

# Tipton High School Athletic Handbook



TIPTON  
BLUE DEVILS

## **Statement of Philosophy**

### **Athletic Philosophy**

Students who choose to wear the Blue and White of Tipton High School walk in the footsteps of many outstanding people. They preserve the tradition of a rich athletic heritage, and strive to add their own names to the rosters and record books. Having earned the opportunity to compete as a representative of Tipton High School, student athletes accept the responsibility of proper conduct. Those young men and women who maintain their grades and meet all behavior and team requirements will earn and retain those rewards that come from high school athletics.

The Tipton High School athletic program offers many opportunities for development of individual character and leadership. Every student has the opportunity to be a part of the athletic program in some way. Once a student decides to become a part of the program in some way, then he/she becomes a student/athlete, and with this title the student must understand and accept not only the privileges and benefits of participation, but also that he/she has taken on certain specific obligations and responsibilities. These responsibilities cover everything from the classroom performance to the playing field.

Student/athletes are expected to conduct themselves in compliance with the athletic code of conduct which will not bring discredit or embarrassment upon the school, team, or themselves. Student/athletes shall comply with the standard established by the Tipton High School Athletic Department and by the Indiana High School Athletic Association.

Furthermore, a successful athletic program plays a tremendous role in perpetuating community pride and provides a vehicle for social interaction. Therefore, there are a number of stakeholders in these programs. It is the responsibility of the school's coaches to provide a first-class program that our staff, students, and community can take great pride in. This effort extends beyond winning and losing. It's giving one's best effort in preparation and planning, maintaining high standards of conduct, both on and off the playing field, and expecting high academic achievement. It is the coaches' responsibility to help provide the equipment, teaching tools, professional growth opportunities, and on-going support to make coaching jobs easier and successful with every program.

## **Gender Equity Mission Statement for Tipton Community School Corporation**

The Board of School Trustees is committed to provide a fair and equitable opportunity for all students/athletes. Athletic competition is an integral part of the educational experience. No student shall be denied participation on the basis of gender. Gender Equity is more than being in compliance with the law. It is a spirit, a personal ethic, a commitment to do what is right and fair for all. Gender Equity means creating and maintaining an environment where all opportunities and resources are fairly distributed. No individual will be discriminated against on the basis of gender.

[Policy 2260: NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY](#)

### **Duties and Responsibilities of the Athletic Staff**

The Principal shall have complete charge of the athletic program of the school. The Athletic Director will have the immediate responsibility of the effective direction, administration, and decision making of the interschool athletic program. He/she will support the coaching staff, assist in hiring and evaluating head coaches, schedule contests and officials, strive for the best in facilities and equipment, maintain athletic records, supervise coaching staff, programs and policies, communicate effectively, confirm eligibility of athletes, officially represent the school, and perform other duties assigned by the principal.

It is fundamental that the Head Coach is the person responsible for the direction of his/her program and the person charged with the behavior, safety and welfare, and the improvement of his/her team during practices, games, season, and tenure. Head coaches will operate their program within the philosophy of Tipton High School, organize and assist in coordinating the school program, evaluate assistant coaches, be fully aware of legal responsibilities, maintain records, recommend candidates for staff, and set the pattern for public relations that project the goals of his/her program and of Tipton Athletics.

All Assistant Coaches (staff, teacher, lay, or volunteer) are charged with the basic responsibilities of being loyal to his/her head coach, be committed to the athletic program and its direction, do whatever is asked of them to support the team and school, be aware of legal factors in coaching, work diligently to be a positive example for our students and community.

The Athletic Trainer will work under the supervision of the Athletic Director, head coaches, and the team physician. He will supervise, direct, and be responsible for: first-aid, care and rehabilitation, training room rules and supervision, physical examinations, preparing athletes for contest, maintain accurate documentation of

injuries, training and supervising student trainers, and recommend to the Athletic Director the purchase of medical supplies and equipment.

## **The Athletic Council**

The Tipton High School Athletic Council shall assist the formulating and enforcement of athletic policy, in the approval and removal of awards, and in the assessment of suspensions and reinstatement of athletes, if needed. Items go before the council only if the Athletic Department feels necessary or a parent or student/athlete applies to the Athletic Director in writing.

The Athletic Council of THS will be made up of the Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, and a combination of non-coaching faculty, and coaching faculty, to equal seven faculty members on the Council. The Council will also have an investigative committee of three faculty members to work with the Athletic Director when any instances occur which need to be investigated. Finally, the Principal of THS will be the Appeals Officer for the Athletic Council, and the Superintendent of Tipton Community School Corporation will choose an appeals committee according to the policy found on page 10 item A.4. all members of the Appeals Committee will be non-Athletic Council members.

