Middle School Athletic Handbook

WE ARE WAYNE!

GREAT SCHOOLS :: GREAT COMMUNITY

Lynhurst 7th & 8th Grade Center

Chapel Hill 7th & 8th Grade Center

Table of Contents

	Page
I .Purpose	3
II. Mission	3
III. Physical Examinations	4
IV. Acknowledgment of Risks	5
V. Code of Conduct	6
VI. Academic Eligibility Req.	7,8,9
VII. General Athletic Policies	10,11,12,13
IIX. Due Process	13
IX. Middle School Guidelines	13
X. Financial Obligations & Equip.	13
XI. Awards	14,15
XII. Chain of Communication	15
XII. Parent/Coach Communication	15
Coaching Expectations	17,18
Coaches' Responsibilities	17
Participation Contract	19

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Wayne Township Middle School Sports Profile

Middle School Mascot
GIANTS

Middle School Colors
PURPLE & WHITE
Alternate colors -Silver & Black

Conference
Metropolitan Indianapolis Interscholastic Conference (M.I.I.C.)

Members of the Marion County Athletic Directors Association

Fall Sports	**Grades**	**First Practice**
Cheerleading (football)	7,8	Tryouts in the Spring
Cross Country	5,6,7,8	Early August
Girls Golf	5,6,7,8	Early August
Football	7,8	Late July
Soccer	7,8	Early August (tryouts)
Boys Tennis	5,6,7,8	Early August
Volleyball	7,8	Early August (tryouts)
	Grades	**First Practice**
Winter Sports		
Cheerleading (basketball)	7,8	Tryouts in August
Boys Basketball	7,8	October
Girls Basketball	7,8	Late November
Swimming & Diving	5,6,7,8	Early January
Wrestling	5,6,7,8	Late November
	Grades	**First Practice**
Spring Sports		
Baseball	7,8	Early March (tryouts)
Boys Golf	5,6,7,8	Early March
Softball	7,8	Early March (tryouts)
Girls Tennis	5,6,7,8	Early March
Track & Field	5,6,7,8	Early March

Township Team =Lynhurst & CHC together
Combined Team = 7th and 8th grade levels together

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this athletic handbook is to supply information to administrators, faculty, students, parents, and coaches of Wayne Township Middle Schools on topics related to interscholastic athletics.

It is a privilege, not a right, to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Interscholastic athletics have been organized as a part of the total educational program in our middle schools. This is an essential part of the educational experience for many students. Various goals and objectives have been established. One of the major goals of the athletic program is to set up a series of athletic contests with neighboring schools for the purpose of developing playing skills, good sportsmanship, and personal fitness. Athletics are also part of value in the promotion and maintenance of school morale.

Interscholastic athletics, as an integral part of the total school program, must be educational in nature. Health, body size, skills, desires, and interests vary widely among students. These individual differences must be constantly kept in mind. The personal gain of each individual participating in the athletic program depends upon his/her commitment in pursuit of excellence. Each athlete should realize that being a member of the team is an honor; but in turn, the athlete carries definite responsibilities to the team, the school, the community, and his/her family.

II. MSD WAYNE TOWNSHIP ATHLETIC MISSION

Giants Athletics continually reach for competitive excellence. Our goal is to instill Lifelong Character Traits, to establish a Safe Environment for the entire Athletic Community, and create a solid foundation for Giants Athletics.

MSD of Wayne Township Sportsmanship Creed

The middle school athletic department staff is committed to ensuring that fans, spectators, staff and student-athletes behave in a sports like manner, especially at Middle School athletic contests. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the individual to disciplinary action which can include removal from the playing facility or area. Additionally, it is our goal to ensure that (a) both teams be allowed to prepare and to compete in a safe environment, (b) that the contest be conducted in a manner that discourages spectators or other unofficial persons from disrupting or interfering with the event; and (c) that visiting spectators be permitted to support their team as a group, free from interference and intimidation from home fans.

The MSD Wayne Middle Schools expects positive support and sportsmanship from the players, coaches **and spectators at all times.**

III. PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Any student who wishes to try-out and/or participate in interscholastic athletics must have a completed I.H.S.A.A. physical by a licensed medical doctor (M.D.) prior to the first day of tryouts or practice for any sport. The active physical must be dated after April 1, of the preceding school year. Physical forms are available at each middle school and the Wayne Township web page.

