

ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK



BIG LAKE SCHOOLS

(Updated August 2025 - Mark Kuisle - Activities Director)

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REVISION NOTICE

This handbook may be modified at any time during the course of the school year. The most up-to-date version will always be available on our district website www.biglakeschools.org.

ABOUT US

At Big Lake Schools we believe that athletics and activities are an integral part of a comprehensive educational experience. We offer a variety of co-curricular activities designed to meet the interests of our students in grades 7-12.

Our programming provides opportunities for students to develop athletically, academically, socially and morally. Our focus is personal growth and development that leads to well-rounded individuals, who are better prepared for life's challenges.

Participants should expect to develop positive character traits such as interpersonal relationships, teamwork, leadership, sportsmanship, individual responsibility and accountability. Involvement in activities may also enhance the development of physical skills, a competitive spirit and school pride.

At Big Lake Schools, student participation in activities programs is a privilege, not a right. Students who elect to participate in activities will be held to high academic standards and will be expected to demonstrate proper standards of behavior and character, both on and off the playing surface.

Quick Facts

Mascot:	HORNETS
School Colors:	BLUE AND GOLD
School Song:	YOU'RE A GRAND OLD FLAG
Conference:	MISSISSIPPI 8 CONFERENCE
MSHSL Admin. Region:	REGION 8AA

Big Lake is a member of the Minnesota State High School League and the Mississippi 8 Conference. The Mississippi 8 Conference consists of: Becker, Big Lake, Cambridge-Isanti, Chisago Lakes, Monticello, North Branch, Princeton, St. Francis and Zimmerman.



ACTIVITY OFFERINGS

Athletics

<u>Season</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Fall	Sideline Cheerleading	9-12
	Boys & Girls Cross Country	7-12
	Football	7-12
	Boys & Girls Soccer	7-12
	Girls Swimming/Diving	7-12
	Girls Tennis	7-12
	Girls Volleyball	7-12
Winter	Boys & Girls Basketball	7-12
	Sideline Cheerleading	9-12
	Competitive Dance Team	7-12
	Girls Gymnastics	7-12
	Boys Hockey	9-12
	Girls Hockey	7-12
	Speed & Strength	9-12
Spring	Boys & Girls Wrestling	7-12
	Baseball	7-12
	Clay Target	7-12
	Boys & Girls Golf	7-12
	Boys & Girls Lacrosse	7-12
	Softball	7-12
	Speed & Strength	9-12
	Boys Tennis	7-12
	Boys & Girls Track/Field	7-12

Activities, Fine Arts & Clubs

<u>School-Sponsored Activity</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Band & Choir	7-12	Fashion Club	9-12
Pep & Jazz Band	9-12	E-Sports	9-12
DECA	9-12	FCA	9-12
Knowledge Bowl	9-12		
Math League	9-12		
One Act Play	9-12		
Robotics	9-12		
Speech	9-12		
Visual Arts	9-12		

REGISTRATION

Registration for all athletics and activities must be completed online through our online system called Affinety. Paper registration will not be accepted.

1. Go to biglakeschools.org
2. Click on “Activities” and “Register for Activities”
3. Click on the soccer ball
4. Login to your account
5. Select the activity/sport you would like to register for.
6. Once all activities are added, click “check out” and enter your payment information.

Athletic participants do need a current athletic physical on file with our office in order to be able to register for a sport. Athletic physicals are good for three years.

If you are having trouble registering, please contact the activities secretary at your respective building (middle or high school).

REGISTRATION FEES

All fees must be paid in full prior to participation in any activity. Payment plans can be arranged on an as needed basis. Families approved for educational benefits pay 50% of fee price. Fees are capped at \$1,000 per family per year.

Athletics

Middle School: \$125

High School: \$220

Activities/Fine Arts

Clay Target \$275

Robotics \$150

All others: \$110

Music Solo & Ensemble

\$20 per event

Scholarships (Reduced Fees)

Families facing financial hardship may complete a scholarship application form (available in our office). Scholarships are not guaranteed, but may be available to assist families in need. The activities office reserves the right to deny scholarship applications based on academic and/or school behavior standards.

