Buckeye Central Local Schools

Athletic Handbook

Revised June 2025

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Introduction to Buckeye Central Athletics

In order to have an understanding on the part of all concerned, the following is presented so that students, parents, and other interested persons will have the necessary information. The district and building-level administrators, athletic director, and coaches of Buckeye Central Local Schools have developed this athletic code. Each head coach has the responsibility to distribute it to his or her athletes and see that it is read and enforced.

The athletic department believes that by following the code our athletes will create a positive self-image, gain peer acceptance, learn self-discipline, and establish a positive set of values for future involvement in society. In addition, each coach will see that every athlete on the squad receives a set of training rules before the season starts. Dedicated support of the stated philosophy and implementation by the athletes, coaches, and administration should insure the fulfillment of the valued purpose of athletics.

Philosophy of Athletics for Buckeye Central Local Schools

Athletics contribute to the overall educational experience of the participants. It allows students to strive to achieve goals beyond physical education classes. Our program at Buckeye Central has been constructed to fit into the total educational plan of the students.

Objectives –

- To teach students to win and lose gracefully and with sportsmanship.
- To give students another opportunity for success.
- To teach the idea of hard work to achieve goals.
- To teach teamwork.
- To promote fun and enjoyment.
- To increase the understanding and appreciation of all sports.
- To provide a balanced athletic program.
- To promote a sound physical and mental state.
- To create role models for the youth of the community.
- To promote enthusiasm and spirit in the school.

Administration of Athletics

Administration determines, in great measure, whether an organization is going to progress, operate efficiently, achieve its objectives, and have a group of individuals within its framework who are happy, cooperative, and productive. Administration has to do with directing, guiding, and integrating the efforts of human beings so that specific aims may be accomplished.

The athletic program at Buckeye Central will be conducted in accordance with all the rules and regulations put forth by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and the Northern 10 (N10) Athletic Conference. Yearly participants of sports should be encouraged. No sport is to be made a prerequisite for any other sport. No athlete should be encouraged to specialize in one sport.

Buckeye Central Local School District attempts to hire coaches that are the best qualified for the position. In accordance with Ohio Revised Code, we first attempt to hire from within the district. If there is no district hire, the position is posted in local media and the athletic director (AD) and/or the head coach of the sport reviews applicants. The AD and the principal then may interview the applicant. The principal then will recommend the best candidate to the superintendent for recommended approval by the Board of Education. All forms, paperwork, training, etc. required for the Pupil Activity Permit must be completed, documented, and submitted to the superintendent for recommendation to the Board of Education.

Buckeye Central Sports

All teams are based on the number of participants.

Fall –

Football – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Middle School (7^{th} & 8^{th})

Volleyball – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Middle School (7^{th} & 8^{th})

Golf (Boys & Girls) – Varsity and Junior Varsity

Cross Country (Boys & Girls) – Varsity and Middle School

Cheerleading – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Middle School

Winter –

Basketball (Boys & Girls) - Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman, Middle School (7^{th} & 8^{th})

Wrestling – Varsity and Middle School

Cheerleading – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman, Middle School

Spring –

Track (Boys & Girls) – Varsity and Middle School

Baseball – Varsity

Softball – Varsity

Northern 10 Athletic Conference Members

Buckeye Central Bucks	938 S. Kibler Street New Washington, OH 44854 (419) 492-2266
Bucyrus Redmen	900 W. Perry Street Bucyrus, OH 44820 (419) 562-7721
Carey Blue Devils	2016 Blue Devil Drive Carey, Oh 43316 (419)396-7638
Colonel Crawford Eagles	2303 SR 602 North Robinson, OH 44856 (419) 562-4666
Mohawk Warriors	605 SR 231 Sycamore, OH 44882 (419)927-6222
Seneca East Tigers	13343 US 224 Attica, OH 44807 (419)426-3312
Upper Sandusky Rams	800 N. Sandusky Avenue Upper Sandusky, OH 43351 (419) 294-2308
Wynford Royals	3288 Holmes Center Road Bucyrus, OH 44820 (419) 562-7828