ALL PHYSICALS MUST BE TURNED INTO THE ATHLETIC OFFICE

New physical examinations must be obtained each year and completed after April 1, proceeding the current school year.

Ben Davis High School offers Physical examinations each spring for a nominal fee.

NO COACHES SHALL COLLECT PHYSICALS FROM ATHLETES.

CHECKLIST FOR PARTICIPATION

The student must meet all of the age, enrollment, attendance and scholastic requirements established by the MSD of Wayne Township and the IHSAA Middle School Guidelines.

Forms and Releases

Before a student may participate in any sport including conditioning and practices, he/she must have the following information to the proper officials. (This includes transfer students.)

All items must be completed.

A. The Wayne Township or I.H.S.A.A. physical examination form, with student, parent, and physician's signature to Athletic Director.

B. Insurance release forms with insurance information, signature, and date to Athletic Director.

C. The MSD of Wayne Township Middle School Student/Parent Athletic Participation Contract signed by both the student and parent/guardian.

D. All fees paid in full.

E. Medical Emergency card or contact information turned in to the head coach or athletic trainer.

IV. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISKS

When participating in any type of athletic activity, there is always a possibility that an injury can occur. There are several types of injuries that can force a Student Athlete to miss practices and/or games. Some of the more common injuries that occur in athletics are strains (stretching or tearing of muscle and tendon tissue), sprains (stretching or tearing of ligaments), and contusions (bruises of soft tissue or muscle tissue). These three types of injuries can vary in their severity. In the case of mild strains, sprains, and contusions, the athlete will feel some discomfort but will be able to continue participating in athletics. In severe cases of strains, sprains, and contusions, the Student-Athlete may miss a large amount of time participating in his or her sport.

Athletes can also experience more serious injuries such as fractures, dislocations, concussions, internal injuries, spinal injuries, or death. Fortunately, most of the injuries that occur with Athletics are mild strains, sprains, and contusions and the Student-Athlete misses little or no participation.

Athletes can decrease their chance to be injured by following these guidelines.

1. Use the proper athletic techniques that are taught by the coaches.
2. Condition properly during the preseason and work to stay in condition.
3. Get proper rest and nutrition.
4. Refrain from risky behavior on the athletic field or in the locker rooms.
5. Wear proper fitting protective equipment.
6. Keep all protective equipment in working order.
7. Stay alcohol and drug free!

The athletic department wants your help in strengthening our efforts to keep our students safe. Please take time to learn more about preventing athletic injuries.

With the assistance of Hendricks Regional Health we have a certified Athletic Trainer at each building on a daily basis and during home events.

V. STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

PHILOSOPHY: Extracurricular participation can be an important part of a student's educational experience. Teaching life skills and building positive character traits are important goals of our coaching staff. Student athletes must reflect these values in their personal conduct in order to continue participating in athletics at our school. The Athletic Department has adopted the following guidelines for those participating in interscholastic athletics:

The middle school Code of Conduct is to be followed at all times.

1. GRADES– The school procedure states that students may not participate in an interscholastic contest if they have received two or more F's on a nine-week grade report, mid-term progress report, or the ***first*** four and one-half week grade report. Eligibility can be reestablished at any four and one-half week report. Individual coaches may impose higher standards (see the next page for details).
2. PHYSICALS- Students will not be allowed to attend tryouts, play or practice until they have a valid physical exam form on file with the Athletic Department.
3. DETENTIONS/TEACHER ASSIGNED ISS (temporary dismissal) -Student-Athletes that violate the Code of Conduct and earn a school discipline from a staff member will receive consequences within the Athletic Department. This could be loss of practice/playing time or up to removal from the program.
4. ADMINISTRATION ASSIGNED IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION/FRIDAY SCHOOL

   Student-Athletes are not permitted to attend, practice, or play on the days they are assigned and serve in-school suspension during the school day. Their behavior will be reviewed, and they will be subject to being removed from the team.
5. OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION– Students receiving an out of school suspension are not permitted to attend, practice, or play on the in-season team* for the duration of the suspension. The number of days assigned to OSS is the minimum number of contests a student will miss (3 days out = 3 contests missed). Their behavior will be reviewed and could be subject to removal from the program for the remainder of the season. Future teams and seasons will be determined through the Athletic Department.
6. If athletes are using alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs/substances, they will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.
7. GENERAL (see page 9 for more details)- Middle School rules apply to extra curricular participants. Student-athletes must adhere to the student dress code. All coaches will provide competition day apparel.

