

Northwood Middle School - Athletic Policy and Eligibility Requirements

Goals and Objectives of the Athletic Program

A successful interscholastic program must be a partnership in which the coaching staff assists the student athlete in developing desirable characteristics and the athlete takes responsibility for self-growth and self-improvement. To that end, mutual goals for the athletic program and the student-athlete must include the following:

1. Instilling a positive competitive spirit.
2. Exhibiting characteristics of good sportsmanship
3. Improving playing skills.
4. Accepting individual and team responsibility.
5. Developing desirable habits of physical fitness, health, safety and hygiene.
6. Promoting leadership and the appropriate reaction to leadership.
7. Emphasizing positive and suitable interpersonal relationships.

The student body is an important component of interscholastic activities and competition. Mutual goals for the athletic program, schools and the student body are:

1. Providing opportunities for enrichment through participation in the athletic program as athletes or spectators.
2. Developing school pride and moral.
3. Promoting good sportsmanship, fair play, courteous treatment of teammates, opponents and officials, and representing the school and community in a respectful manner.
4. Promoting lasting, positive interscholastic relationships.

District 200 staff and coaches are key players in providing leadership in the development, supervision and promotion of interscholastic and co-curricular activities. Their involvement and leadership is crucial in:

1. Serving as role models for students.
2. Encouraging all students to participate in activities / events.
3. Promoting good sportsmanship, honesty, and fair play.
4. Developing pride in the individual, school, and community.

The District 200 community interacts with the schools and the school district through the athletic program and activities. Mutual goals for the partnership of athletics, schools, and community include:

1. Improving inter-community and intra-community efforts.
2. Developing community pride in school district programs.
3. Promoting good sportsmanship, fair play, courteous treatment of teammates, opponents and officials, and representing the school and community in a respectful manner.

Conference Membership

Northwood Middle School belongs to the Fox Valley Junior High Conference and the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA). We have been judged a sex-equity school.

Members Include:

Beardsley Middle School	Marlowe Middle School (Huntley)
Bernotas (North) Middle School	McHenry Middle School
Cary Junior High School	Nippersink Middle School
Heineman Middle School (Huntley)	Creekside Middle School
Johnsburg Junior High School	Olson Middle School
Lundahl Middle School	Parkland Middle School

Northwood is also a member of the Stateline Junior High Football Conference.

Members Include:

Christian Life

Creekside Middle School

Genoa-Kingston

Junior Titans

Kirkland

North Boone

Northwood Middle School

Rockford Christian

Winnebago

Athletic Eligibility

The middle school coaches and advisors want all activities to be positive learning experiences for all students. In order to help realize this goal, a number of rules and regulations have been established. We feel they are important and expect all students and parents involved in a middle school activity to be aware of these policies and abide by them. We hope you will read them and then discuss them with your child. We are looking forward to an exciting and rewarding year for all activities.

In order to participate in District 200 athletic or co-curricular programs a student-athlete must:

1. Have a current physical on file.
2. Have on file a signed waiver and co-curricular form.
3. Pay athletic fees before the first practice after tryouts.
4. Be enrolled at the proper Middle School in which the student resides.
5. Maintain passing grades (See Academic Eligibility)
6. Athlete cannot be 16 years of age or older before August 14.

Academic Eligibility

All participants are expected to maintain passing grades in all subjects. Each week during the season the building coordinator will survey every athlete's teachers to determine if any athlete is failing a course at that point. Should an athlete be failing one or more courses, that athlete may continue to participate for one week while attempting to improve the failing grade(s). Should the athlete have a failing grade at the next grade check, the athlete is ineligible to participate until the time that the grade(s) have been improved. The school provides study hall assistance before school, after school, and for the last thirty minutes of the school day.

Attendance

1. Attendance at meetings, practices, and tournaments is required.
2. Students who are absent-excused from school are excused from practice. Other absences from practice, etc., must be prearranged with the coach/sponsor PRIOR to the practice. A note or doctor's note must be provided.
3. If a student is absent from school, the student will not be allowed to participate in any game, activity or meeting scheduled for that day.
4. Two unauthorized absences will result in the student being dropped from the activity.
 - 4a. Two unexcused tardies = 1 unexcused absence.
 - 4b. Detentions are considered unexcused tardies.
5. Students suspended from school will not be allowed to participate in athletic events or practices during the suspension period. Absences due to suspensions are considered unexcused.

Participation

1. Coaches/advisors/sponsors will make an effort to include as many people as possible in each sport. Students will participate only if they attend meetings and/or practices. The student's attitude in meetings, practices and activities will be considered.

2. Attitude and attendance will have an effect on an athlete's playing time.

Participation Limitations

Once a student commits to a Northwood Middle School team, their obligations to that team take precedence over other outside athletic commitments. If this becomes an issue, it shall be handled ultimately by the coach.

During the school year while a member of the school team, students shall not participate on ANY non-school team in the same sport. (This was a Fox Valley Conference rule and it was revised approximately 1 1/2 years ago to state that dual participation in any and all Fox Valley Conference sport is allowed. As Webmaster of this site, I take full responsibility for not catching this error. This note will remain on the website for a short period and then the entire rule will be eliminated from the site. If there are further questions please contact the Principal or Building Coordinator or any Fox Valley Conference School. Thank you for your understanding.)

Co-Curricular Fee Refund Policy

Students will be given a refund of the activity fee if they quit or have been "cut" after the first week of practice (5 school days). No refund will be allowed if the student was dropped for a training violation or a disciplinary problem. Any student who is injured during the first half of the season and cannot participate in the second half of the season can receive a fifty percent (50%) refund. Student's should know that payment of the activity fee does not guarantee participation.

TRAINING REGULATIONS

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE CODE OF CONDUCT IS IN EFFECT YEAR ROUND

The following are considered training violations:

1. Smoking and the sale, purchase, possession or use of alcohol or drugs or look-alike drugs (except as prescribed by a physician).
2. An arrest for vandalism, theft, or the possession of stolen articles.
3. Each coach or sponsor has the prerogative to establish additional rules pertaining to the activity being supervised. These rules may include attendance at practices, curfew, dress, and general conduct of participants during practices, contests, trips, etc. Rules set by the coach or sponsor must be in writing and approved by the Activities Director and communicated to the student participants before the activity begins.
4. All participants will conduct themselves properly. Participants will abide by all policies in the student handbook. Daily attendance at school and regular class attendance is expected. A participant is required to be in school a minimum of the last half of the school day in order to participate in any game, practice or performance.
5. Students suspended from school by the Principal or Assistant Principal will not be allowed to participate in activities or athletics while they are on suspension.
6. A student voluntarily seeking help from a coach, advisor, staff member or administrator, who was not caught in a substance abuse violation, may ask for assistance without disciplinary action. The review committee will assist the student by recommending a certified substance abuse program. If the student is caught in a substance abuse violation subsequent to seeking help, it will be viewed as a first offense, providing no previous offenses have been committed. If previous offenses have been committed, it will be viewed as the second or third offense.

Managers

All eligibility requirements apply to managers.

Transportation

All team members MUST travel by school transportation to AND from athletic contests. A coach may give permission for an athlete to ride FROM a contest provided the request is in writing or is a personal verbal request FROM A PARENT.

Equipment

A coach is responsible for issuing and recording and checking all equipment for the sport. All athletes are responsible for their equipment and must pay for each item lost or damaged. Students who owe fines for lost or damaged equipment will not receive their athletic awards, nor will they be issued clearance for another sport.

Personal Belongings

It is recommended that all athletes wear appropriate attire to school events. However, do not wear or carry valuables.