Registration Fee Refunds

An activity fee refund can be requested up to the first contest or 14 days from the start of the season (whichever occurs first). Exceptions may be made for injury or illness that limits ability to participate in the activity or if the student transfers out of the district.

Lost Equipment/Uniforms

Participants are responsible for any/all equipment and uniforms that are distributed to them. Failure to return items will result in a fine equaling the replacement cost of the item(s) and could prohibit the student from future participation in Big Lake activities.

CODE OF CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS

All Big Lake School policies and student handbook regulations, as well as the policies of the Minnesota State High School League (available on their website) apply to student conduct while participating in activities. Violation of a policy may, and likely will, affect future participation in activities. If a student is participating in an activity that is offered in conjunction with another school district, the policies of that district may apply.

Code of Conduct

It is the expectation of Big Lake Schools that staff, students, parents/guardians/caregivers and community members model appropriate behavior when involved in student activities by following the Hornet Way.

The Hornet Way is based on five core values:

- Respect
 - Be considerate of self, others and other's beliefs and property.
- Responsibility
 - Be dependable and accountable.
- Kindness
 - Be caring, friendly and helpful.
- Honesty
 - Be truthful.
- Fairness
 - Be committed to the just treatment of others.



Student Participant Expectations:

1. **Attitude and Effort:** Bring a positive attitude and maximum effort every day in the classroom, during practice and in competition.
2. **Sportsmanship:** Demonstrate good sportsmanship towards teammates, coaches/advisors, opponents, officials and fans. Good sportsmanship reflects positively on every participant, team/group, our school/district, families, and community.
3. **Be a good teammate:** Demonstrate care for each other by striving to build strong relationships. Relationships are built on trust, respect and caring for each other. All participants are important to the team/group and play a vital role in its success.
4. **Be a good citizen:** Citizenship standards of honesty, respect, compassion and responsibility are set high. Participants should strive to be role models for peers, younger students and our community. Behavior can and does affect a team/group's success.

Parent/Guardian Expectations:

1. Encourage your student to get involved.
2. Encourage your student to demonstrate respect and compassion for their teammates, show good sportsmanship, make good decisions, accept their role on the team/group and give their best effort everyday.
3. Be a good listener. Being involved in activities is emotional and involves great dedication. Help your student to navigate the many experiences they will have while in activities.
4. Know and understand the goals and purpose your student has in participating and support them in their efforts towards meeting their goals.
5. Become familiar with, and review the team and activities department rules and regulations with your student.
6. Treat all coaches/advisors with courtesy and respect and insist your student does the same.
7. Make every effort to accompany your student to informational meetings offered by the coach/advisor and activities department.
8. Assure that your student attends all scheduled practices and events.
9. Provide timely transportation of your student prior to and following practices or events.
10. Attend as many events as possible to show support for your student, the team and the school.
11. Always show respect to game officials, as they are doing their best to ensure a fair contest.

Coach/Advisor Expectations:

1. Successfully meet and complete expectations of Big Lake Schools and of the MSHSL to be hired and approved.
2. Help every participant reach their full potential and develop a positive environment for this growth.
3. Grow personally and professionally in the areas of organization, positive relationship development, and program vision.
4. Develop high expectations for all involved in the program.
5. Effectively communicate expectations, rules and team policies with participants and parents/guardians.
6. Provide parents/guardians/caregivers with practice times and a cumulative list of events.
7. Provide proper supervision in locker rooms, weight room, other school facilities and while traveling to away events.
8. Abide by the National Federation of State State High School (NFHS) Coaches Code of Ethics.
9. Abide by all Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) bylaws, rules and policies.
10. Follow all fourteen duties related to coaching and negligence.
11. Always show respect to game officials, as they are doing their best to ensure a fair contest.

PARTICIPANT RULES & POLICIES

Eligibility Requirements

Participation in student activities is a privilege, not a right. In order for a student to participate in activities, they must meet the eligibility requirements set by the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) and Big Lake Schools. All MSHSL bylaws, rules and policies shall be enforced when applicable.