1. The purpose of the Athletic Council is to enforce the Athletic Policies, Code, and Training Rules of Tipton High School.
2. The Athletic Director shall be the chairperson of the Athletic Council meetings. If he/she is not present, he/she may designate another member of the council to chair the meeting.
3. The Athletic Council, when it becomes necessary to enforce the Athletic Policies, Code, or Training Rules will follow the procedures listed in the Rules and Policies section.
4. A quorum (which will consist of 75% of the members of the council present at a meeting) must be present for the Athletic Council function as a body. In case of an emergency, the Tipton High School Principal can appoint another coach or faculty member to fill in for an absent member or members.
5. A written notice will be provided to the parents of any student/athlete regarding decisions made concerning their child if made by the Athletic Council.
6. Any student/athlete has the right to ask for an appearance before the Athletic Council by applying to the Athletic Director in writing.
7. The Appeal Process is explained in the Rules and Policies section.

## **Expectations of Athletes**

Athletes at Tipton High School are expected to be a positive role model. It is their duty to be a role model citizen both in and out of the classroom. They are expected to treat authority figures with the respect due them and to take an active and productive role in the classroom and the community in general. They are also expected to live up to all team, departmental, and school rules and policies. As an athlete of THS, the student/athlete is expected to live up to a higher standard of expectations. This includes any texting, tweeting, Facebook or any other web posting that is deemed to be negative or derogatory.

### **Required Meeting Before an Athlete Can Participate**

A student/athlete may not participate in a sport until he/she attends a meeting. A parent/guardian is also encouraged to attend, but it is not mandatory. In order to communicate the beliefs and needs of the various athletic programs, there will be a Parent Night meeting prior to the beginning of the school year each fall. The students and parent/guardians (at least one parent or guardian) of those athletes who plan to participate on an athletic team in some way are required to attend a meeting before each athletic season. Rules and regulations will be discussed and the appropriate paperwork will be distributed and filled out at that time. The responsibilities of the athletes and parents will be presented at this meeting.

### **Code of Conduct**

The code of sportsmanship is to be followed by the student who participates in athletics: You as athletes are generally the leaders of the student opinion, and your followers are easily impressed. Misbehavior by a few athletes can ruin the favorable image athletes should create for the school and for the community.

#### **Conduct in Participation**

In any athletic event, there are three possible outcomes, and only one is unacceptable and humiliating. You may win, you may be defeated, and you may lose. It is courteous to congratulate your opponent after an event. However, if there is nothing good to say to your opponent, quickly leave the court or field.

A false athlete often displays fits of temper, clowns, etc when things fail to go as desired. This shows a distinct lack of mental maturity. A true athlete has complete control of himself/herself at all times.

Officials do not lose a game for you. It is an athletic tradition and rule that no one

except the appointed captain talks to the officials. He/she should speak only in a tone of respect and only to ask questions for full clarification of a violation. Any behavior contrary to that which has been stated is a direct reflection on the school, team, and coaches. It will not be tolerated.

### **Conduct on Road Trips**

On trips, athletes directly represent the community, school, and coaches. Therefore, it is expected that all concerned will act in an acceptable manner when traveling and conduct themselves on the bus or van in a manner in keeping with school rules. Equipment and facilities of the opposing school will be respected and cared for just like personal equipment.

### **Conduct in the Classroom**

An athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for students and faculty members at all times. Horseplay and clowning are not approved habits of behavior.

## **Rules and Policies**

All athletes must adhere to the standards and rules established by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (on file in the Athletic Director's office). Total school policy is a part of the athletic policy; all rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Education for the athletes shall comply with the entire student body. Coaches have the option of disciplining an athlete on their team for breaking team policies set by the coach.

If it becomes necessary to act on the rules and policies of the Athletic Department, each incident will be handled on an individual basis but on a consistent level.

1. A meeting will be called of the Athletic Council, and a vote by the council (minimum 75% of the members in attendance) will be taken on each possible suspension. A majority vote of the council will determine whether or not the student/athlete will be suspended.
2. Any penalty which is enacted by the Athletic Council may be extended for a longer period of time, or the penalty can be made tougher by the head coach of the sport affected, and the approval (by majority vote) of the Athletic Council.
3. The athlete and/or their parents have the right to appeal the decision of the Athletic Council. This must be done in written form. The appeal must be made within 7 calendar days of the Council's decision. The Superintendent will appoint 5 members of the THS staff, to include anyone who is employed in the high

school, but not a member of the Athletic Council. These 5 will serve as the Appeals committee. This committee will meet within 3 calendar days of the superintendent receiving the appeal. They will render a decision within 10 calendar days of its appointment by the superintendent.

## **Transportation**

**Transportation to and from practice and home athletic contests is the responsibility of the student/athlete.** Athletes must use school provided or school arranged transportation both to and from away contests. In rare or unusual circumstances, student/athletes may be permitted transportation with a parent/guardian with written permission prior to an athletic contest and coaches' approval prior to departure from Tipton High School. A student/athlete will not be released from a coach's supervision until said coach has visual contact with the person given responsibility for transporting the student.

## **Conduct and Training Rules**

Conduct should be such that it exemplifies good citizenship at all times.