Any assigned date for a Code of Conduct violation is to be served or the student will miss more practice/game time. All Administrative level consequences follow the student until served.

These rules are not for the purpose of eliminating students from participation. They are established with the goal that athletes will behave in an exemplary manner, which will bring credit to their family, their school, and themselves.

VI. WAYNE TOWNSHIP EXTRACURRICULAR ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:
The following activities are included in the extracurricular eligibility requirements:

Athletics	Athletic Event Staff	Student Ambassadors
Academic Pursuit	Cheerleaders	

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:
All student athletes must PASS academic classes to be eligible. Two or more failing grades on a progress report or report card may result in a student being ineligible for extra-curricular participation.
-At the end of each nine-week grading period, a student may become ineligible for all extracurricular activities if he/she has more than one "F" on his/her report card or the 1st 4 ½ week progress report. The students who are ineligible will have their grades reviewed during the next nine week report card or 4 ½ week progress report. The student will be declared eligible if he/she does not have more than one "F".
-All students begin the year with being eligible to attend tryouts or practice for a Fall Sport. Each student is subjective to a behavior data review and can begin a season on a Citizenship Contract (see page 9)
-This contract does not limit eligibility but places an emphasis on the Code of Conduct
-There is a review of all grades at the first 4 ½ week progress report and each 9-week period after. A student who receives more than one "F" as a grade becomes **"on probation"** from all extracurricular activities for **two weeks (Academic Probation details on page 8).**

ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL DAY AND CLASSES
A student must attend more than 2 of the 4 scheduled blocks in a school day. Excused absences or late arrivals are approved through the Main Office only. A good rule of thumb is to arrive by lunch. Any exemptions (funeral, dental, doctor, etc.) must be approved through the Main Office (Principal).

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FROM PRACTICE/CONTEST
Missing practice and competitions are unexcused absences without prior communication with the coach will result in a loss of playing time and a personal practice plan to regain needed conditioning. Coaches can release a student athlete from a sport for unexcused absences.

A student is only eligible for extra-curricular activity if they are passing classes and are representing their family, school, and themselves in a positive manner. Failure to do this will not allow a student to attend tryouts, practices, competitions, or even have the opportunity to join an activity.

To keep things simple PASS your classes & make positive decisions.

VI. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

Academic Probation (limited participation)

Probationary status means that:
The student will discuss progress needed with the teacher(s).
The Academic Compliance Coordinator will notify parents that the student has two weeks to remove him/herself from probation.
The student's participation in the activity will be limited to study tables and practice only. Attendance of home events is at the discretion of the head coach. No students on academic probation will travel to an away contest.
The student MUST complete the entire two week period before becoming eligible. *This practice was adopted to encourage continual improvement and to maintain positive academic grades.*

Ineligible status means that:
The student is ineligible if grades are not passing at the end of the probation period. Once a student is ineligible the student will be removed from the current season in progress. Students who are ineligible during the current season will have all of their classes reevaluated at the start of the next season to determine eligibility.

PARENT NOTIFICATION AND STUDENT ASSISTANCE:
The parent of a student declared on probation will be contacted by the Academic Compliance Coordinator (remediation strategies should be discussed).
The Academic Compliance Coordinator will meet with the student, and will inform the grade level team of the student's probation. The expectations to improve will be explained and the responsibility will be put upon the student.

VI. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

CITIZENSHIP CONTRACT/ACADEMIC CONTRACT

All students are held to the Code of Conduct and Academic requirements in order to participate in an extra-curricular program.

