambition for many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. Great interscholastic tradition is not built overnight. It takes the hard work of many people over many years. As a member of an interscholastic squad, you have inherited a wonderful tradition, a tradition you are challenged to uphold.

Our tradition has been to win with honor. We desire to win, but only with dignity and honor to our athletes, our school and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best effort of all concerned.

To compete for your school may mean that you will have to say "no" to pleasures an athlete cannot afford.

When you wear the Bobcat colors, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but are also willing to assume the responsibilities that go along with them.

Responsibilities to Yourself - The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your school experience. Your academics and participation in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities will better prepare you for life as an adult.

Responsibilities to Your School - Another responsibility you assume as a team member is to your school.

Bowling Green cannot maintain its position as an outstanding school unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in the interscholastic program to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school.

You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic team. The student body and citizens of the community know you. Make Bowling Green proud of you by doing things the right way.

Responsibilities to Others - As a squad member, you also bear a heavy responsibility to your home. If you are proud of yourself, measure up to all of the training rules, practice to the best of your ability every day, and have played the game "all out", you develop and strengthen your self-respect and your family can be justly proud of you. Your peers, neighbors, friends, and other students in Bowling Green are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Do not do anything to let them down. Set good examples for them.

Responsibilities of the Parents and Guardians of Bobcat Athletes

1. Be positive with your child. Let him or her know he or she is accomplishing something positive simply by being a part of the team.
2. Encourage your child to work hard, reach his or her potential and contribute to the team's efforts. Do not offer excuses for your child if he or she is not playing or seeing only limited action.
3. Be openly supportive of the coaches rather than being openly critical of them. By openly criticizing the coaches, your child becomes trapped between the coach's authority and the parent's criticism. This situation merely erodes your child's effectiveness and lessens his or her contribution to the team effort.
4. Encourage and support your child's efforts to follow the Interscholastic Code of Conduct and the team rules. Remember, positive role modeling is critical to your child's success and general well-being.
5. Emphasize the importance of academics and understand the Ohio High School Athletic Association academic guidelines. With few exceptions, most student athletes do not receive athletic scholarships. Your child's future as an active, contributing citizen is determined by his or her academic abilities, not his or her athletic abilities.
6. Remember, a sport is a game, and games are supposed to be fun. Do not criticize or envy the failures or successes of your teammates or the members of the other team. Most children are trying their hardest on any given day and they deserve respect for their efforts. Do not live your life vicariously through your child.
7. Focus your energy toward being a supporter of the team and do not waste it tearing the team down. Remember, every team is composed of three groups: athletes, coaches, and parents. Be a positive part of the team.
8. Emphasize being a good sport with your child. Win or lose, your child must show respect for his or her opponent and demonstrate the maturity necessary to show class. In addition, encourage your child to respect the authority of the officials. Remember: Self-respect begins with self-control.
9. Emphasize that "team" must take precedence over the individual. Recognition of individual contributions happens at the end of the season. Recognition is directly affected by the success of the team and the individual's contribution to the team's success.
10. The lessons learned through athletic competition are lessons for life. Keep sports in perspective.

Required Forms for Participation

As an athlete, you are not eligible to try out, practice, or participate in any interscholastic activity until the following items have been completed.

1. Physical Examination – The physical examination form is available in the office and should be turned in to the head coach of your current sport.
2. All forms on FINALFORMS - completed online at <https://bowlinggreen-oh.finalforms.com/>
3. All academic eligibility requirements have been satisfied (see below).

State and District Eligibility Requirements

All student/athletes must meet grade eligibility requirements set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). Eligibility for each grading period is determined by grades received the preceding grading period. Please note quarterly grades are used to determine eligibility and not semester and yearly grades. To be eligible to participate, student/athletes must have received passing grades in a minimum of four (4) of his or her subjects in the immediately preceding grading period. If a student fails three or more subjects in a quarter, he or she is automatically ineligible for the entire next quarter. It is also required that the student/athlete maintains a minimum grade point average of 2.0 for the immediate grading period.