Student/athletes are expected to:

1. Obey rules, respect public and private property, and actively promote the general welfare of the school environment.
2. Maintain courteous relations with fellow students, teachers, and other school personnel.
3. Always be prepared for every class, begin work immediately, and work without disturbing others.
4. Establish and maintain an excellent attendance record.

**Athletes disciplinary referral will be handled as follows:**

1. Violations are to be constituted as those offenses which have been punished by the institution of at least a full day of ISS, OSS, or Saturday School. The penalty for the first violation will be set or handled by the coach. The second violation will bring about a review by the Athletic Council and could result in suspension up to 20% of the total contests. The third violation will result in a suspension for the remainder of that sport season. An office referral which does not include these punishments is not considered a violation.
2. If an athlete has been suspended for a season, he/she will have to do the following in order to be eligible to play another sport:
  - a. Go before the Athletic Council and apply for eligibility.
  - b. If the Athletic Council grants eligibility, the student/athlete will have the

- status of a student/athlete with two violations.
- c. The next violation will result in suspension from the said sport.
  - d. Should the athlete complete 365 days without a further violation, he/she will regain the status of having zero violations.

### **Engaging in any activity that is forbidden by the laws of Indiana**

1. On TCSC grounds or off
2. Off school grounds at a school activity or event sponsored by THS.
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event. The penalty for the first violation will be immediate suspension until the Athletic Council can convene for a hearing (must be within the guidelines of the Athletic Council suspension policy).

### **The Athletic Director may chose the following course of action until the Athletic Council has made a decision:**

1. Place the student/athlete on probation.
2. Suspend the athlete until the Athletic Council makes a decision.

### **Potential Violations**

1. **Smoking/Vaping:** No smoking/vaping and/or use of tobacco in any form. The penalty for the first violation will be set or handled by the coach that is directly involved. The second violation will result in a suspension for the current sport season. The third violation will result in a suspension for one calendar year. Reinstatement requires a majority vote of the Athletic Council.
  - a. **Off-Season smoking/vaping and use of tobacco products:** Off-season offenses are the responsibility of the athletic administration. Off-season is defined as during the non-school year (summer), or when the athlete is not in a sport.
2. **Drinking:** In accordance with the Indiana statute, which makes it unlawful for a person under 21 years of age to possess, transport, or consume alcohol, the policy at THS will also cover these three areas. A student found to be in violation of this rule would be penalized for the first offense by losing 30% of total games they are in (to include one contest in Sectional when counting the number of contests in a season. If there are any canceled contests in a season this will not reduce the number of contests counted for a sport, unless they are canceled before the season starts. All fractions of an athletic contest will be rounded up to the next whole contest). If the penalty cannot be fulfilled in one sports season, then community service will be assigned to fulfill the punishment. The forfeited participation must occur sequentially. The student will be allowed to participate in



practices, but no interscholastic contests during their probation. If the violation occurs out of a sports season, the penalty will carry over to the next sports season. The second violation of the alcohol rule will result in suspension for one year. During the disciplinary period of each offense, each student/athlete who is penalized under the drinking part of the Athletic Code must provide the Chairperson of the Athletic Council with written proof that they have been examined/treated by a professional in the area of alcohol abuse. This must be handled and paid for by the student/athlete or parent/guardian. A student/athlete will not be allowed to participate in an athletic contest or another sport until this has been accomplished.

3. **Controlled Substances:** (Illicit drugs, ie, marijuana, THC, cocaine, LSD, amphetamines, steroids, mood altering drugs (unless prescribed by a licensed physician), and their derivatives). Any athlete who uses or abuses any controlled substance will be punished as follows. The first offense will result in the loss of 30% of that season's total contests (total contests are determined as stated previously). The second violation will result in their suspension from any sports for 365 days. During the disciplinary period of each offense, each student/athlete who is penalized under the substance abuse part of the Athletic Code must provide the Chairperson of the Athletic Council with a negative drug test and written proof that they have been examined/treated by a professional in the area of substance abuse. This must be handled and paid for by the student/athlete or parent/guardian. A student/athlete will not be allowed to participate in an athletic contest or another sport until this has been completed.
  
4. **Over the Counter Performance Enhancers:** Athletes must recognize the dangers of misuse, over use, and abuse of over the counter drugs such as caffeine pills and the like. Athletes must also realize that the intent of ingesting these medications is to enhance performance. Tipton High School does not approve of any method of improving performance on the athletic field other than hard work, good nutrition, and practice of skills necessary and commensurate with the ability of a high school student. Therefore, the first violation will be penalized with the student forfeiting his/her privilege to participate in athletic contests for two games. A subsequent violation will result in suspension for the rest of the sport season.

**\*Items 3 and 4 punishment will coincide with one and another if both committed in the same year.**

5. **Drug Testing Policy:** Tipton High School students are subject to Tipton's Drug Testing Policy if they drive to school or participate in extracurricular

activities. Copies of the policy are available upon request.