- A. All athletes must have an athletic physical on file, be registered and their fee paid prior to participation in any practice or contest.
- B. Age/Grade: Students in grades 7-12 are eligible to participate in activities
- C. Enrollment/Residency: Students need to be enrolled as a Big Lake student or reside within the Big Lake School District boundaries and utilize an approved alternative academic option (i.e online school or homeschool).
 - a. Minnesota Statutes allow homeschooled students to be eligible to participate in League sponsored activities for the public school in their resident school district attendance area.
 - i. Parents/caregivers or legal guardians of home school students who live within the district and wish to have their student(s) participate in a Big Lake School activity must:
 - 1. Provide the district office with a written request for their student(s) to participate, prior to registration.
 - 2. Comply with all eligibility requirements.
 - 3. Complete any/all required documentation with the district office.
 - b. If you have questions regarding your student's eligibility, please contact the Activities Director prior to registration.
- D. Multi-Sport Participation/Dual Rostering: It is recommended that students only participate in one sport per season. If a student wishes to participate in more than one sport at a time, prior approval is required by both head coaches and the Activities Director prior to registration. The student will be required to meet all expectations of their primary sport before participating on the secondary team. Students may not switch sports after the season has begun, without the mutual consent of both head coaches and the Activities Director.
- E. Students participating at the varsity, junior varsity, b-squad or 9th grade team cannot participate on a non-school team in that same sport during their high school season.

Academic Eligibility

The Big Lake Activities Department believes a student's academic work is the most important part of their education; thus, students participating in activities will be required

to maintain satisfactory academic performance and be making progress towards graduation, in order to participate.

- A. Participant grades will be checked every other Monday during the school year. The first grade check will be the third Monday after school starts. In the event that grade check dates fall on a non-school day, grades will be checked the next day.
 - a. If a student is failing one or more classes at a grade check, they will be suspended from games/events until they get all their grades up to a passing level. Suspensions go into effect the Wednesday after checks are completed.
 - i. Students deemed academically ineligible may still participate in practice at the discretion of their coach/advisor/administration.
 - ii. While suspended a student will not be dismissed from school to travel to the away contest(s).
- B. End of year grades will carry over to the fall season. In the event a student fails one or more classes at the end of the spring term, they will be ineligible from competing in the first contest/event of the fall season in their respective activity.
 - a. Students may be able to regain eligibility for the fall season via summer school.
 - i. Spring term grades do not carry over beyond the fall season.
 - b. Any student with one or more failing grades at the end of a term will serve a two game/contest suspension. At the conclusion of the suspension, students will be allowed to compete, should they be in good academic standing at that time.
 - i. Unless pre-approved by the building principal, these same requirements apply if a student drops a class in which they were failing.
 - c. While suspended a student will not be dismissed from school to travel to the away contest(s).
 - d. Students participating in an activity that includes a graded event are not suspended for those events (Ex: music concerts).
- C. Grade Appeals: At the request of the advisor/coach, teacher, or family, an appeals board will be established, within two school days of the written request, to rule on special academic cases involving extenuating circumstances.

Attendance

- A. Attendance in School: Students are expected to be on-time for each class period and attend all of their classes on a daily basis. Students must be in school by **(11:00 am)** for their scheduled in-person classes in order to attend practices and contests/events that same day. The only exception would be if the student receives prior approval from the Activities Director and/or Building Principal.
- B. Suspension from School: Students suspended from school will be ineligible for practices or events the day of the suspension and until they return to school. Additionally, the student

may face further consequences, based on the discretion of the Activities Director and Building Principal.

- D. Attendance in Activities: Any absence from a scheduled practice and/or event will be considered unexcused unless the student receives prior approval from the advisor/coach with a note and/or email from the parents/guardians/caregivers. Unexcused absences may result in suspension, loss of playing time, or potential dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season.
- E. Attendance to out-of-season practices: Teams that conduct practices during the off-season or during the summer cannot require students to attend. All out-of-season practices are voluntary and participation may in no way directly affect the following season's placement.
- F. Early Dismissal: Students needing to leave early for an event, will be excused through the attendance office.
- G. Late night return of game/event: If a team/group arrives back to campus after midnight, participants will be excused from 1st period the following morning. The coach/advisor must notify the Activities Office and provide the names of the participants.