It is important to note that OHSAA standards do not preclude administrators or athletic directors from requiring grade checks throughout the current quarter to prevent a student from becoming ineligible the next quarter. Any such process is determined on a school-by-school basis. Bowling Green Middle School does employ a grade-check process under these OHSAA standards and it is possible that a student-athlete could lose part or all of his or her eligibility as a result. If a student/athlete is found to be failing three or more classes, then the following eligibility steps will be followed:

Academic Watch: student/athletes can practice and play with two weeks to bring grades up. If grades do not improve, the student/athlete will proceed to academic suspension.

Academic Suspension: student/athlete can practice, but not play with two weeks to bring grades up. If grades do not improve, the student/athlete will be removed from the team.

Medical Examinations

The OHSAA requires that every participant have a physical examination before he or she is allowed to practice. Coaches are responsible for seeing that every student has turned in a proper physical examination form prior to practicing. Students should turn in their physical examinations to their coach who will record the necessary information. In turn, the coach will give the physical forms to the athletic director for safekeeping. No athlete will be eligible to participate in any practice or game until the physical examination and parent authorization forms have been submitted to the coach. It is important to remember that physicals are good for one (1) calendar year. If the physical becomes outdated during the season, the student/athlete must have another physical prior to participating in that same season.

Parent and Coach Meetings

It is required by OHSAA that coaches hold an information meeting immediately after squad selection is completed to discuss costs, game routines, practices and other pertinent or related items.

Risk of Participation

All athletes and parents must realize the risk of serious injury that may be a result of interscholastic participation. Bowling Green City School District will use the following safeguards to make every effort to eliminate injury:

1. Maintain a continuous education program for coaches to learn the most up-to-date techniques and skills to be taught in their sport.
2. Instruct all athletes about the dangers of participation in the particular sport.

Injury Procedure

When a student is injured in athletic participation, the following steps or procedures are the responsibility of the coach (if a trainer is not present):

- A. If the injury is not serious, the coach will call the family.
- B. If the injury is serious or possibly life-threatening, the coach will call emergency services at 911 and then the family as soon as possible thereafter.
- C. If the family is not available, the coach will contact the family physician.
- D. If the family physician is not available, the coach will contact any physician that is available.
- E. Emergency Medical Forms must be taken to the hospital with the injured athlete.
- F. The coach will complete an injury report and notify the principal and the athletic director of the injury as soon as appropriate.
- G. The coach will contact the parents or guardians the next day to check on the student's progress.
- H. When an injured player desires to return to participation, the coach will exercise great care and be assured that the injured student is receiving competent medical care.
- I. Any athlete that has been denied participation by a physician will not be permitted to participate until a physician's release has been granted. A coach, parent, or athlete cannot override a physician's denial of participation due to an injury.

Summer Moratorium Week

While the Athletic Department greatly values students learning the valuable lessons taught by hard work through athletics, we also believe that students should be given the opportunity to just be kids during the summer. Each summer during the week of July 4th, Bowling Green Athletics will observe a moratorium week in which no team activities should be scheduled. If July 4th falls on a Saturday or Sunday the moratorium will take place in the week prior to July 4th.

Attendance

Day of a Practice, Scrimmage, or Event

In order to practice or participate in an interscholastic contest on a school day, an athlete must be present for at least half of the school day in question. The Athletic Director or Principal may make exceptions involving extenuating circumstances.

Athletes Changing/Quitting Teams

Should an athlete resign from a team, the head coach will make every effort to meet with the athlete. Equipment should be immediately collected and the Athletic Director notified so that the athlete's name can officially be removed from the team roster. If an athlete leaves a team, he/she is ineligible to participate **in any manner** in another sport until the first sport's season ends.