6. **Other Training Rules:** Curfews, diet, dating, earrings, tattoos, etc will be used at the discretion of the head coach in each sport.
7. **Probation:** There may be circumstances that in the judgment of the Athletic Council, a student/athlete may be placed on probation for a period of time from 30 to 60 days. A student on probation will be eligible to compete in interscholastic contests.
8. **Hazing:** Hazing in any form is regarded as unacceptable behavior by the Tipton High School Athletic Department and Administration and will not be permitted. Hazing is defined as any action to initiate, discipline, or intimidate fellow students by means of horseplay, practical jokes, tricks, threats, or acts of violence, often in the nature of humiliating or painful ordeals. Any hazing action taken by a student/athlete against another student/athlete in a physical, mental, or emotional manner to initiate a person into a group, club, or team will not be permitted and will lead to the following penalties: Suspension from participation up to 30% of the season. If the penalty cannot be fulfilled in one sports season, then community service will be assigned to fulfill the punishment. The student/athlete must fulfill these obligations before participation in sports can resume. A second violation any time during the student/athlete's career will result in the loss of the privilege to participate in any sport sponsored by Tipton High School for the next 365 days. A third violation at any time during the student/athlete's career will result in the loss of the privilege to participate in any sport sponsored by Tipton High School.
9. **Appeals of Any Violation/Penalty:** The Athletic Council feels that training rules are a matter of self-discipline. The best performance the individual is capable of producing comes only when that individual is willing to sacrifice his/her time and effort toward a conditioned training program which will help discipline his/her daily habits during his/her time. The Tipton Community School Administration and coaching staff of Tipton High School feel strongly about high standards of training, conduct, and citizenship of their students/athletes. These standards are essential in maintaining a sound athletic program. The welfare of the student/athlete is the Tipton High School Athletic Department's major consideration, and transcends any other consideration.

**NOTE: The cause of suspension for all of the above offenses will be by established charges by law enforcement officials or agencies, observations by members of the Athletic Council or a member of the coaching staff, or by admission of the athlete.**

## Definitions

**Student/Athlete-** Any student enrolled at Tipton High School who has a correctly filled out IHSAA Physical form on file in the office of the Athletic Director. **Sports Season-** The days between dates of the first practice and the last regularly scheduled contest for that sport.

**Regularly Scheduled Contest-** All interscholastic contests in a sports season (excluding IHSAA postseason tournament).

**Next Sports Season-** The sports season the student/athlete will participate in during the present school year or the next school year.

**Hours-** The hours that a student keeps during the evening can be set by the coach of the sport that student is participating for the betterment of the student/athlete and the team as a whole.

**Practice Rules-** All athletes will report for practice on time. Athletes will not miss practice except when sick or approved by the coach. Practices will end at a designated time set by their coach. In most cases you and your parents will know of the time beforehand.

**Equipment-** Tipton High School will provide equipment and uniforms of the best possible quality for all teams. Equipment which students are allowed to keep after the season will be paid for by the students, or the cost will be shared by the student and the Athletic Department.

1. Current THS athletic equipment is to be worn for practice sessions, athletic contests, and at the discretion of the coach. Also whenever a student is participating in an IHSAA regular season or tournament contest they will wear the designated uniform or they will not participate.
2. Lost equipment, whether paid for or not, which if found later is to be turned in and is not to be worn.
3. An athlete should wear only the equipment issued to him/her and should not permit its use by another person. Equipment is school property, and will be picked up from any unauthorized wearer.
4. Equipment of other schools is not to be worn by THS athletes at any time. Lack of cooperation will result in further investigation and discipline if necessary.
5. Athletic equipment is to be turned in promptly (within a week after the call in by the coach).
6. If any athletic equipment is not turned in, that athlete will be declared ineligible for the next sports season.
7. All lockers are property of Tipton High School. Students are given the opportunity to use these lockers during their athletic season. The student must provide his/her own padlock, and it must be a combination lock. This combination must be given to the head coach.

## THS and IHSAA Rules and Policies

- **Age-** A student who is or shall be twenty (20) years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA state finals in a sport she be ineligible for inter school athletic competition in that sport; a student who is nineteen (19) years of age on the scheduled date of the IHSAA state finals in a sport shall be eligible as to age for inter school athletic competition in that sport.
- **Appearance-** Pride in one's appearance goes a long way toward the development of confidence. Other teams, fans, and officials will be impressed by the Tipton High School's appearance. Be neat and well groomed at all times. Never be profane in manner or speech.
- **Attendance-** Students shall be in school all day in order to participate in an athletic practice or an athletic contest that day. The exceptions to this rule will be excused absences accepted by the State Board of Education (funerals, death in the family, medical appointments, and certain excuses which are prearranged with the principal or assistant principal in advance of the absence). All day is defined as five (5) class periods which Tipton High School holds each day.
- **College Recruiters-** The head coach in each sport will be responsible for each contact. It is better that the head coach handles recruiting for the school because of his/her daily contact with the student/athlete on a daily basis in their sport.
- **Eligibility-** Participation in competitive athletics at Tipton High School is a privilege and an honor. The rules of the Indiana High School Athletic Association are administered and endorsed by the school.