Injuries / Concussions

- A. Big Lake Schools contracts with NovaCare to provide an athletic trainer for our participants and teams, including non-athletic. The trainer will be available during posted office hours and during all home varsity contests.
 - a. Trainer will also be available for home junior varsity contests that run concurrently with the varsity, as well as all home high school-level football games.
- B. All injuries should be reported to your coach/advisor, and if necessary, the athletic trainer.
- C. After a major injury, illness or surgery, students must provide a note from their physician clearing them for a return to participation.
- D. Participants in contact sports will undergo ImpACT Concussion Testing as a baseline test, prior to the start of their season.
- E. If an athlete is suspected to have or displays signs/symptoms of a concussion, **they will be pulled from the athletic event.**
 - a. All 7-12th grade coaches/advisors and volunteers are required to complete MSHSL concussion training prior to coaching their activity.
 - b. If there is an athletic trainer onsite (home or away events) they should perform an evaluation.
 - c. If a concussion is suspected by the athletic trainer (or coach), **a parent or guardian should be notified** if they are present at the event or by phone as soon as possible regarding the proper plan of care.
 - d. If a concussion is suspected the athlete must first see a **physician** following the head injury, preferably the day of or after the event.
 - e. The ATC **cannot** start the concussion protocol without the first initial physician visit.

- f. ATC will complete concussion protocol in this order:
 - i. Return to learn
(This is monitored closely with school personnel. The nurse is made aware of the situation in order to get emails out to teachers regarding school restrictions.)
 - i. ImPACT re-test
 - ii. Return to play

Following the completion of the protocol, the athlete must return back to the physician for a final evaluation. Athletes need to be officially cleared by a physician after completing all necessary concussion protocol steps.

- Exception: ATC has the final say if the physician clearly states in their notes that the athlete does not need to come back for the final evaluation.

Use of Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs

At any time during the calendar year, regardless of whether a student is in-season or not, a student shall not use or be in possession of a beverage containing alcohol; or use, consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away marijuana, tobacco, or any substance defined by law as a controlled substance. This includes vapes and e-cigarettes. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by their doctor.

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary actions that will affect the participants ability to compete and/or perform, as outlined in [MSHSL Bylaw 205](#). Appeals of suspensions may be made to the MSHSL.

Hazing Policy

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning and working environment for students and staff that is free from hazing and religious, racial or sexual harassment and violence. Hazing and harassment activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times. Full language of this policy can be found in [District Policy 526 "Hazing Prohibition"](#).

Team Captainship

Team Captain Eligibility: In order to be eligible to be a team captain and remain as a captain, students cannot be found in violation of any MSHSL or Big Lake Schools policy or student handbook regulation. Additionally, the student must be performing captain duties as outlined by their coach in a satisfactory manner. A captain is expected to be role models in the classroom/hallways, practice/game setting and in our community.

Transportation

Student participants are expected to travel to and from away events, or off-site practices, by school provided transportation, when available. Exceptions to this policy require prior approval from the Activities Office.

Participants may ride home with their own parent(s) or guardian(s), if they fill out the online Student Travel Release Form 24-48 hours prior to their away event. Participants cannot leave with their friend's parents, siblings or other family members.

Lettering

A varsity letter is presented to students who display the highest level of commitment, contributions and achievements in their activity. Completion of the activity season, in good standing, is required in order to be eligible for a letter. First time letter-winners will receive a certificate, an activity pin and a "BL" chenille letter patch. The second and subsequent a student fulfills lettering requirements, they will receive a certificate and a bar/activity pin.

Other Considerations:

- Coach/Advisor may letter team managers, at their discretion.
- A student who violates MSHSL bylaws or rules resulting in a suspension or ineligibility, may not be eligible for a letter, may forfeit the ability to receive team awards.
- Once a student has earned a letter and if after the season is over, a rule is violated, the letter cannot be taken away.
- By special recommendation of the advisor/coach, a student who has not met the lettering requirements may still letter if they have proven to be an exceptional asset.
- Letters and/or awards may be withheld if fee payments are still outstanding.
- All letters are finalized at the discretion of the coach/advisor and the Activities Director.