CITIZENSHIP
-An **8th** grade student will begin a Fall Sport on a Citizenship Contract if they earned three or more consecutive days of OSS in the previous Spring Semester. This contract must be signed by the student prior to the start of the season and does not allow any sort of discipline consequence throughout the season to be earned. If a student earns an Admin ISS/OSS they violate the contract and are subject to removal from the team.
-A **7th & 8th** grade student will begin Winter and Spring Sports on a Citizenship Contract if they earned three or more consecutive days of OSS in the previous nine-week period. This contract must be signed by the student prior to the start of the season and does not allow any sort of discipline consequence throughout the season to be earned. If a student earns an Admin ISS/OSS they violate the contract and are subject to removal from the team

ACADEMIC
-An **8th** grade student will begin a Fall Sport on an Academic Contract if they earned more than one failing grade for the previous Spring Semester (Semester grade). This contract allows full participation until the first 4 1/2 weeks Progress Report. If a student has more than one failing grade on the report they are ineligible to continue as a member of the program. If they are free from any failing grades the contract is nullified.
-A **7th & 8th** grade student will begin Winter and Spring Sports on an Academic Contract if they earned more than one failing grade on a Progress Report/Report Card. This contract allows full participation until the next Progress Report/Report Card. If a student has more than one failing grade on the report they are ineligible to continue as a member of the program. If they are free from any failing grades the contract is nullified.

~The middle school athletic departments do not reserve positions on teams with limited roster options. Any student who is ineligible at the time of try-outs will not be allowed to participate in try-outs.~

A season is defined as the first day of tryouts or practice and ends with the final contest.

VII. GENERAL ATHLETIC DEPT PROCEDURES

1) Participation:
An athlete may participate in only one sport per season.
(unless pre-arranged by the Principal, Athletic Director, and Coach)

2) Dropping or transferring sports:
Quitting is an unacceptable habit. A quitter may lose the privilege of participating in athletics. On occasion, however, an athlete may find it necessary to drop a sport for a good reason. If this is the case, the following procedure must be followed:
a) Consult with the head coach.
b) Report situation to the athletic administrator.
c) Check in all equipment.
~If a student decides to cease participation during a regular season his/her ability to join another sport during the same season is surrendered. (unless pre-arranged by the Principal, Athletic Director, and Coach)

3) **Equipment**:
School equipment checked out by the student-athlete is his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep it clean and in good condition. Loss of any equipment is the student athlete's financial obligation.

4) **Missing practice**:
An athlete should always consult his/her coach before missing practice. Missing practice or a game will result in a suspension. The athletic director and/or head coach will determine participation privileges due to unexcused absences.

5) **Travel**:
All athletes must travel to and from out-of-town athletic contests in transportation provided by the athletic department unless previous arrangements (phone call or email) are made by the parents. *Contact head coach first.* Parents must sign an official sign-out document prior to taking their student-athlete home from an out-of-town contest.
a) Athletes will remain with their squad and under the supervision of the coach when attending away contests.
b) Athletes that miss the bus will not be allowed to participate in the contest unless there are extenuating circumstances.
c) All regular school bus rules will be followed.
d) Dress should be appropriate and in good taste.
e) *A signed written note from a parent/guardian must be presented in order for a student to not ride the bus back to school.*
f) Student-Athletes will be picked up from practice at a designated area assigned by the coach.
-These areas will be supervised by a member of the coaching staff.
g) Coaches will supervise the school bus according to the MSD of Wayne Township guidelines.

6) Walkers:
All students who walk or ride a bike home must present a note at the beginning of try-outs or practice signed by a parent/guardian allowing them to leave the school campus.

7) Grooming Policy
A member of an athletic team is expected to be well-groomed. "He/she shows up best that shows off least." Appearance, expression and actions always influence people's opinions of athletes, the team and the school. Members of a squad have made a choice to uphold certain standards expected of athletes in this community. *"Dress to Impress"*

8) Squad Selection:
In accordance with our philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students participate in the athletic program as possible while in a Wayne Middle School, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without unbalancing the integrity of their sport. Time, space, facilities, equipment, and other factors will place limitations of the most effective squad size for any particular sport.

9) Squad Reduction Policies:
Choosing the members of athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those squads. Prior to trying out, the coach shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team:
a) Extent of try-out period
b) Criteria used to select the team
c) Number to be selected
d) Practice & Game/Competition commitment if they make the team

10) Reporting of Injury:
All injuries which occur while participating in athletics should be reported to the trainer/coach. If the injury requires medical attention by a doctor or treatment center, it will be necessary to have an injury report form completed. Once athletes are treated by a physician, the athlete must obtain the doctor's permission to return to the activity.

