Athletic Eligibility

Rules (SCHSL and RCSD1)

In order to participate in interscholastic activities, a student must meet both SCHSL and RCSD1 requirements. SCHSL requirements include:

1. Age limitations
2. Birth certification
3. Academic requirements
4. Residency rule
5. Guardianship
6. Amateur status

Each of these requirements is listed in the ***High School League Handbook***. All middle and high schools in the District are full members of the SCHSL (www.schsl.org). The League establishes the rules and regulations governing athletic contests for member schools. The League is governed by the rules and regulation published in its "Handbook". This handbook contains the League's Constitution and all other rules and regulations of governance. All coaches must be thoroughly familiar with these rules and regulations. The coach is responsible for properly administering all rules governing his or her particular sport. The school athletic director is responsible for making sure all coaches under his/her supervision properly adhere to all League rules. These regulations include age of contestants, eligibility, official dates for start of practices, game standards, officials, etc.

In addition to the above eligibility requirements, a student may participate in a school-sponsored co-curricular activity only if (1) the student is currently enrolled in at least one-half of the minimum academic course load, and (2) the student was in attendance at school that day for at least one-half of the instructional day.

RCSD1's "C" Average Policy and Rule (IDE, IDE-R)

The "C" Average Policy (adopted January, 2000 and revised June, 2000) requires that as a condition for participation in competitive co-curricular activities, students in grades 6-12 have a 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) in all courses in which the student was enrolled in the preceding semester. School personnel should become familiar with the complete policy and administrative rule at www.richlandone.org. Another resource is the "C" Average Policy *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)* brochure that answers policy and rule questions pertaining to transfer students, special education students, academic assistance programs, appeals, summer school grades, etc. Eligibility of students in the programs for special education students will be in accordance with local, state and federal guidelines.

Certificates of Eligibility and Other Forms

According to SCHSL rules, each school will keep on file, a duplicate copy of all submitted eligibility forms, a parent's permission/Concussion record (See Forms) properly filled out and a physical form properly completed by a licensed doctor of medicine or a nurse practitioner in a written collaboration with a licensed medical doctor or a certified physician's assistant in a written collaboration with a licensed medical doctor.

Special Form A must be sent to the League Office on each transfer who has not been enrolled in his or her school or feeder school for at least one calendar year. The League Office must approve all transfer forms before the student is submitted on a Certificate of Eligibility.

Physical Examinations

In accordance with the regulations of the SCHSL, prior to participation in interscholastic practice/competition, a student will undergo a physical examination and be approved for interscholastic practice/competition by a medical authority licensed to perform a physical examination. Prior to each subsequent year of participation, a student will furnish a physical form signed by a medical authority licensed to perform a physical examination, which provides clearance for continued participation. **Physicals for the current school year must be dated April 1st of the current year in order to meet the yearly requirement**.

The school in which the student is enrolled must have on file a physical form signed by a medical authority licensed to give a physical examination, certifying that his/her physical condition is adequate for the activity or activities in which s/he participates.

To resume participation following an illness and/or injury serious enough to require medical care by a doctor, a participating student must present to school officials, a physician's written release.

Required forms:

1. A pre-participation physical (see Athletic Forms section) is required before participation, including practice time.
2. Parent Permission and Acknowledgement of Risk for Son or Daughter to Participate in Athletics section /Concussion information. These forms must be signed by student and parent.
3. Students must purchase the district's athletics insurance prior to trying-out for a team. If a student is cut from the team, the insurance premium will be refunded to the parents/guardians. If a student makes the team and name is submitted on the SCSHL's Certificate of Eligibility, the insurance premium will not be refunded if the student quits, or is dismissed from the team, or transfers to another district. 4. Concussion Information Form

5. Parent Release for Treatment form/Part of the Physical Form
6. Form are available Electronically at your school's Athletic Website and through Big Teams.

Athletic Participation Insurance

After the school has received the above documents, you must then pay for the RCSD1-required athletics insurance, which presently is $30 for each high school student and $20 for each middle school student.

Each year millions of students benefit from participation in interscholastic sports nationwide. Richland County School District One (RCSD1) is no exception and has developed a proud tradition of offering its students the opportunity to compete in most major sports.

Although extremely infrequent, serious injuries and death can occur, especially in the contact sports. This threat necessitates that the school system provides a reasonable level of accident insurance for all participants. Today, however, no available policy fully covers every contingency. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that each parent or guardian understands the scope of RCSD1's insurance protection and weighs the risks prior to releasing their child(ren) to participate.

Each student participating in interscholastic sports is required by school district policy to purchase the district's accident insurance. Each coach should observe the following guidelines:

1. A meeting will be held by the head coach of each sport to give an explanation of insurance requirements.
2. Before being included on the eligibility form, the student will pay the insurance premium as established RCSD1.
3. A student will pay the insurance premium once a year and the premium will cover all sports.
4. Insurance premiums collected will be turned in to the athletic director/coordinator so that a record of payment will be kept. An accurate record must be kept of students who pay for their insurance. You are encouraged to develop a system that will work for you.
5. All insurance premiums will be receipted as they are received.
6. Monies must be turned-in and receipted to the school's bookkeeper daily.
7. One school staff person will be responsible for all claim forms. All students should know where to pick up claim forms.
8. Upon payment of the premium, the student will be provided with a copy of an explanation of benefits.

9. The school is not responsible for filing claims or payment for medical reasons.

10. During the spring semester, RCSD1 will send a bill to each middle and high school for payment of the schools' athletic insurance premium.

Coverage under the RCSD1's program is characterized as "full excess coverage" Richland One is covered by Team Assure effective as of August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024. Any injured athlete should file their Insurance form (found on District Website) with Team Assure. The coverage is 80% coinsurance of Usual and Customary of most medical charges. It is Excess to any primary coverage, is 0 deductible, with a 52 week benefit period and with a $25,000 maximum per injury

If a student's primary medical coverage is an HMO or similar plan, parents must follow the HMO's rules for obtaining benefits. If the HMO is not utilized benefits otherwise payable under Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company's policy shall be reduced by 50%.

Following is an example of how a "full excess" is handled: A student incurs medical expenses of $100.00 for treatment of an injury sustained during football. The student's parents have private group insurance through Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS). The medical bills must first be submitted to BC/BS, being the primary carrier. They pay $65.00 and send an explanation of benefits (EOB) to the parents. The parents then submits a copy of the original bills and the BC/BS EOB's to the school's insurance carrier who will then pay 80% of the $35.00 (the amount of covered expense that is "in excess of medical expense paid by another plan providing medical expense benefits").

Claims Instructions:

In case of accident, notify school immediately. Secure claim form from school's Athletic Trainer or Athletic Director/Athletic Coordinator.

1. The claim form should be submitted within **90 days** from the date of injury.
2. Treatment must commence within **90 days** from the date of injury.
3. Please attach **itemized** bills from the doctor showing treatment, dates of treatment and charges to the claim form.
5. Please note the name of school district on all bills and correspondence. **NO ADDITIONAL CLAIM FORM IS NECESSARY.**
6. Do **NOT** leave claim form at the hospital.
7. All benefits will be made payable to Doctors and Hospitals involved, unless accompanied by paid receipts.

If you have any questions, call the claims department toll-free at 866-267-0092**.**