

Fort Worth ISD Athletics LETTERING POLICY – VARSITY TEAMS

The official athletic award made to high schools will be a blanket or a jacket with an attached 5" letter representative of the school. A student is permitted to receive only one jacket or blanket award during his or her high school enrollment at a Fort Worth ISD high school.

To earn an award, the contestant must meet the pre-determined criteria and be recommended by the coach of the sport and approved by the principal and the director of athletics.

Special consideration may be given to seniors who have participated in at least the past three (3) years and who have, through diligent efforts, contributed to the program of their school even though they have not met the pre-determined criteria for a letter.

Any students who do not meet the sport-specific criteria due academic ineligibility will not receive an award for that sport. Any student who quits or is dismissed from a sport will be ineligible to receive an award in that sport.

All lettering criteria should be communicated to the athlete and the parent as an agenda item on pre-season parent meeting. All varsity athletes who have not letter are to be advised of the lettering policy.

Standard Requirements for a Letter

All Sports

All coaches will observe the following standard requirements for awarding letters to students in a UIL sport. These requirements are:

- (1) Attend 90% of all practices unless attending practice or an event for another Fort Worth ISD in-season sport.
- (2) An athlete who qualifies for a regional game/meet/match/event will compete or forfeit a varsity letter.
- (3) A senior who has participated in the program three years may letter providing the athlete meets the above criteria.
- (4) A student manager must meet the above criteria, attend 90% of games/meets/events/matches and be a student manager for two years or be a senior.
- (5) An athlete who does not meet the standard requirements due to extenuating circumstances may receive a letter jacket if the coach writes a comment in the appropriate are of the letterman's list with justification for lettering and is approved by the director of athletics. Throughout this policy, concurrent sports refer to Fort Worth ISD/UIL sponsored sports/events.

In addition to recommendations by the coach and approval by the principal and director of athletics, a participant must accomplish the specific criteria prior to the **UIL district certification date** as listed under each sport to receive an award. These criteria, by sport, are listed below:

Team Sports:

Baseball

- Meet the above standard requirements; participate in one-half of the total varsity games and in uniform for 90% of all varsity games.

Basketball

- Meet the above standard requirements; participate in one-half of the total varsity games and in uniform for 90% of all varsity games.

Girls Flag Football

- Meet the above standard requirements; participate in one-half of the total varsity games and in uniform for 90% of all varsity games.

Football

- Meet the above standard requirements; participate in one-half of the total varsity games and in uniform for 90% of all varsity games.

Soccer

- Meet the above standard requirements; participate in one-half of the total varsity games and in uniform for 90% of all varsity games.

Softball

- Meet the above standard requirements; participate in one-half of the total varsity games and in uniform for 90% of all varsity games.

Team Tennis

- Meet the above standard requirements
- Play nine (9) varsity matches and play in the district tournament, as scheduled by the coach and approved by the Athletic Department.

Volleyball

- Meet the above standard requirements; participate in as many games as there are varsity matches and in uniform for 90% of all varsity games.

Individual Sports:

Cross Country

- Meet the above standard requirements,
- Participate in six (6) varsity pre-district meets which includes three (3) meets that must involve a majority of out-of-district teams and the district meet.
- An exception to the meet limit due to concurrent sport/team events will require athletic department approval.

Golf

- Meet the above standard requirements,
- Participate in six (6) varsity tournaments which include three (3) tournaments that have a minimum of five teams and that involve a majority of out-of-district teams and the varsity district meet.

Swimming

- Meet the above standard requirements,
- Participate in five (5) varsity meets which includes three (3) meets that have a minimum of five teams and that involve a majority of out-of-district teams and the varsity district meet.

Tennis (Spring)

- Meet the above standard requirements,
- Play in nine (9) varsity matches and play in the district tournament.

Track & Field

- Meet the above standard requirements,
- Participate in six (6) varsity pre-district meets and the district meet as approved by the Athletic Department
- An exception to the meet limit due to concurrent sport/team events will require athletic department approval plus general criteria for lettering.

Wrestling

- Meet the above standard requirements, participate in one-half of the varsity tournaments (minimum of 15 varsity matches), and compete in the varsity district meet.