Scheduling Conflicts and Interscholastic Activities

A student who attempts to participate in too many extra-curricular and interscholastic activities will eventually experience a scheduling conflict. Bowling Green School District recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extra-curricular activities; and to this end will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. Students and parents or guardians have the responsibility to do everything they can to avoid scheduling conflicts and this includes being cautious about participating in too many activities. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors immediately when a conflict does arise. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill the obligations of a school activity, he or she should withdraw from that activity. The following guidelines will apply to conflicting events:

1. When the conflict involves a school-sponsored activity with a non-school sponsored activity, the school - sponsored activity takes precedence.
2. When the conflict involves a competition or performance with a practice or rehearsal, the competition or performance takes precedence.
3. When the conflict involves two competitions, or a performance and a competition, all attempts will be made by the concerned parties to find a mutually agreeable resolution.

Financial Obligations and Equipment

No student, if he or she has the desire to be a part of an activity and follow the defined rules and regulations, shall be denied the opportunity to participate for financial reasons. If a student finds it is financially impossible to participate, the parents or guardians of that student should complete a financial aid form, which may be obtained from the principal's office. The completed financial aid form will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

1. Uniforms - In several activities, the student will be required to purchase a portion of the game uniform, which will become his or her property.
2. Equipment - All students are responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to them. School-furnished uniforms or equipment is to be worn only for contests and practice unless authorized otherwise by the coach. All equipment issued to or checked out by a student participating in the interscholastic program should be returned clean and in good repair within one week after the end of the activity's season. If a student fails to return the equipment within the stated timeline, each coach will communicate with the athlete and his or her parents to ensure the proper return of the equipment.

Prolonged failure to return equipment may result in the following action:

1. A letter detailing the cost of the missing equipment will be sent to the student's parents or guardians.
2. School-sponsored awards will be withheld.
3. Equipment for succeeding sports will not be issued.
4. Administrative support and follow-up to the degree necessary to ensure the safe return of the equipment.

Bowling Green City Schools Pay-to-Participate Policy

The Board of Education has established criteria for co-curricular and extra-curricular activities consistent with the educational goals of the district. These criteria include a participation fee schedule for extra-curricular and selected co-curricular activities that involve regular use of district transportation and/or a district paid coach/adviser/director. Students wishing to participate in these kinds of activities will be charged the appropriate fee. Special consideration may be given in cases in which the participation fee would result in exclusion.

Participation Fee Schedule

1. High School students will pay \$100.00 for the first sport; \$75.00 for the second sport; \$50.00 for the third sport. Cheerleaders will pay \$50.00 per season.
2. Middle School students will pay \$50.00 per sport.
3. High School/Middle School students participating in co-curricular activities, including but not limited to, quiz bowl, student activities board, drama, etc., in which a paid adviser exists, will pay \$25.00 per season, year, or play/performance respectively.
4. High School students participating in co-curricular activities in which there is no paid adviser or for which a grade is assigned, including but not limited to, marching band, FFA, Model UN, etc., may be required to pay a transportation fee, amount to be determined based on number of buses, miles, and frequency.
5. The maximum dollar amount to be paid per immediate family for extra-curricular and co-curricular activities is \$350.00.

Rules and Regulations

1. Fees must be paid by the established due date by participant or sponsor; participation will be denied (including practice and scrimmages) if not paid by the due date.
2. Coaches/advisers/directors must provide a list of student participants to the athletic director or Principal at the Middle School and/or High School as soon as such list is determined.
3. Students must return fees and signed form to the High School main office prior to the due date or within two weeks of the start of the club, organization, rehearsal.
4. Pay to Participate does not guarantee playing time or equal playing time.

5. Designated secretaries must maintain communication to determine when maximum amount for an immediate family has been reached.
6. Designated secretaries must provide a list of students for whom the maximum family cap has been reached to each coach/adviser/director.
7. Payments resulting in insufficient funds will be reported to the Treasurer and handled according to district policy/process.
8. Fees will be waived for students who provide verification of qualification for free or reduced lunch prices on or before the due date for fees.
9. Fees will be waived for students who provide verification of a temporary or long-term hardship or extenuating circumstance which renders parents/guardians unable to pay on or before the due date for fees.
10. Students denied participation for disciplinary reasons will not be reimbursed their fee.
11. Participants who 'quit' will not be reimbursed their fee.
12. Participants who suffer a season-ending injury, as verified in writing by a physician and submitted to the coach/adviser/director, will be reimbursed their fee.
13. Participants who are team managers, trainers, statisticians, equipment managers and/or hold other voluntary support roles for teams are exempt from the fee.
14. These and other rules and regulations to enforce this resolution are to be provided to student participants and parents/guardians in print form.
15. Parent/guardian acknowledgement of such print material will be maintained in the main office of the Middle School and/or High School.