General Athletic Department Policies

1. Athletes may only participate in one fall, winter, and spring sport.
2. Athletes participating in one sport may not participate in the organized practice of another sport.
3. All athletes are required to have an up-to-date physical prior to the first day of practice.
4. All athletes/parents are required to have ALL forms signed off on Final Forms prior to the first day of practice.
5. It is recommended that all student athletes ride with the team to and from all sporting events unless the situation is approved to drive separately due to logistics as determined by the AD or principal.
6. Once an athlete has participated in a contest (scrimmage or regular season), that athlete cannot join another sport during that season. That athlete also is ineligible to participate in off-season conditioning, open gyms etc. until the completion of their original sport. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by the AD, head coach of the sports involved, and the principal.
7. Any athlete that fails to report to school by 11:05 shall not practice or participate in a contest that day unless a doctor or dentist excuse is presented. Other excusable absences include attending a funeral, college visits, or action determined by the principal.

Other informational items

- At BC, we wish for all of our teams to show proper sportsmanship while representing our school. Each team is encouraged to always be a class act on and off the playing surface. Part of this responsibility is to show our host school the proper attention it deserves. Always respect the property of other school's and maintain a proper relationship with our hosts.
- Sportsmanship expectations as per league rules. See NEOLA Policy 2431B F1-F6.

Buckeye Central Athletic Awards

- An awards night will be held at the end of each sports season. During this evening, awards will be issued and athletes will be recognized for the respective sports.
- The AD may recall an award because of conduct unbecoming of an athlete, regardless of the season it is.

High School

- All participating athletes will receive their numerals (one set per athlete).
- All participating junior varsity athletes will receive a certificate of participation.
- All varsity athletes eligible to letter will receive –
    - First year – Block BC letter, sports pin and bar
    - Second year – Certificate and bar
    - Third year – Plaque and bar
    - Fourth year – Mounted block BC letter and bar
- Any athlete that receives 12 varsity letters will be presented with a special plaque.
- Each sport is to present special awards that are determined by the coach and with AD approval.

Eligibility for Varsity Awards

- All senior athletes in good standing will receive a varsity award.

Football

To be eligible for a varsity award, an athlete must meet the following criteria.

1. Play in half the quarters (20) of all the varsity contests during the season.
2. The player has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, and given his best effort for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete quarter credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of quarters.

Volleyball

To be eligible for a varsity award, an athlete must meet the following criteria.

1. Play in half the matches of the varsity contests during the season.
2. The player has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, given her best effort, and contributed to the varsity team for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete match credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of matches.

Golf

To be eligible for a varsity award, an athlete must meet the following criteria.

1. The athlete must accumulate 10 points in varsity matches.

- To earn points you must score in a nine-hole match. All points are awarded per nine holes. Scores are based only on BC team members, not the entire match scores.
    - Best score = 4 points
    - 2nd best score = 3 points
    - 3rd best score = 2 points
    - 4th best score = 1 point
        - Tie scores are added and divided between the tied players.

2. The player has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, and given his/her best effort for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete point credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of points.

Cross Country

To be eligible for a varsity award, an athlete must meet one of the following criteria.

1. Score 20 points in a season, using the following scoring.

Dual Meet	***Tri/Quad Meet***	***Large Meet***
Win = 3 points	Win = 4 points	Win = 5 points
Top 10 = 2 points	Top 10 = 3 points	Top 1/3 = 4 points
	Top 15 = 2 points, if tri-meet	Top 2/3 = 3 points
	Top 20 = 2 points, if quad-meet	Top ¾ = 1 point

2. Make all N10 First Team.
3. The player has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, and given his/her best effort for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete quarter credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of points.

Basketball

To be eligible for a varsity award, an athlete must meet the following criteria.

1. Play in half the quarters (44) of all the varsity contests during the season.
2. The player has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, given his/her best effort, and contributed to the varsity team for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete quarter credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of quarters.

Wrestling

To be eligible for a varsity award, an athlete must meet the following criteria.

1. Play in half the matches of all the varsity contests during the season.
2. The player has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, given his/her best effort, and contributed to the varsity team for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete match credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of matches.

Baseball/Softball

To be eligible for a varsity award, an athlete must meet the following criteria.

1. Play in half the innings of all the varsity contests during the season.
    - An inning played is defined as a player's appearance either offensively or defensively in any inning at any position regardless of the score or number of outs.
2. The player has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, given his/her best effort, and contributed to the varsity team for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete inning credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of innings.