11) Locker Room Expectations:

a) No one except certified Wayne Township Middle School coaches and assigned players are allowed in the locker room.
b) Hazing of any kind is NOT allowed (MSD of Wayne Township Hazing policy, page 12).
c) Electronic devices are not to be used in the locker rooms.
d) No **glass** containers are permitted in locker rooms.
e) No metal or hard-plastic spikes or cleats are ever allowed in any part of the school building.

12) Academic Classes and Physical Education:
Student athletes are expected to complete all assigned work and daily tasks within a class. Students enrolled in Physical Education class are expected to participate fully during the school day. If a student athlete is unable to complete the tasks assigned they must yield any athletic privileges for the day.

HARASSMENT AND HAZING

The MSD of Wayne Township policies do not allow for any form of harassment, hazing, intimidation or bullying. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process. All such activities are prohibited at any time in school facilities, on school property, and at any school corporation sponsored event. Hazing is defined as performing any act, or coercing another person to perform any act of initiation into any class, group or organization that causes or creates a risk (mental, emotional, or physical harm.) Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not exempt the policy. No form of harassment or hazing such as unwelcome words, physical contact, written notes, or electronic technical activities which inflict physical or mental harm or anxiety of which demeans or degrades or disgraces a person, regardless of location, intent of participants will be allowed in the middle school programs. Any student that feels he/she is a victim or witness or hears about a hazing or harassment incident should immediately report the activity to a coach, athletic director, or principal. The report should be made to the administrator the athlete feels can appropriately address the problem.

SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

Student athletes are responsible for information contained in written or electronic transmissions (e.g. e-mail) and any information posted on a public domain (e.g. internet, chat room, blogs, Facebook, You Tube, Snapchat, Kik, Instagram, etc). Inappropriate or embarrassing information or pictures should not be posted in any public domain. Student-athletes are not precluded from participation in such online social networks: however student-athletes should be reminded that they serve as representatives of their team, the athletic program, and the Wayne Township Corporation. Texting, tweeting and uses of other social networks to disparage or criticize the team, other students, opponents, coaches or other school personnel is inappropriate behavior and unbecoming of a Wayne Township student-athlete. Any individual identified on a social networking site which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior, due to the Code of Conduct or other policy, will be considered in violation and subject to athletic discipline or suspension per policy guidelines.

Performing Arts and Athletics –a partnership

Students enrolled in music performance classes (band, choir, and orchestra), are expected to perform for the public. These concerts are an important part of the student grade and the primary goal of a music performance class. The band, orchestra, and choir work hard to schedule these events on evenings with little to no athletic competitions. This is a near impossible task. The Athletic Department & Music Department have a system in place that allows students to do both. However, if there is a conflict between athletics and music performance*, students are expected to communicate with teachers and coaches in advance.*

Concert is at the same time as an Athletic practice - go to the concert

Concert and Athletic competition on the same day but at different times - do both **Concert is at the same time as Athletic competition (game, match, race, etc.)** - student chooses which event to attend**.** *However, if the student chooses not to attend the concert, an alternate assignment must be requested before the concert and completed by the deadline set by the director.*

Conference Games - Students will attend the sporting event

Non-Conference Games - Students will have a choice to attend the sporting event or performance (see #3)

IIX. DUE PROCESS

If a Student-Athlete is declared ineligible, the Student-Athlete may request a meeting (within 2 days of action) conducted by the Principal or designee.
Their decision will be final.

IX. MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDELINES

Wayne Township Middle Schools follow the Interscholastic Guidelines for Middle Level Sports published by the I.H.S.A.A. A copy of these guidelines is on file in the Athletic Department and posted on the Athletic Department web page.

X. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AND EQUIPMENT

A.) Each sport season, when squads are selected, athletes will be assessed a transportation fee required by Wayne Township ($25).

B.) Sport fee –Each sport carries a nominal fee to be used specifically for that sport C.) Equipment-All equipment items used by the students becomes his/her responsibility during the season. Equipment items are expected to be returned in good working condition at the end of each season. A fee owed report may be issued for failure to comply with this expectation. D.) Uniforms are expected to be returned in clean condition. Loss of a uniform will result in a charge to replace the item. A uniform replacement fee will be assessed ($100).

