ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

K-12 ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



2025-2026

Table of Contents

I.	Introduction	Page 3
II.	Mission Statement	Page 3
III.	Athletic Affiliations	Page 3
IV.	Athletic Scholarships	Page 4
V.	Costs Associated with Student Participation	Page 4
VI.	Cut Policy	Page 5
VII.	Days/Times of No Participation	Page 5
VIII.	Dismissal of an Athlete from a Team	Page 5
IX.	Physical Exams	Page 5
X.	Eligibility for Athletics	Page 6
XI.	Participation	Page 6
XII.	Practice	Page 7
XIII.	Pre-Season/Post-Season Procedures	Page 8
XIV.	Public Relations	Page 8
XV.	Transportation	Page 11
XVI.	RCSC Code of Conduct for Student-Athletes	Page 11
XVII.	Athletic Awards	Page 14

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
K-12 ATHLETIC HANDBOOK
2025-2026

I. INTRODUCTION

The Board of School Trustees of the Rochester Community School Corporation (RCSC) recognizes the educational values inherent in a broad, varied and well-directed student activities program. Principals will be responsible for the extracurricular programs in their schools, operating them in accordance with board policies, district regulations, and directives of the superintendent.

The board requires that:

- Activities are to be organized only for educational and other worthwhile purposes.
- Only those co/extracurricular activities that are approved by the RCSC Board of Trustees will be permitted to use school facilities free of charge and will be covered by the corporation's insurance coverage. Charters should be approved prior to any activities taking place.
- Each sponsor/coach of a proposed school co/extracurricular activity must complete a RCSC charter preview, which details the activity's purpose, major activities, membership, and fiscal compliance. Once an activity has been chartered and approved by the board, sponsors do not need to submit a preview each year. If circumstances or policies within a program change, a new charter should be submitted.

II. MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the athletic programs of the Rochester Community School Corporation is to provide student-athletes with a positive environment in which they will learn the values of teamwork, self-discipline, hard work, goal setting, and sportsmanship."

In keeping with this mission, the following framework is intended to give parents, athletes, and school personnel direction in regulating athletic activities. No one can anticipate all the possible situations that may arise in the course of a year, and so handbooks cannot be all-inclusive. If a situation arises that is not covered by this handbook, the administration at each building will be responsible for resolving it with the best interests of all students in mind.

III. ATHLETIC AFFILIATIONS

Rochester Middle School is a member of the Running Rivers Middle School Conference. Members of the conference include Maconaquah, Manchester, Northfield, Peru, Southwood, Lewis Cass, Wabash, Whitko, Northwestern, and Rochester Middle School.

Rochester High School is a member of the Three Rivers Conference. Members of the conference for 2025-26 include; Maconaquah, Manchester, Northwestern, Northfield, Peru, Southwood, Lewis Cass, Wabash, Whitko, and Rochester High School.

The purpose of athletic conferences is to foster and promote athletics through policies and

regulations determined by the member schools' principals and athletic directors. For more information on the Three Rivers Conference, consult the conferences' website: www.threeriversconference.com.

Rochester High School is a member of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, which has determined the governance for interscholastic athletics in the state of Indiana since 1904. The IHSAA is a member of the National Federation of High School Athletic Associations. The control of the IHSAA rests with high school principals, who elect an eighteen-member legislative body to represent three IHSAA districts and four classes of schools. The classes are determined on the basis of enrollment.

The by-laws of the IHSAA state "The purpose of this corporation shall be to encourage, regulate, and give direction to wholesome amateur interschool athletic competition between the schools who are members of the corporation." More information on the IHSAA can be found at www.ihsaa.org.

IV. ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

One of the potential benefits of participation in high school sports is the possibility of an athlete receiving a scholarship to a college or university. It shall be the responsibility of the high school head coach to help facilitate this process by being available to the athlete, his/her parents, and college personnel.

Athletes wishing to participate as an NAIA, NCAA Division I or II athlete as a freshman in college **MUST FILL OUT THE NCAA or NAIA CLEARINGHOUSE FORM**. These forms are available online at www.**ncaaclearinghouse.net or www.playnaia.org**. They should be completed NO EARLIER THAN THE END OF THE ATHLETE'S JUNIOR YEAR OR DURING THE 1ST SEMESTER OF HIS/HER SENIOR YEAR.

V. COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Most athletic activities carry associated costs. For instance, students playing sports are required to pay for their own special athletic footwear. Practice packs are required for most sports. The cost of these is usually the responsibility of the athlete. Students who have limited resources should contact their coach for help with the personal costs associated with athletic programs. Coaches will, in turn, contact administrators for help with these costs. Cost should not be a barrier to participation.

The price of All Sport Passes (good for regular season admission to all contests at RMS and RHS) are as follows:

ADULT ALL SPORTS ZEBRA PASS: $100
SENIOR CITIZEN'S PASS: $50
STUDENT PASS: $10

VI. CUT POLICY

While all coaches realize that the policy of cutting participants at a young age is difficult and not very appealing to anyone, the reality is that in a few cases cuts must be made. Cuts can be

made in cases where there would be too large a number of players for a coach to work with effectively, in cases where it is obvious that the player is a disruption to everyone else in the program because of attitude or lack of any basic skills, and in cases where a coach has to deal with a restricted number of athletes as in golf where numbers of players on the course can become a problem or in basketball where the number of uniforms might cause a problem. When cuts are necessary, the coach should sit down with the student-athlete in a conference and explain the situation thoroughly to the athlete in an attempt to make it as positive of an experience as possible. The student should be encouraged to try out again - that students grow bigger, taller, and stronger at different ages and that interests change over the years. Positive encouragement is expected. There are certain sports that should maintain a no-cut policy at the middle school level. Cross country, track, football, and wrestling should be no-cut sports at the middle school level. All 6th grade sports are open to any student who fulfills academic requirements and follows team rules. Equal access to practice does not equate to equal playing time.

VII. DAYS/TIMES OF NO PARTICIPATION

In accordance with board policy, no school-chartered activities shall be scheduled on Wednesday nights after 6:00 p.m. at Rochester Middle School and Riddle and Columbia elementary without prior board approval during the school year. Sunday practices, team meetings, or team activities of any kind are prohibited during the school year. At the high school level, a Sunday activity during the school year is in violation of IHSAA rules and will lead to sanctions by the IHSAA against the school.

VIII. DISMISSAL OF AN ATHLETE FROM A TEAM

A coach may dismiss an athlete from a team for just cause at any time. It is recommended that the coach first conference with the athlete and try to prevent or remedy any student behavior leading to problems and give warnings of impending dismissal when possible. It is also recommended that parents be informed of any difficulties early in the process. It is understood that single incidents may be so serious as to require immediate dismissal. In these cases, parents should be informed as soon as possible. All dismissals should be reported to the administration.

IX. PHYSICAL EXAMS

All students who are planning on participating as cheerleaders or participants in interscholastic sports in grades 5-12 must have a physical exam on file in the office of the school they are attending. **Any physical dated on or after April 1st will be good for the next full school year.**

Families that have Medicaid insurance are encouraged to contact their family doctors and set up well check visits. These visits can serve as IHSAA athletic physicals for students in the Rochester school district as long as the proper IHSAA physical form is completed.

All physical forms must be turned in to the athletic office or coach BEFORE the student can begin participating with the team. Participating with the team includes, athletic strength and conditioning programs, inter-school competitions, limited contact sessions, practices, and summer open facility sessions.

X. ELIGIBILITY FOR ATHLETICS

Student participation in extracurricular activities will depend on satisfactory grades in school subjects and good citizenship. This policy is not designed to punish students. Its intent is to focus students' attention on the primary objectives of academic growth and good citizenship. The policy will be enforced so that students will remain aware of their citizenship responsibilities and will not neglect their academic responsibilities by devoting more time than they can spare to extracurricular activities.

Athletes, parents, and staff should be familiar with the rules of eligibility for athletes. A list of general rules follows. Additionally, IHSAA rules are described in greater detail on the IHSAA physical forms.