### **Student/athletes and parents are to be familiar with the following rules:**

1. **Age-** In all sports, a student/athlete cannot be 20 years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals tournament in a sport.
2. **Amateurism-** A student/athlete will lose his/her amateurism if he/she:
  - a. Plays under an assumed name.
  - b. Accepts money or merchandise directly or indirectly from athletic participation.
  - c. Signs a professional contract.
3. **Awards or Gifts-** A student/athlete cannot:
  - a. Receive in recognition any award not approved by the principal or the IHSAA.
  - b. Accept or use merchandise as an award, prize, gift, or loan or purchase such for a token sum of money.
  - c. Accept awards, medals, recognition, gifts and honors from

colleges/universities or their alumni.

**4. Changing Schools-** A student cannot:

- a. Be eligible at a new school if he/she was not eligible in the school from which he/she transferred.
- b. Participate in a high school varsity athletic contest in any sport if his/her parents did not apply for a waiver through the IHSAA. Parents will need to meet with the Athletic Director of the new school to begin that process.

**5. Enrollment-** A student will be ineligible:

- a. If he/she did not enroll in school during the first 15 days of the semester.
- b. If he/she has been enrolled more than four fall semesters and four spring semesters beginning with grade 9.
- c. If he/she has represented a high school in a sport more than 8 semesters.

**6. Grades-** Eligibility or ineligibility will begin no later than one week after the last Friday of the grading period, or when the grades have been finalized by the school administration. Grades will be checked at the end of each grading period by the Athletic Director and double-checked by the head coach of each sport presently in season. The eligibility dates are set by the principal and the Athletic Director at the beginning of the school year when the yearly membership is sent to IHSAA. This information is on file in the Athletic Director's office.

- a. A student may fail one class and still participate in athletics. That student will be placed on Academic watch for the following nine week grading period. During that time the student/athlete must attend all available Study Table meetings (scheduled practices and contests are not excused for attending Study Tables). The student/athlete must meet with the principal or athletic director weekly to monitor academic progress. If at any point the principal or athletic director feels the student/athlete is failing to make academic progress or fails to attend scheduled Study Tables, that student/athlete will be declared ineligible for the remainder of that grading period.
- b. The following grade point averages must be maintained for a student/athlete to be eligible in sports (these grade point averages are figured for a grading period to determine eligibility) and they will go into effect at the end of the first grading period:
  - i. Grade 9 must maintain a GPA of 1.8 or greater.
  - ii. Grades 10,11,12 must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or greater.
- c. It is the responsibility of the student/athlete and their parents to keep track of their grades and GPA during a nine week grading period. Each sport's coach will be expected to check on his or her athletes' class progress once every ten days. This should include:
  - i. student/athlete grades

- ii. provide assistance in helping a student/athlete who might be having trouble in a class find help to try and correct this problem.
- d. Any athlete who fails to meet the GPA requirements or has one “F” may request to be placed on Academic Watch. The request must be made to either the Athletic Director or the Principal. A student/athlete may not be placed on Academic Watch in consecutive nine week grading periods.

**7. FinalForms: TCSC is moving to FinalForms and will no longer utilize Blue**

**Cards:** A student/athlete is not eligible unless they have completed registration appropriate documents in FinalForms. Parents and Guardians may utilize the video at this link to complete registration <https://bit.ly/FinalFormsSetUp> FinalForms allows parents/guardians to register once for the whole year, using their SMARTphone and sends alerts for missing info and non-compliance. Completed Proper and current IHSA physical forms signed by a medical professional must be delivered to the school for verification. All other permissions and forms have an electronic sign-off in FinalForms. These forms include:

1. Emergency medical form
2. Handbook consent
3. Drug policy form
4. Concussion form
5. Cardiac arrest form

Why use FinalForms?

- Communication-Administrators send reminders to coaches, parents, and students about upcoming events and changes in scheduling.
- Correct and Up to Date Student Information-Student data is saved season-to-season
- Quick access to emergency medical information

The student/athlete is not allowed to practice until everything is approved and marked green in FinalForms. **All forms must be updated and signed each year in FinalForms. Forms do not carry over to next school year.**

Evidence of both, the Consent and Release Certificate and the Physical Form, shall be on file in the Athletic Director’s office prior to the student/athlete’s first practice. Such a certificate will suffice for the entire school year unless some unforeseen problem occurs which requires a new examination by the student/athlete’s doctor.

If a student/athlete is properly certified and an unforeseen problem occurs which requires a student/athlete to be absent from school for five consecutive days due

to illness or injury, or who are physically unable to practice for five consecutive days due to illness or injury, must present to their principal a statement from a physician that he/she is again physically fit to participate in interschool athletics.

**8. Insurance-** Each student/athlete is responsible for his/her own insurance coverage. The school does not have an insurance plan for student/athletes. Each student/athlete must provide proof of insurance to participate in athletics. Students who need health insurance coverage, or do not have health insurance coverage, are encouraged to purchase school insurance for a minimal amount of money through the main office. This will cover student/athletes while participating in all sports except football.