All activity programs must have lettering criteria, specific to their sport/activity, on file and approved by the Activities Director. The criteria should be discussed with participants at the beginning of each season.

TEAM LEVELS & LIMITING

Playing time is not a right but a privilege that is earned through sportsmanship, team play, respect, discipline and hard work. The coaches will evaluate each student's social, emotional, physical and educational needs. The coaching staff has the autonomy to move a student from one level to another during the regular season. Coaches will determine post season rosters and regular/post season relay teams.

Varsity / Junior Varsity

These levels concentrate on competition success and winning by playing/involving the best students available, as determined by the coach/advisor. By no means is it a win at all costs

philosophy, but a strong effort to win the contest will be made by the players and the coaches. Participation and skill development, while still important, will play a smaller role. All participants may not play in every contest. Cuts will be made at this level when tryouts are necessary. Criteria and expectations for cuts will be determined by the head coach.

B-Squad / 9th Grade

There is less of an emphasis placed on winning at these levels and more emphasis placed on participation and skill development. Participation does not mean equitable playing time. Cuts will be made at this level when tryouts are necessary.

7th / 8th Grade

Middle School programs emphasize equitable participation and skill development. Less emphasis will be placed on winning. When possible, “A” and “B” teams may be determined, in order to provide more playing time opportunities for all participants. No cuts will be made at this level.

Moving Up Levels

The following guidelines will be considered before a student is moved from their designated level of competition, up to a higher level:

- Emotional, social and physical maturity
- Current and prospective skill level
- Filling a team need or necessity
- A student will not be moved up level(s) unless he/she is an impact player (one who will be a starter or early off the bench), we will not move students just for the practice experience.
- Academic status and ability to maintain that status with the demands of playing at a higher level

The final move must be discussed with and approved by the parent/guardian/caregiver, student, coach and Activities Director.

Limiting

At all high school levels, limiting the number of players may be necessary to conform to squad size requirements.

Choosing members of the squad or cast is the sole responsibility of the coaches or advisors of those activities. It is also the responsibility of the coach/advisor to inform all candidates of the criteria established that will be used to determine the squad or cast members. There will be no appeal of the coach or advisor’s final decision.

Squad/Cast limitation procedure:

- A. Completion of a minimum number of practice sessions or a set audition period, as determined by the coach/advisor.

- B. Candidates will be personally informed of the cut decision by the coach/advisor.
- C. Coaches/Advisors may discuss alternate possibilities for participation in the sport or activity.

COMMUNICATION

The Big Lake Activities Department puts student safety and well-being as our top priority. If a parent or participant becomes aware of any hazing, bullying, or dangerous behavior - they should contact the Activities Director immediately. For general concerns, please follow the protocol below.

Communication Protocol & Expectations

For all involved parties to be successful in student activities, effective communication must occur. This communication protocol specifies the person(s) who should be contacted first when there is a concern. Staff members should be contacted in the following order. If a resolution is not achieved at the first level of communication, the next person in the communication protocol may be contacted.

- 1) Coach/Advisor directly involved with the student
- 2) Head Coach/Advisor
- 3) Activities Director
- 4) Building Principal
- 5) Superintendent
- 6) School Board Chair

Communication from Coach/Advisor

It is reasonable to expect that your student's coach/advisor to inform you of:

- Philosophy of the coach
- Expectations the coach has for your student
- Location and times of all practices and games
- Team requirements such as equipment, practice uniform, etc.
- Procedures to follow should you need to contact the coach/advisor
- Discipline matters that may result in the restriction of your student's participation

Communication from Parents

We encourage fluid communication from parents/guardians/caregivers to coaches and advisors. This communication should take place during a scheduled meeting or if appropriate via email.

Parents/guardians/caregivers should refrain from confronting a coach or advisor immediately prior to or following a contest. This can be an emotional time for all parties and conversations occurring during this time do not promote objective analysis of the situation. Parents/guardians/caregivers should not communicate with coaches/advisors via text messages or personal cell phones. All communication should be done via school district email or a phone app. In an emergency situation the coach/advisor/administrator will communicate with the parent/guardian/caregivers via a phone.