Track

To be eligible for a varsity award an athlete must meet one of the following criteria.

1. An athlete must score 20 points in varsity competition based on the following.

Points Awarded per Type of Meet				
Place	*Dual*	*Tri*	*Quad*	*Big Meet*
1st	5	5	6	10
2nd	3	3	4	8
3rd	1	2	3	6
4th	-	1	2	4
5th	-	-	1	2
6th	-	-	-	1

    - Relays – Each participant receives ¼ of the team points for each relay event
2. A score in the N10 or District meet AND have half the points from above.
3. An athlete who has competed at the varsity level (top two in his/her event) during the vast majority of the season and has demonstrated varsity level effort can be awarded a varsity letter regardless of point total at the coaches discretion.

4. An athlete has demonstrated a good attitude, cooperated, and given his/her best effort for the entire season. The coaching staff can award an athlete point credit for the season to assist the athlete in achieving the required number of points.

Cheerleading

- Cheerleaders can earn varsity awards in only the season they cheer.
- A maximum of one letter can be earned in a year.
- Special awards can compensate those who cheer in more than one season.

Guidelines for Athletes

Education

The first and foremost concern for every student-athlete at BC is his/her education. His/her schoolwork is his/her top priority. High school and middle school students must have no more than one F in a grading period if they wish to participate in a sport in the next grading period. **Fall eligibility is determined by the grades of the 4th quarter of the previous school year.** If participation in sports causes an athlete's grade to drop, the athlete is expected to let the head coach know so help can be obtained. The AD will provide eligibility reports to the coaches at the end of each quarter.

Training Rules (Co-Curricular Code)

Every athlete at BC will follow the BC training rules. If the athlete or his/her parents refuse to sign the training rules, that athlete will be unable to participate.

Athletic Season Activities

All athletes must abide by the rules as set forth for the team on which they are participating. Athletes may only participate in one fall, winter, and spring sport. If a student decides to quit the team during the season and has participated in a contest, then that student will not be able to join another team during that season. On rare occasions, exceptions to this rule must be approved by the AD, head coach of the sports involved, and the principal.

Dress

Every athlete is expected to dress appropriately for school. On game days, the team (with coach approval) will determine if all team members should follow a specific dress code.

Class Attendance

A violation of the school handbook regarding attendance and tardiness will result in no participation. The only exceptions are if an athlete brings in a doctor, dentist excuse (any professional note), funeral or there is an emergency. The principal or AD must approve all early releases and tardiness. No athlete is excused from class unless authorized by the principal or AD, at the request of the coach or teacher.

Game Behavior

All athletes at BC will always respect coaches, other athletes, and officials. They are expected to play with class and represent the school to the best of their abilities. See Sportsmanship Policy on N10 website.

Injuries

All injuries are to be reported to the athletic trainer and/or head coach. Proper care of injuries is absolute. All coaches (if the AT is unavailable) should contact parents when an athlete is injured to the extent that treatment at home or with a doctor is required.

Suspension

School Cancellations

In the event of a school cancellation due to weather conditions, events may be held if the time allows for improvement of road conditions. Middle school contests and practices are cancelled for the day. High school practice may be held after noon, but all practice is voluntary and should not jeopardize the students' safety. Use of ParentSquare will be enacted to keep athletes/parents aware of the practice/game situation.

Physicals

All athletes must have a physical prior to any organized practice in which they participate. BC attempts to have a day where licensed medical professionals complete physicals. Dates and times of physicals will be announced and advertised.

Support of the Athletic Program

BC athletes are expected to always show good sportsmanship while involved in a contest or as a fan at BC contests. The downgrading of any athletic program or coach is not in the best interest of the school or its sports program. Always maintain a positive attitude towards our programs at BC.

Transportation

Students on teams must abide by the school rules with regard to transportation. All student-athletes must ride on the school sponsored transportation unless otherwise approved by the coach, AD or principal. A ParentSquare message from a parent

must be approved by the coach, AD or principal. No student may leave an event without permission from the coach. All students, if riding to or from an event, must ride with a parent/guardian or approved adult if not using school transportation. In certain cases, student athletes will be permitted to drive to or from an event with prior approval of the AD or principal. A ParentSquare message must be approved by the coach, AD or principal in order for any non-school transportation.