Travel and Transportation

Only student participants, coaches/advisors, chaperones, and other authorized personnel shall be permitted on the buses. Student participants are expected to ride on school transportation both to and from all away contests. Exceptions to this rule will be made on an individual basis with prior written request of the parent (see Bowling Green School District Student Release from District Transportation form). All bus rules and regulations are expected to be followed while student participants are being transported.

Summer and Off-Season Programs

A variety of sports camps, schools, clinics, and training programs are offered to student athletes during the off-season and summer months by individual coaches, parks and recreation, and other organizations. These programs provide opportunities for aspiring athletes to improve their skills in a chosen sport. These summer and off-season programs are strictly voluntary. Athletes shall not be required to enroll in these programs as a condition for membership or placement on an athletic team the following season.

Middle School Awards

Awards

A certificate of participation shall be awarded to all team members who complete the season. Any other awards deemed necessary or appropriate will be decided by the teams' coaches and/or participants. Any student participating as a member of a squad is eligible for an award providing the student has remained in good standing, has fulfilled the attendance requirements of the team, and has completed all obligations expected of team members.

Clayton Cook Award

The Clayton Cook Award is presented each year to a boy and girl at each grade level. Recipients must display a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, exemplary conduct both on and off the athletic field or floor, contribute to the welfare of the team, and be a member of at least two interscholastic athletic teams. All Clayton Cook Award winners will receive a certificate of merit, have their names engraved on the Clayton Cook plaque, and be presented a modest trophy or plaque.

Interscholastic Code of Conduct

The athletic department believes strongly that athletes have a very strong influence both in the community and among the student body. Other students watch them to see how they behave and how they are treated. This unique position provides student athletes with ample opportunities for demonstrating positive leadership and behavioral characteristics. Therefore, a firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of interscholastic competition. The community, administrators, and coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program. All athletes shall abide completely by the school's code of conduct and the interscholastic code of conduct, which will earn them honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or violations of law, tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic programs and will not be tolerated. The following code of conduct is established for all participants in interscholastic activities and is in addition to any consequence under the school's general code of conduct. These rules are in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for any season during which a student may be participating. A "season" shall be defined as that period specified by OHSAA Rules including practicing, games, tournaments, and concluding after the awards assembly or banquet for that activity or sport. If the participant is involved in overlapping sport seasons, the season begins for the second sport when any athlete begins practice. Infractions are cumulative throughout the academic year during sport seasons. This means that infractions could occur during one sport season or that a first infraction could occur during a fall sport, a second infraction during a winter sport and a third infraction during a spring sport.

Philosophy

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that your behavior be above reproach in all of the following areas:

On the field

In the area of athletic competition, a true athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics and learns fast that losing is part of the game. You should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory.

In the classroom

In the academic area, a good athlete strives to be a good student. As an athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to your studies to ensure acceptable grades.

In addition to maintaining good scholarship, an athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for other students and faculty at all times. Horseplay and unnecessary boisterousness are not approved habits of behavior. Moreover, a student athlete should have a good attendance record and never cut classes.

Outside the classroom

The community of Bowling Green is concerned with the health habits of student athletes and is convinced that athletes and the use of harmful drugs are not compatible. When students have a strong interest to participate in athletics, their desire to use harmful drugs, tobacco, or alcohol is greatly reduced. Students have to decide if they want to be athletes. If you wish to be an athlete, you must make the commitment to be a competitor. A big part of this price is following a simple set of training rules, which the athletic department believes to be fair.

Unacceptable Behavior

Athletes, as well as all students of Bowling Green City Schools, must abide by the Student Code of Conduct or face penalties including non-participation as directed by the Administration of the school. The Bowling Green City Schools Administration and athletic staff reserves the right to deny any student-athlete participation at any time with just cause.