**9. Practice-** If a student/athlete does not have 10 days of supervised practice by a coach of the sport they are participating in, they are not eligible.

- Conditioning can be counted in the 10 days of practice. All 10 days must be completed before the student/athlete can participate in a scheduled contest. Special note to this rule: Girl's Golf, according to the IHSAA, is the only exception to this rule; only 2 days of practice are required.
- In order for a student to play or participate in an athletic event they must attend practice daily unless they have a proper written excuse which is accepted by the school corporation.
- If a student misses school on a Friday, or a Friday practice and has a Saturday contest they may participate in the contest if they provide the coach with a written note from their parents or a physician to the coach of their sport, or the administration, which will clear them to play.
- During organized or unorganized practices you as an athlete are not to begin without supervision by a coach or someone appointed by the administration to run the practice.

**10. Quitting One Sport and Moving on to Another-** If a student/athlete decides to quit one sport and go on to another sport, the following conditions must be met:

- If this occurs before the first contest that the team has played (that the student/athlete is quitting) the student/athlete must practice 10 days before participating on the new team in a contest against another school.
- If this occurs during the season (after the first contest with another school and before the last contest scheduled or to be made up with another school) the student/athlete can not practice or participate with any other team. If the coach of the team who is losing the player agrees he/she may release the player who has quit to join another program after the last regular season or make up a date. Otherwise, the student/athlete must wait until the team they quit is eliminated from the IHSAA tournament. No student may participate with another program (team) before the coach has

released them under the above conditions.

#### **11. Participation in Multiple Sports During the Same Sports**

**Season-**Student/athletes may become eligible to participate in multiple sports during the same sports season provided the coaches of those sports reach an agreement regarding practice and game participation. This plan must be accepted by both coaches and the Athletic Director before the student/athlete can participate. Multiple sport students/athletes will be subject to the same lettering requirements as single sport athletes.

**12. Trainers and injuries-** We do have an athletic trainer available every day of the week after school. This service is through Franciscan Health Alliance program and is paid for out of school corporation funds. The Athletic Trainer Certified (ATC) is certified with the State of Indiana, and supervises several student trainers who attend classes in the summer and are routinely instructed by our trainer during the school year. Students are encouraged to report all types of injuries to their coach and the Athletic Trainer.

### **Award System**

Awards are made on the basis of coaching staff recommendations. An athlete must successfully complete the regular season to be considered for an award. Successful completion means the student/athlete must finish the regular season in good standing with the coach and be academically eligible to receive the minimum award for that sport. To receive a letter or team award they must finish the entire season, which includes all tournament contests in good standing, academically and athletically. Athletes receiving awards receive participation points on the following scale:



Sport	Varsity	Reserve	Freshmen
Baseball	15	8	5
Basketball	15	8	5
Cross Country	15	8	5
Football	15	8	5
Golf	15	8	5
Gymnastics	15	8	5
Soccer	15	8	5
Softball	15	8	5
Swimming	15	8	5
Tennis	15	8	5
Track	15	8	5
Volleyball	15	8	5

Wrestling	15	8	5
Cheerleading (for 2 sport seasons)	30	16	10
Student Manager or Trainer	15	8	5
Water Girl	5	3	
Part-time Trainer/Manager/Films (Fridays Only)	5		
Power Club	5		

#### Scholastic Achievement Points

Athletes, managers, and trainers will be awarded the following scholastic achievement points according to his/her grade point average at the end of each school year. These points and the above participation points will be used toward earning a jacket, blanket, and/or plaque.

Grade Point Average	Points
4.0-3.5	4
3.499-3.0	3
2.5-2.0	2
2.499-2.0	1

Varsity Award- The first varsity award the athlete will be awarded: White chenille block letter "T", sport insert on the letter, and 15 participation points. A chenille insert will be given for each varsity letter received after an athlete receives their first varsity letter. If you letter a 2nd and 3rd time in the same sport you will receive a certificate. The 4th year award in the same sport is a wooden plaque. Each letter is worth 15 points.

Reserve Award- The athlete will be awarded: a certificate and 8 participation points.

Freshman Award- The athlete will be awarded: numerals for the first sport they participate in, a certificate, and 5 participation points.

Special Point Awards

Most Valuable Player	3
Other Trophy Awards provided by the Athletic Council for teams	1
1st or 2nd Team All-State	3
Indiana All-Star	3
Mental Attitude Award (IHSA)	3
All-Conference	3
All-Conference (Honorable Mention)	1
3rd Team All-State	1
Honorable Mention All-State	1
State Champion (Individual)	3
State Champion (Team)	3

**Jacket Award-** An athlete may purchase their athletic letter jacket once they have accumulated two (2) varsity letters, and have finished their Freshman year of high school. The cost of the jacket is paid by the athlete.

**Blanket Award-** Upon accumulation of one hundred twenty-five (125) participation points and earning at least five (5) varsity awards, a blanket with a white chenille block lettered "T" attached will be awarded.

