

Interscholastic Athletics

Coach's Duties

In accordance with district policy and the coach's job description, the coach has the duty to:

Instruct Participants

The coach should employ the latest methods or proper instruction using sound progression in presenting motor skills. If an injury occurs while using an improper instructional method, negligence may be present.

Warn Participants

The coach should inform all athletes and their parents of the inherent risks involved in participation in the particular sport, including the very small risk of infection with a blood-borne pathogen. The coach must describe, using a variety of methods, the catastrophic and common non-catastrophic injuries unique to the sport.

Supervise Participants

The daily plan should show how the coach plans to conduct general supervision of the sport, and how he/she will supervise specific drills and other components of the daily practice. Adequacy of supervision should be reviewed in terms of quality and quantity. Factors to consider include, but are not limited to: the age of the students, the size of the students, the equipment involved, the maturity level of the students, the first aid equipment and training available, the appropriate certification of supervisors where required, and the safety training of the personnel involved.

Provide Safe Equipment And Facilities

Equipment should be properly fitted and maintained. Athletes should be instructed on how to conduct a daily inspection. Facilities should be free of hazards and inspected regularly.

Maintain Records Of Injuries

A report should be completed for each accident. Injury reports should be maintained for a period of five years after the student's 21st birthday.

Evaluate Fitness Of Participants

The coach has a duty to evaluate the physical fitness, the medical condition, and the skill level of athletes. Failure to evaluate and maintain records of those evaluations may be cause for negligence should an injury occur involving fatigue or lack of skill.

Provide Equal Protection And Due Process

While participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, a participant who allegedly

violates the conduct code must be afforded the opportunity of a fair hearing.

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Transport Athletes Safely

A coach has a duty to see that athletes are safely transported to and from contests and to and from practices if practices are held at sites other than the immediate school grounds. **Students should only be transported in school vehicles by authorized drivers.**

Group Participants

The coach has the duty to employ a recognized system of grouping for participants in a particular sport that will avoid unequal and unsafe participation, based upon skill level, age, maturity, sex, size and experience.

Foresee Danger

A coach should be able to reasonably anticipate foreseeable dangers that may occur if the activity is continued in a facility, or with equipment, or in a situation, and take precautions protecting the children in his/her custody from such dangers.

Protect From Loss

A participant is required to present evidence that he/she is covered by an accident policy. A blanket catastrophic ("no fault") insurance provides coverage for serious injuries.

The duties listed above are not meant to be comprehensive. In carrying out the duties of the assignment a staff member is expected to act as a reasonable professional would have acted under similar circumstances. A staff member who supervises a sports activity is expected to know the intricacies of the activity that he/she is leading.

Summer Sports Activities/Clinics

Rules governing out-of-school and/or out-of-season student sports participation are as follows:

- A. A practice is defined as a teaching phase of a sport to any present, past or future squad member while a student in grade 7-12 during the school year or during the summer. The school may not sponsor, promote or direct activities which resemble out-of-season practices or contests during the school year or summer **as defined by the WIAA.**

A school staff member who sponsors, promotes or directs such activities during the summer vacation shall clearly indicate that he/she is operating independent of the school district. As such, the school district shall be free of liability associated with the activity.

- B. Students shall be advised that participation in a commercial summer camp or clinic or other similar type of activity shall not begin until the conclusion of the final WIAA state tournament of the school year. Participants in a fall school sports program may not attend any summer camp/clinic in that sport after August 1 until the first fall sports turnout. The school should announce by school bulletin that summer sports camp/clinic is neither endorsed nor sponsored by the district.
- C. A coach (contracted or volunteer) may not sponsor, promote, coach or direct activities which resemble out-of-season practices or contests in the sport they coach to any of their squad members or future squad members (grades 7-12) until after the school year's final WIAA state tournament.
- D. The use of the school bulletin board, public address system or school newspaper for promotional purposes to announce sports clinics/camps shall fall within the same guidelines as applied to other commercial endeavors **if not sponsored by the District.**
- E. School facilities to be used for summer activity and/or sports camps may be rented consistent with the rates, rules and regulations applicable for other commercial uses.

A user shall hold the district free and without harm from any loss or damage, liability or expense that may arise during or be caused in any way such use of school facilities. Authorization for use of school facilities shall not be considered as endorsement of or approval of the activity group or organization nor for the purposes it represents.