ALL Fees are non-refundable.

XI. AWARDS

An Awards Night will be held after the completion of a season.
Fall Sports
October
Winter Sports
Boys Basketball –January, Girl's Basketball & Wrestling -March, Swimming –March
Spring Sports
May

At the completion of the season and having fulfilled all the requirements set down by the school, a player will receive an award **for that sport.**

First Award – a Sport pin will be presented to each student representing the completion of a season.

Second Award –a Star Award will be presented to each student having completed a 2nd season of each respective sport.

3 Sport Award –at the Spring Awards Night each student having completed three separate sport seasons during the same school year will be presented with a pin identifying this accomplishment.

6 Sport Award –a student having completed six total sport seasons for the Giants Middle School programs will be presented an award identifying this accomplishment. This will also allow the student to be eligible for the "Athlete of the Year" voting (see next page).

If a student loses an award, he/she can purchase a replacement from the Athletic Department.
The student must be able to provide proof of that award. ($1.00 pin)

A varsity block letter is available for purchase from the building bookstore for $8.00

<u>Awards are not guaranteed if a student does not attend the Awards Night Ceremony.</u>

Top Achieving Giant/Most Outstanding Giant

This award will be presented to one exemplary member of each team in their respective sport during Awards Night. The Giant Award is based upon, but not limited to, three main ideas:

The Student-Athlete exemplifies classroom excellence (grades, attendance, and attitude) The Student-Athlete possesses an athletic ability that improves his/her teammates. The Student-Athlete serves as a role-model at all times (while in school, away from school, and around the community—No discipline remarks).

XI. Awards continued

Athlete of the Year

When all Athletic contests have finished for the calendar year the coaches will choose a Male and Female Athlete of the Year.

To be eligible an 8th grade Student-Athlete:

- Must have completed multiple sports seasons (recommended to be six seasons) representing the Giants at the middle school level.
- Will maintain Positive Academic Standing at all times.
- All of the GIANT Award criteria listed on previous page has been met.
- This Student-Athlete must have completed volunteer time at schools events, activities, or community functions.

Winners of the Athlete of the Year will have their names placed on a plaque and displayed in the Athletic Department.

Student-Volunteer of the Year

This award is open to ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS.
To earn this award a student must:

- Complete a minimum of ten hours volunteering at a variety of events around the community. The following are acceptable, but not limited to; Extra-curricular events at the middle schools, Wayne Township School functions, community events…etc.

<u>The Male/Female Athlete of the Year and Student-Volunteer of the Year will be presented in May at an Athletic Awards event.</u>

XII. PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION

Chain of Communication

- Student Athlete speaks with the Coach
- Student Athlete & Parent/Guardian arrange to speak with the Coach.
- Student Athlete, Parent, and Coach arrange to speak with the Athletic Director or School Administration.

XII. PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to students. As parents, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's team.

Communication You Should Expect from Your Child's Coach

Philosophy of the coach
Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the team
Location and times of all practices and contests
Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning
Procedures should your child be injured during practice or a contest
Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
Notification if a child has been removed from team within 24 hrs

Communication Coaches Expect from Parents

Concerns expressed directly to the coach
Advance notification of any schedule conflicts
Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations

As your child becomes involved in the programs offered by Wayne Township they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

The treatment of your child mentally and physically
Ways to help your child improve
Concerns about your child's behavior

It is difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

Playing time
Team strategy
Play calling
Other student-athletes

If You Have a Concern to Discuss with a Coach

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These conferences are encouraged in order to achieve a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of the concern.

Call the coach to set-up an appointment. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director.
Please do not attempt to confront a coach immediately before or after a practice or contest.

These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote resolution.

COACHING STAFF
EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Coaches' Professional and Personal Relationships and Expectations

1) **Rapport**
A coach must be able to develop good rapport with numerous individuals and community groups; team personnel, the student body, the professional staff (faculty, administration, maintenance, etc.), the community as a whole, spectators, officials, fellow coaches in the conference, media representatives and the parents of his/her players. Good rapport and demonstrated competency are invaluable for the coach.

2) **Cooperation**
The district expects the highest-level cooperation by all coaches and athletic staff members in the execution of their duties. Coaches must work cooperatively with their school athletic director, administration, athletic trainer, other staff, team and parents.