Additionally, athletes at Bowling Green City Schools are subject to discipline for any of the following:

1. The possession, use, or sale of drugs, alcohol, tobacco (including vaping), paraphernalia or steroids.
2. Willfully destroying athletic, personal or school property at home or away.
3. Stealing athletic, personal or school property at home or away.

Unacceptable Behavior Consequences

Athletes found in violation of items 1-3 in the Unacceptable Behavior section of the handbook above will be dealt with in the following manner.

These punishments are considered to be a minimum punishment and the Athletic Director will support coaches who choose stiffer penalties.

First Offense = Suspension

1. The possession, use, or sale of drugs, alcohol, paraphernalia or steroids. = 40%
2. The possession, use, or sale of tobacco, nicotine, or paraphernalia. = 25%
3. Willfully destroying athletic, personal or school property at home or away. = 20%
4. Stealing athletic, personal or school property at home or away. = 20%

Athletes found in violation for the first time will be suspended 40%/25%/20% of the scheduled contests in the sport they are currently participating or in the next sport in which they participate. If 40%/25%/20% of the scheduled contests is not an even number, it will round up to the next whole number. (Example: 40% of 19 games = 7.6 games which rounds up to an 8 game suspension). Students must finish the season of the sport they are suspended for in good standing with the team or the entire 40%/25%/20% suspension will apply to the next sport in which they participate as well. If the suspension occurs so late in the season that not enough contests are left to complete the suspension, the remaining percentage of the suspension will be served in the next sport in which they participate. Athletes serving a suspension may continue practicing with their team by may not dress for contests.

In addition to suspension, athletes in violation of the drug, alcohol, and tobacco policy must complete a school approved rehabilitation course prior to returning to competition.

Second Offense = Suspension

Athletes found in violation for the second time will be suspended for 50% of each sport that they participate in for one full calendar year. The suspension will take place during the first half of each season. In order for an athlete to participate in the first sport of suspension, they must complete a second approved rehabilitation course prior to participating. Athletes serving a suspension may continue practicing with their team but may not dress for contests.

Third Offense and all succeeding offenses = Suspension

Athletes found in violation for the third time will be suspended from all athletic activities for 1 calendar year. Athletes serving a suspension may continue practicing with their team but may not dress for contests with the approval of the head coach.

During an investigation of an incident, if reasonable suspicion of a violation of items 1 and 2 exists, with approval of the principal, the athletic director may request an athlete to submit to a drug/alcohol/nicotine urine test at Great Lakes Biomedical, at the expense of the district.

Supplemental Team Rules

Coaches may create supplemental team rules covering areas unique to their activity or sport. These rules will generally define expectations relating to participant attitude and cooperation. Students will receive these supplemental team rules from the coach in writing at the start of the season. A student's failure to comply with these rules will lead to disciplinary action as outlined therein.

Due Process and Chain of Communication

The due process rights of students are recognized and protected by this policy. Due process is exercised by concerned parents or guardians and not by students alone. Bowling Green School District believes most concerns can be resolved between the parent, the student, and the coach. In addition, the district believes the coach deserves the courtesy of attempting to resolve the problem first. However, the district also believes a parent or guardian has the right to pursue a concern beyond the coach if proper procedure is followed.

If a guardian feels the need to communicate concerns about their athlete the guardian should adhere to the following chain of communication:

1. Head Coach
2. Athletic Director
3. Principal
4. Superintendent
5. School Board

Bowling Green School District Student Release from District Transportation

It is my request that Bowling Green School District release my child into my custody immediately

Before/After the following activity.

Name of Student _____

Name of Activity _____

Location _____

Date of Activity _____

Please initial all that apply

_____ I do not want my child to return to school by district transportation

_____ I wish to personally take my child to this activity

I hold the Bowling Green School District, its officers, employees, and agents harmless from all liability and claims as a result of my request for the removal of my child from transportation to or from School by District Transportation.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Guardian)

Date _____