ATHLETIC CODE

~~The opportunity to participate in the interscholastic athletic program is a privilege granted to all students of the district. Participants in this voluntary program are expected to conform to specific conduct standards established by the principals and athletic coaches.~~

~~A student who is found by a certificated staff member of the student's school to be in violation of any rules is subject to removal from the team. Provision is made for a student who has allegedly violated one or more of the conduct rules to appeal a disciplinary action as specified in this code.~~

~~The following rules shall be applicable for a sports season:~~

Use And/Or Possession Of Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco

~~An athlete who is found to be in possession of alcohol or tobacco products may be~~

removed from the athletic team for three weeks (first offense). If the student violates the rule twice during the sports season, he/she will be dropped from the team for the season.

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Use And/Or Possession Of Illegal Chemical Substances Or Opiates

An athlete who is found to be in possession of one or more of the above will be removed from the team for the balance of the sports season.

Physical Appearance

An athlete shall maintain the dress and grooming standards of the team. First offense: verbal warning. Repeated offenses: removal from the activity for five (5) school days.

Curfew

An athlete shall be at his/her home by _____ p.m. each night of the sports season unless detained by a school activity. First offense: verbal warning. Repeated offense: removal from activity for five (5) school days.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

An athlete shall exhibit appropriate conduct in practices and/or contests. First offense: verbal warning. Repeated offense: removal from activity for five (5) school days.

Attendance At School

An athlete shall attend school for at least one half day on the day of an athletic contest. Penalty: If an athlete receives an unexcused absence for any portion of the day, the athlete shall be ineligible to participate in contest on that day. If excused, the athlete may participate if he/she was in attendance for one half day or more.

Absence From Practice

An athlete is expected to be in attendance at all team practices unless excused for illness or by prior approval. Penalty: ineligible to participate in next contest.

Violation Of Law On School Grounds

When a student is found guilty of an offense committed while on school grounds or at a school activity, the corrective action will depend upon the nature of the violation.

Repeated Offenses

If a student repeatedly violates one of the above rules, he/she may be removed from the team for the remainder of the sports season.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AGREEMENT

In contrast to other school activities, athletic participation is not a right of students, but is a privilege that must be earned by the athlete. It is earned by both academic achievement and personal conduct.

Academic Requirements

1. Eligibility for extra-curricular activities will be determined by the following:
 - a. Monitoring of grades will be a minimum of every two weeks in all classes.
 - b. Each student must pass, or be passing **ALL CLASSES**, in a seven period class schedule, and must maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA to be considered eligible for practice or games.
 - c. Student will not be allowed to attend practices or games if an in-school or out of school suspension is pending or being carried out.
 - d. Regular School Attendance is required.
2. Any student who has failing grades in **ANY** of his/her classes will be subject to the following monitoring procedures and requirements:
 - a. Any student with failing grades in **ANY** classes will be placed on academic probation until such a time as the failing grades are eliminated.
 - i. Student will be required to attend before, at lunch, and after school study hall until the failing grade has been improved to a "D" or better, so long as the "D" pulls the student past the minimum required GPA of a 2.0.
 - b. Students on academic probation will be allowed to practice, at the school administrator's discretion, but are not eligible to play in competition until their grades have improved to a level deemed acceptable. Students on academic probation will be required to arrive at school by 7:15 a.m. to attend the morning homework table.
 - c. Students on academic probation are required to suit up for each game, but will not participate in the game. Students remain a part of the team and must support the team from the bench until he/she becomes

academically eligible. This applies to home games only. Students on academic probation will not be allowed to participate in away games.

Extra-curricular activities include all school-sponsored activities, which are not directly related to course work. Cheerleaders, ASB for example, have to meet the same requirements as other athletes.

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Conduct Requirements

1. Athletes must abide by a curfew of 10:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. on school days and 12:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. on days not followed by a school day. Consequences for curfew violations and other conduct-related incidents:
 - a. 1st offense – miss one game
 - b. 2nd offense – miss two games
 - c. 3rd offense – out for the season

2. **Athletes must be in attendance the entire day in order to practice or play in a game.** On the day after games, participating students are expected to be in his/her 1st period classes on time. Any student more than 15 minutes late any day will not be eligible to practice that day. If a full period or more is missed due to lateness or illness, the student will not be eligible for the game. Exceptions for excused absences will be made by the Athletic Director. All other sanctions against tardiness and absence will also apply. Midweek games will be avoided where possible.