**Plaque Award-** Upon accumulation of one hundred fifty (150) participation points and earning at least 8 varsity awards, a plaque with the athlete's picture and all awards earned by the athlete will be engraved on it.

### **Special Awards**

**Most Valuable Player Award-** This award will be given to the athlete who has contributed the most during the season. This award will be given during each varsity season in each sport.

**Most Improved Player Award-** This award will be given to the athlete who has contributed to the team and shown the most growth in improving his/her abilities. This award will be given during each varsity season in each sport.

**Category Achievement Awards-** Other special awards for achievement in certain categories may be awarded in each varsity sport. These awards will be held to a minimum.

**Patch Awards-** Members of a team or an individual winning conference, sectional, regional, semi-state, and/or state will receive special awards. This will be in the form of a chenille emblem for their sport. These are the responsibility of the head coach of each sport to order through the Athletic Department. Patches that seem fit to award their athletes will be purchased from their budget, special accounts fund, or by authorizing the athlete to purchase their own patches.

### **Special Awards From Families**

The following awards have been donated to Tipton High School and are given to the student/athletes who meet the criteria set by the families:

***The David King Memorial Award:*** this award is given to a football player who meets the criteria set, and the football staff chooses the winner. The winner will be announced at the Fall Athletic Awards Program. The winner will receive a plaque, and have their name engraved on the permanent trophy displayed in the high school trophy case.

***The Greg Overdorf Mental Attitude Award:*** this award is given to a Senior who is nominated by the varsity coaches, the principal, and the athletic director. These people are reviewed by the head basketball and football coaches, the principal, and the athletic director. The name or names of the best qualified person(s) are given to the Overdorf family to make the final decision. This award is given during the Senior Awards Program. The winner will receive a plaque, and have their name placed on the permanent plaque located in the Overdorf Trophy Case.

***The Marty Walker Memorial Award:*** this award is given to a member of the girls track team. The family has set up a point system for the members of the team to earn during the season. The girl with the most points earned during the seasons is the winner of the award. This award is given during the awards program for the Girls Track, or Senior Awards Night if the winner cannot be determined before the state finals meet. The winner will receive a plaque, and have their name placed on the permanent plaque displayed in the high school trophy case.

***The Brian Melton Memorial Scholarships*** - this award (two equal scholarships) is given annually by the Melton Family to runners who have participated in boys or girls cross country and/or track while in high school, and plan on attending college. Distance

runners will be given first consideration for this award. This award will be given at the Senior Night Awards Program.

***The Mike Hoover Memorial Scholarship*** - this award (may be more than one) is given by the Mike Hoover Scholarship Committee to a graduate of Tipton High School who plans on attending a 2 or 4 year college on a full time basis. The recipient(s) must have participated in sports their Senior year or been excused for medical reasons. Preferential consideration will be given to applicants who have participated in sports all 4 years of high school. This award will be given at the Senior Awards Program.

### **Minimum Standards for Earning A Varsity Award**

The varsity coach of each sport will set the standards which need to be met in order to earn a varsity letter in that sport. These standards will be announced at the beginning of the season so that each athlete will know what needs to be done in order to achieve a varsity award.

Any athlete on a varsity team or reserve team who does not earn a varsity award may receive a reserve award.

Head coaches may recommend a varsity award for an athlete that makes a special contribution to the team but does not meet the minimum standards set.

### **Award Policies**

An athlete who quits during the season **will forfeit** any chance of earning any participation points and/or other awards in that sport for that season. An athlete who becomes ineligible for any reason during the season **may forfeit** any chance of earning any participation points and/or other awards in that sport. This decision will be made by the coaching staff who would have given the award(s).

**Awards Programs: Attendance** Is required if the athlete wants to receive his/her awards. If the athlete is not present to receive his/her jacket, blanket, or plaque they will forfeit the right to receive this award until the next Awards Program. The exception to this policy is - if the athlete presents the head coach of the athletic director with a written excuse at least one day prior to the awards program on why they can not be present, or if they are absent from school the day of the program. For individual letter awards given at the awards program, the head coach of that sport will make the decision on whether or not the athlete must wait until the next awards program to receive their award.

**Academic Requirements for NCAA:** Any student who feels they are in a position to receive any type of monetary help as an athlete in college should contact their guidance counselor, or the athletic director, concerning NCAA ClearingHouse. All prospective

NCAA Division I and II athletes must register with the NCAA ClearingHouse. Please see the guidance department for more information. **Note:** Listed GPA and SAT/ACT score represents only the minimum NCAA standards for Freshman eligibility in Division I and II. Keep in mind that these standards do not reflect the admission requirements of individual colleges and universities which vary greatly in regard to GPA and standardized test scores.

**Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT); American College Test (ACT)** - All prospective student/athletes must take and achieve a minimum score of the SAT or ACT to be eligible as college Freshman.

Financial Assistance (Federal and State) - All college bound students should complete and submit the standard Financial Aid Form to be considered for financial assistance. This is a free application. To be considered for state aid, the Financial Aid Form must be postmarked no later than March 1. Please note that current tax return information is necessary to complete the form.