It is inappropriate to discuss the following items with a coach/advisor:

- Playing time
- Team strategies
- Play calling
- Enter the playing surface or bench area (unless requested by the coach or Athletic Trainer)

- Other players or students

Communication from Students

Students should not communicate with coaches/advisors via text messages or personal cell phones. All communication should be done via school district email or phone app.

Students should communicate openly with their coach/advisor about the following items:

- Expected absences or tardiness from practices or games
- Family vacations
- Academic eligibility concerns
- Asking for, and being open to, improvement ideas

Social Media Guidelines

As an educational institution, Big Lake High School supports and encourages the rights of individuals' free speech. However, students should be concerned with behavior that might embarrass themselves, their families, their teams, their community and or Big Lake Schools. This includes activities conducted online through social media apps or websites.

Participation in activities is a privilege, not a right. As a student, you are a representative of the school and the community, and as such, you are always in the public eye. This fact places certain additional demands upon how you must live your life.

If you participate in any public media, please be aware of the following guidelines relating to your involvement in extracurricular activities:

- A. You should not post information, photos, or other items that could embarrass you, your family, your team, the Activities Department, or Big Lake Schools. This includes items that may be posted on your page by others.
- B. A student may face disciplinary measures for violation of team policies, athletic department policies, MSHSL bylaws, guidelines and/or state and federal laws. Any admissions of conduct in violation of any of these policies or laws found on a student social media site may subject him/her to disciplinary measures. Any depictions of conduct in violation of any of these policies or laws found on a student social media site will be subject to a full investigation.

BOOSTER CLUBS

The activities department recognizes the value of booster clubs and their support of district programming.

Booster clubs must follow the guidelines outlined in [District Policy 565 “Booster Club Relationship”](#), [District Policy 565A “Booster Club Guidelines”](#), [District Policy 511 “Student Fundraising”](#) and [District Policy 706 “Acceptance of Gifts”](#).

AWARDS BANQUETS

The head coach/advisor is responsible for all facets of the end of season awards banquet. The head coach/advisor may collaborate with the booster club; however the program and the agenda must be approved by the head coach/advisor.

The awards given out at the banquet are the sole responsibility of the head coach/advisor.

FUNDRAISERS

All team and group fundraisers must abide by [District Policy 511 “Student Fundraising”](#) and follow the proper channels for approval prior to beginning.

EVENT MANAGEMENT

Fan/Spectator Expectations:

Fans/spectators represent our community, school district, teams and self with their actions. Be supportive of participants and follow the rules of good sportsmanship. This applies to events home and away. When a student leaves the event he/she will not be readmitted. When an adult leaves the event he/she must purchase a NEW ticket to be readmitted.

The school and activities department reserves the right to refuse admission or remove persons who exhibit such behaviors including, but not limited to what is listed below. Violations of this policy by a fan will result in suspension from the next scheduled home event. A second violation of this policy will result in suspension from the next four scheduled home events. A third violation will result in suspension for one calendar year from all district events (sports and fine arts). Violations are cumulative, regardless of who is involved. School administration reserves the right to restrict access as necessary in extreme situations.

The following items and behaviors are prohibited:

1. Berating, humiliating or taunting coaches/advisors, participants, or spectators when in attendance at an event or at any time in a public forum, including social media.
2. Berating, humiliating or taunting of coaches/advisors, players, or spectators of an opposing community.
3. Berating and/or harassment of game officials. Officials should be treated with respect during and after contests. Any physical confrontation may be considered assault.
4. Racist, sexist or profane remarks directed at any team, coach/advisor, participant, official, or spectator.
5. Under no condition shall anyone, other than the members of the official team, enter a playing surface.
6. Engaging in any behavior or practice which would endanger the health or safety of others. This includes getting on the shoulders of another spectator, crowd surfing, throwing items and/or other horseplay activities.
7. Noise makers, laser lights, powder, silly string or any similar items are strictly prohibited.
8. Hand held signs, which do not obstruct the view of others, will be permitted provided they are in good taste. Signs, message boards, “white” boards, or other similar items that school officials deem to be in poor taste will be removed.
9. Fans/spectators must wear clothing that covers their entire torso and abide by the school dress code policy.
10. No pets allowed. (Exception: Service Animals)