Co-Curricular Code for ALL Buckeye Central Athletes

An athlete/member of a co-curricular activity in the Buckeye Central School district shall not harm himself/herself, his/her team/organization, or his/her school by violating the following code. **All drug-related (A, B, & C) issues will follow the discipline in accordance with the board-adopted Drug Policy and the Student Handbook.**

I. ***Suspendable Offenses*** **-** A member of the team/organization will be suspended from team/organization activity if he or she is involved in any of the following:

   a. The use and/or possession of tobacco/E-cigarettes (or the like) would result in the minimum of step one of the Drug Policy dependent on the athletes drug history.
   b. The use and/or possession of alcohol would result in the minimum of step one of the Drug Policy dependent on the athletes drug history.
   c. The use and/or possession of illegal or counterfeit drugs not prescribed by a physician would result in the minimum of step one of the Drug Policy dependent on the athletes drug history.
   d. An arrest for a misdemeanor or felony charge.
   e. Stealing or willful destruction of school or personal property as a member of a Buckeye Central activity. (Discipline will be based upon administrative review and discretion).
   f. A violation of the school student code of conduct. (Based upon administrative review and discretion).
   g. Unsportsmanlike conduct in an athletic contest. As an athlete, the OHSAA policy for ejections will be followed.
   h. Participation (knowingly involved) at a non-approved/unsupervised party where one of the above violations occur.

- First Violation
  - The student will be denied participation for 20% of the sports season or activity period. The student will be denied participation in the current season, activity period, with any remaining percentage of the denial of participation applied to the next season, activity period, if needed. The parent/guardian/custodian and student will meet with the Athletic Director, the coach or advisor, and a building administrator to determine reinstatement date. The student athlete will also be restricted from any leadership role for the extent of the suspension.

- Second Violation
  - The student is denied participation in 40% of the sports season or activity period. The student will be denied participation in the current season, activity period, with any remaining percentage of the denial of participation applied to the next season, activity period, if needed. The parent/guardian/custodian and student will meet with the Athletic Director, the coach or advisor, and a building administrator to determine reinstatement date. The student athlete will also be restricted from any leadership role for the extent of the suspension.

- Third Violation
  - The student is denied participation from all activities for one calendar (365 days) year from the official notice of failure. The student will lose any leadership role for one calendar (365 days) year.

- Fourth Violation
    - Student athlete is suspended from all activities and leadership roles indefinitely.

II. ***Due Process***

a. Any violations of the co-curricular code will result in a hearing before the principal.

b. A student or his/her parents may follow the same procedures of the school's due process rules, if they so choose.

c. After the hearing, the principal will make a determination of the charges brought forth and if a suspension occurs the suspension will take place as stated in the report.

d. All appeals will be presented to the superintendent and must be within three workdays of the suspension.

III. ***Rules***

a. The head coach/advisor of the activity is responsible for the co-curricular code being presented to the students before the start of the season of the activity.

b. The coaching staff/advisor of any extracurricular activity has both the right and the responsibility to recommend suspension to the principal for any violation of this code.

c. This code is in effect for all students for the entire school year. The school year begins when the fall athletic season begins and concludes with the last contest or the school year closes, whichever occurs last in the calendar year. Infractions out of season will result as violations for the upcoming season and receiving the assigned penalty to begin the season.

d. Each coach has a set of rules that the team members must follow in addition to the co-curricular rules. They include –

i. A curfew of 10:30 PM on weekdays and 12:00 AM on weekends. Exceptions to this curfew must be obtained through the head coach/advisor.

ii. Missing practices – an athlete or member of the co-curricular activity must have a satisfactory excuse for missing practice and must inform the coach prior to the missed practice.

iii. School rules – all school rules apply to all participants in co-curricular activities and athletes. All coaches/advisors have the right to enforce their own set of rules in addition to the school rules.

iv. Eligibility – Each athlete must meet the Buckeye Central and OHSAA minimum for eligibility.

Agreement and Understanding

- I agree to adhere to the rules and regulations of the Buckeye Central Co-Curricular Code.

Participant Name ***_____ Grade _____***

Participant Signature _____ *Date* _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ *Date*_____