### **Coach/Parent/Student Communication**

A vital part of the Tipton High School educational program is the interscholastic athletic program. The purpose of such a program is to develop desirable attitudes and habits towards Sports in particular and life in general; to promote unity and cooperation among athletes, coaches, parents, and administrators and to better prepare young people for post-school competition in society.

### **Parent/Coach Relationships**

Both parenting and coaching are extremely rewarding but sometimes-difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each other's positions, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to our young men and women. As parents, when your children become 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 student's program.

### **Communication Parents Should Expect From Their Student Athlete/Athlete's Coach**

- **Philosophy** of the coach
- **Expectations** the coach has for your child (i.e. what is your child's role

on the team).

- **Locations and times** of all practices and contests (realizing flexibility is necessary).
- **Team requirements**, i.e., fees, camps, special equipment, off-season conditioning, level of skill required.
- **Procedure** should your child be injured during the participation.

### **Communication Coaches Should Expect From Parents**

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflict well in advance
- Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations

### **Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches**

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

### **Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches**

- Playing Time
- Team Strategy
- Play Calling
- Other Student Athletes

### **Procedures For Resolving Concerns**

As your children become involved in the programs at Tipton high school, 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.

1. The first step in resolving issues with the coaches to see if your student athlete can resolve the issue. Often a discussion with a coach resolves miscommunication or other issues. Remember part of the process of education and growing up is conflict resolution. Student-athletes are the first step in the process. If this death fails or is simply a matter that needs adult / parent attention, then parents should move on to step two.
2. Sometimes a situation will require a conference between the coach and the parent. These conferences are encouraged if there is a problem. It is important both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. when

conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution of the issue or concern.

- a. Call to make an appointment with the coach (765) 675-7431
  - b. If the coach cannot be reached, the Athletic Director will assist you in making the appointment
  - c. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER A CONTEST OF PRACTICE. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.**
3. In the rare event that an issue with a coach cannot be resolved, the Athletic Director may be contacted for a meeting if deemed necessary.

## **Parent (Fan) Decorum**

### **Rule 3, Article C-3-6. Page 15 IHSAA By-Laws**

“A member schools responsibility includes the responsibilities of instituting full and complete team and crowd control measures at all contests.... assuring that the participants, staff and boosters of the member School conduct themselves at all times in a proper and sportsmanship manner, assuring full compliance..... of the member school of all Association rules....”

At a time when Society is experiencing increased incidence of physical confrontations and unmanaged anger, often associated with youth sports, Tipton High School wishes to communicate a philosophical stance of keeping our athletes, coaches, and fans safe; insisting on proper behavior, and continuing our positive reputation as regards to sportsmanship.

We recognize that a majority of our parents and fans set a behavioral example of the highest standard. However, the few who do not, force us to address society's increased volatility and 2 author policy.

As much as our coaches have certain standards of expected behavior (Coaches Handbook), our student-athletes are governed by the Athletic Handbook, and regular students are subject to school rules at athletic events; it becomes incumbent upon us to set standards for the behavior of our adult fans and parents.

Tipton High School will not condone or permit inappropriate behavior directed toward Tipton staff or players, the opposing school and all its representatives, or game officials. Such Behavior can cause the school to suffer severe sanctions from the IHSAA. Inappropriate behavior is embarrassing to the school and reflects poorly on our values as a community.



It is important that there is a clear understanding of the facets of the structure of High School athletics and the relationships involved.

1. There is no inherent right to participate. coaches will keep those Players whose skills and attitudes meet the needs of the program, as defined by the coach.
2. Likewise, the coach alone is responsible for deciding who plays and how much.
3. By allowing one's child or children to play in sports, the parent is, in effect, turning the child over to that coach for that time period.
4. Coaches are professionals and until proven otherwise, it is assumed that they are operating within the best interests of all student-athletes in their charge.
5. It is inappropriate for a parent to confront a coach after a practice or event. These times are needed for the coach to be attending other duties, and the risk of emotions running out of control too high. Parents should wait until the next day and schedule a meeting with the coach.
6. Making derogatory comments about the officials, coaches, players of either team or other parents and fans at athletic events is never acceptable.
7. Swearing in public at athletic events is never acceptable.
8. Coming to an athletic event intoxicated is not acceptable.

Parents who violate any of the above standards of decorum risk sanctions by the school corporation including, but not limited to, the following:

1. A warning, verbal or written
2. Removal from the contest or premises
3. Banishment from attendance at athletic contests for a set. Of time or even permanently
4. The severing of contact with team personnel
5. Follow up of civil or legal action

**We commend those parents and adults who have always exhibited exemplary behavior and who, by such, have served as positive role models for our student-athletes. We encourage our parents and adults to volunteer, to become involved with the teams, and to be supportive of the attempts of the entire community to educate our youth. We sincerely want to strive to make**

**sportsmanship at Tipton an expectation....**

Where we let the players play...

Coaches coach...

Officials officiate...

And let the fans be positive!