3) **Leadership and Public Relations**
Diligence, enthusiasm, integrity, honesty and a love for the game are all part of the professional pride that should be exhibited by any coach. Personal appearance, dress, physical condition - all should be exemplary. Public demeanor and decorum should always reflect positively on the school, school district and athletic department.

4) **Discipline**
Every athletic team requires a high level of discipline among coaches, players and support staff. In this regard, the implementation of discipline and the attitude with which it's implemented is the coach's responsibility. Individually, the coach becomes a model of all that the program represents - observation of school codes, training rules, rules of the game, ideals of good sportsmanship, behavior of participants throughout the season and especially where the student body is concerned. Desire to do well, to win gracefully, and to lose with poise and a positive attitude should be emphasized. Staff, players and spectators should be motivated to achieve established goals as a team and as individual players.

5) **Supervision**

All student athletes will be properly supervised while participating on an extra-curricular team. Coaches will remain at the school until all children are accounted for. Locker rooms, bus rides, home and away facilities are all part of the supervision and safety duties of the coach. A coach will be placed in the front, middle, and rear of all buses for appropriate conduct to occur at all times.

Coaches' Responsibility Contract

Wayne Township Middle Schools will provide competent, cooperative, and professional leaders for each respective sport available.

As a member of the coaching staff I will continue to develop good rapport with numerous individuals. My knowledge and competency are invaluable to the students, professional staff, and community.

Initial:_____(C)
____(AD)

I will execute my duties with cooperation of all School Board policies and Athletic Department expectations.

Initial:_____(C)
___(AD)

My job is to display enthusiasm, honesty, and a love for the game. I will dress professionally, display pride for the Giants, and reflect the positive reputation of the school and Athletic Department.

Initial:_____(C)
___(AD)

I will be firm, fair, and consistent with discipline among players and support staff. My job entails observation and commitment to good sportsmanship, rules of the game, proper training techniques, and behavior of participants throughout the season. A desire to win gracefully and to lose with poise is emphasized.

Initial:_____(C)
___(AD)

I will provide proper supervision to ensure the safety and well-being of all student athletes.

Initial:_____(C)
___(AD)

I agree to perform my duties as a coach for the MSD of Wayne Township Middle Schools with professionalism and a commitment to the betterment of the Athletic Department.

Name:_____ Date:_____
AD:_____ Date:_____

MSD of Wayne Township Middle School Student/Parent Athletic Participation Contract

Middle School Student-Athletes are required to maintain a Positive Academic Standing Score (P.A.S.S.).*

**I will keep my progress reports and report cards free from two failing grades. My participation as a Giant will be limited and/or lost if I an unable to maintain a Positive Academic Standing Score.*

Initial:_____(Student)
_____(Parent/Guardian)

As a Student-Athlete I will make a commitment to attend school with perfect or near-perfect attendance, work hard to excel, learn cooperation and team effort, and exemplify positive behavior both at school and away from school. *

**My failure to attend school on time, absence(s) from school/practice/game/study tables will result in loss of playing privileges and/or dismissal from the Giants Athletics program.*

Initial:_____(Student)
_____(Parent/Guardian)

Wayne Township Middle School Athletics are provided as a privilege requiring that a Student-Athlete act as a positive representative of our school. I will serve as a role-model to the school and community and adhere to the Code of Conduct the entire calendar year.

I will not bring negative attention upon myself, my family, or my school.* ***If I am unable to accept this responsibility and challenge I will forfeit my position as a member of the Giants Athletics program.*

Initial:_____(Student)
_____(Parent/Guardian)

Student-Athletes in Wayne Township are expected to avoid situations that violate the Code of Conduct. My self-discipline and responsibility are to promote positive sportsmanship and make good choices. *

**As a result of an Administrative discipline consequence I will lose my opportunity to practice/play/attend an Extra-curricular activity.*
(Detention. Friday School, In-School suspension, Out of School suspension)

Initial:_____(Student)
_____(Parent/Guardian)

We have read this contract and agree to abide by the expectations of the Wayne Township Middle School Student Athlete handbook.
This form must be completed and turned in to the Athletic Department prior to participation.

Student:_____ Date:_____
Parent/Guardian(s):_____ Date:_____