Elementary athletes are required to attend practice every day unless absent from school or excused by his/her parent/guardian. On the day of or day after games, participating students are encouraged to be in attendance the entire day and be in class on time. For every hour late to school, the participating student will lose (1) quarter of game eligibility of the very next game (or the equivalent to one quarter). Exceptions for excused absences will be made. See attendance policy on pages 7-11.

3. When the bus does not return to Wishram before midnight, participating students will be allowed to come to school at 9:00 a.m. without penalty. However, any participating student who arrives later than 9:15 will not be eligible to practice that day or be eligible for the next game.

4. **Students must return on the bus. Exceptions may be made if prior arrangements are made with the Athletic Director and the coach. Under no circumstances will a student be released to anyone other than a parent/guardian after an away game, unless prior arrangements have been made in the school office. Parents need to give the coach a signed and dated note in order to take students with them.**

5. Athletes must not use or be in possession of tobacco, illegal drugs or alcohol. Offenses are punishable as follows:

a. Tobacco:	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
1 st	miss one game	Out for season
2 nd	miss two games/ loss of letter	Out for season
3 rd	out for season	-----

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b. Drugs/Alcohol		
1 st	Drug/Alcohol Assessment/ Long term suspension(may Go to short term suspension If agree to follow recommendation Of drug/alcohol assessment	Out for season
2 nd	Long term suspension	Out for season

6. Training rules are in effect from the first day of practice until the end of the season, which includes holidays and weekends. However, students who use tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs during the off-season must accept responsibility for their own diminished performance and recognize that they will not play as often or as well as they could otherwise. The coach and/or the administration will investigate any reported violations. Any student may be reported by any employee of the school district or by a school board member and will be considered in violation of these rules.

7. Students are warned that by being in a car or a home where others (particularly students) are in possession and/or using illegal drugs or alcohol, they may be considered to be in possession themselves. Anyone arrested for drugs or alcohol possession will be considered in violation of training rules.

8. Athletes are expected to conduct themselves properly on the playing floor or field, on the bus to and from games, and to willingly follow all directions of his/her coaches. Participation can be denied if these requirements are not met.

9. Any student who is removed from the team for disciplinary reasons may request a hearing.

CONDUCT DURING SPORTS EVENTS

The following is an outline of rules that students will follow with the assistance of their parents and game supervisors.

- a. Once in the building the student is expected to be in the gym watching the game. If there is excessive wandering, the student will be asked to leave. (This includes wandering the halls.)
- b. Locker rooms for home team and visiting team are off limits to everyone except team members.
- c. Harassing or vulgar remarks directed towards opposing team members or referees are prohibited. Offenders will be asked to leave the building immediately.

APPEAL PROCESS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When infractions occur within the athletic program, the following process may be followed:

A. Upon the imposition of penalty for infraction(s) of said rules or regulations, any aggrieved student and parents of said student shall have the right to an informal conference with the building principal and/or designee, activities director, and coach (Building Hearing Committee) to request that they refrain from enforcing the decision of the coach or ask the coach to reconsider. If the students and parents do not make a written request for this informal conference within five (5) school days of the action grieved, they will have waived their right to the conference and appeal procedure. The informal conference is to be held within three (3) school days of the request.

B. If the parties are unable to agree at the informal conference, the aggrieved party may appeal to the building eligibility committee. The building eligibility committee consists of the activities director and three student peers and three building staff members named by the building administrator. The building eligibility committee must meet within three (3) school days of the appeals request. The aggrieved party and the coach(es) shall be available as a resource.

C. The Building Eligibility Committee will hear the case in detail and will render a decision within three (3) school days after hearing the case.

D. The aggrieved party may appeal to the superintendent of schools within three (3) school days of the appeals decision. The superintendent of schools, after hearing the case in detail, shall render a decision within ten (10) school days of the hearing.

E. The aggrieved party may appeal the superintendent's decision to the disciplinary appeal council established in Policy 3300, Corrective Actions or Punishments, or to the board of directors in the absence of a disciplinary council, within three (3) school days. The disciplinary council or board of directors, after hearing the case in detail, shall render a decision on the case within ten (10) school days of the hearing. This decision shall be final.

Revision Dates: 02.14.11