11. Backpacks, large bags, cinch sacks, etc. are not allowed at football games. Leave them at home.

Fans/Spectators should:

1. Follow The Hornet Way
 - a. Respect, Honesty, Kindness, Responsibility, Fairness
2. Cheer loud and proud for our team and athletes. Go Hornets!
3. Be a positive role model and show good sportsmanship by giving support to, and showing respect for visiting participants, officials and fans.
4. Respect school property and pick up any/all garbage around your area in the bleachers. Help keep our facilities clean for all to enjoy!
5. Show respect and pride by standing for our school song.
6. Show respect for our country and flag by standing for the national anthem.

Student Entry Policy

All students in grades K-6 must be accompanied by an adult at home athletic events. For home football games, this policy is extended to K-8 students.

MSHSL Behavior Expectations

To create safe, welcoming and inclusive environments in fine arts and sports in our school and competitions, I will:

- Lead by positive example and demonstrate respect and support for others.
- Follow all [MSHSL](#), school and venue expectations.
- Refrain from using profanity or ethnic, racial, religious, ability or gender-based comments, posts or messages directed at participants, coaches, officials, spectators or team representatives.
- Act as a responsible and respectful digital citizen who positively uses social media platforms.
- Speak or act in support of others when they are harmed by words or actions.
- Honor each contest and all involved, including participants, coaches, officials, spectators and team representatives.
- Hold high standards for myself, engage positively and demonstrate sportsmanship.

Severe and Inclement Weather

Big Lake Schools will follow, and be guided by, the MSHSL Weather Conditions and Competition Board Policy which includes: Lightning/Threatening Weather, Competition Index for Cold, and Competition and Practice Index for Heat.

- A. Keeping in mind that the School District's prime concern is students' safety, the following procedures will be followed in severe weather situations:
 - a. Before an activity/contest has started, it will be the Activities Director's decision as to whether or not the activity should begin. Parents/guardians/caregivers may contact the Activities Director for

information.

- b. During an activity/contest, the responsibility for determining “playability” is left with officials and Activities Director or acting administrator on-site. Whenever there is danger to the participants (e.g. lightning, etc.) students will not continue to play.
- B. No practices or events will be allowed to take place on any day when school has been canceled due to severe or inclement weather.

Crisis Plan

In the event of an emergency during a practice or event, coaches, advisor and staff will ensure the safety of all participants first and foremost. Fans and spectators should follow the instructions of the on-site staff and administrators. Be observant as to where the AED’s are located in each practice/game facility and school.

Coaches/Advisors are required to submit an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) to the Activities Director prior to the start of each season. This plan is to be discussed and practiced with each individual team.

The full developed guidelines and procedures for dealing with existing and potential school incidents are defined in the district’s [Emergency Guide](#).

Overnight Trips

As the parent/guardian/caregiver of my child, I acknowledge my responsibility to check my child’s equipment bags and personal travel bags for any illegal substances, vaping devices, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol prior to their participation in any extended or overnight trip, event, or activity. I understand that it is my duty to ensure my child complies with all relevant laws and school policies while away from home.

Furthermore, I agree to assume full responsibility for any costs associated with sending my child home immediately from an away trip, event, or invite in the event that they are detained, arrested, or otherwise involved in any illegal or unlawful activity during the trip. I understand that the coach/advisor will enforce the expectations outlined in the Big Lake Public Schools Rights, Rules, and Regulations, the Student Handbook, and the Bylaws of the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL).

By acknowledging this responsibility, I agree to work collaboratively with the school, coaches, and advisors to ensure my child’s safety, well-being, and adherence to all school policies.

Team and Individual Photo

All team and individual photos used for print media, yearbook, team banners and on video scoreboard(s) will at the discretion of school administration.