A student-athlete must attend regularly scheduled practice sessions to be eligible for inter-school athletic competition. In general, athletes must have participated in at least ten separate days of practice before being eligible for participation in an inter-school contest. When returning from an absence of eight to fourteen consecutive days, not counting Sundays, the athlete must attend and actively participate in at least two separate regularly scheduled practices before returning to interschool competition. If more than fourteen consecutive days are missed, not counting Sundays, the student-athlete must attend and actively participate in at least three separate regularly scheduled practices before returning to interschool competition. In cases of injury or illness, the athlete must present a signed doctor's release before returning to practice.

In accordance with board-approved policy, no student may participate in athletics on a day when he or she has missed one or more classes without permission from the building principal or his designee. If a student is marked absent for a class period by the attendance secretary, the student-athlete will be prohibited from participating in practices or contests that day, unless approval by the principal or designee is obtained. Pre-arranged absences (funeral attendance, medical or dental appointments, etc) will not cause an athlete to sit out of practice or competition.

Rochester student athletes must pass 5 classes in the last semester he/she attended school or the most recent grading period of the current semester. RHS athletes must take a minimum of five credited classes to maintain eligibility. An "I" is not considered to be a passing grade. An athlete may be on a team and practice with a team during academic athletic ineligibility.

XI. PARTICIPATION

Students are permitted to freely select the sports in which they wish to participate. No coach should ever attempt to influence a student not to go out for or drop a sport under the direction of another coach. Students must be assured that their opportunity to participate in a sport will not be hampered because of their participation in another sport. An athlete should be free to concentrate on only one sport at a time. He or she should not be torn between the interests of two sports. Coaches must realize that there are times when another coach will have to have a call out meeting or a meeting to order equipment (shoes, practice packs, etc) during another's season.

An athlete shall practice in only one sport during a season. He/She cannot practice in another sport even though there is an overlap of seasons of the two sports without the complete agreement of both coaches involved.

A student that quits or is dismissed from a particular sport will not be eligible to participate in a second sport, either through practice or actual competition, until the season of the dropped sport is completed. An exception to this rule can be made only through written permission from the athletic director or administrator. All such requests must include the signature of the student athlete and his parent or legal guardian. The athletic director or administrator will confer with the affected coaches prior to a decision.

Dual Participation by athletes

While the athletic department at Rochester School Corporation wants to provide Rochester student-athletes with as many opportunities to participate and compete as possible, dual participation during a single sports season is undesirable in most cases.
If an athlete wants to participate in two sports during a particular season, the following guidelines must be met:

•The athlete must have an accumulated GPA of 3.0 (B) or better

•Both coaches must agree to the athlete's dual participation

•The parents must sign a dual participation agreement. The athlete must declare one of the sports as a priority sport. When contests in both sports are scheduled for the same night, the athlete will participate in the priority sport. Conference contests will take priority over non-conference contests. IHSAA tournament participation will take priority over all other events for grades 9-12.

XII. PRACTICE

The K-12 athletic director will be responsible for practice schedules and will work with the RMS, Assistant Principal, elementary principals, and head coaches to avoid conflicts of time and place. Please remember that, especially in the winter months, our facilities are overcrowded, and we must have cooperation on everyone's part regarding the use of facilities.

A coach must be present at all practices to ensure proper supervision of student-athletes, school facilities, and equipment. RCSC practices are considered closed unless otherwise

stated by the head coach.

Student-athletes are expected to be in attendance at all practices unless excused for illness or injury. There are certain circumstances when coaches must realize that the classroom comes first, and students might need to be excused for additional help or tutoring during practices. Each coach will be responsible for setting up his/her guidelines and making written copies available to athletes and parents in the pre-season meeting. Those guidelines should include a penalty for missed practices as well as the number of practices that an athlete might miss before he/she is dismissed from the squad. Detentions assigned before or after school by teachers or administrators will take precedence over athletic practices.

XIII. PRE-SEASON/POST-SEASON PROCEDURES

Pre-season A parent and student-athlete meeting MUST take place prior to or during one of the first days of practice. Written policies and expectations for the athletes should be handed out and discussed at this time.

These materials should include:

- Practice and contest schedules
- Transportation information
- Lettering requirements (if any)
- Practice and game attendance procedures and expectations
- Eating policies for away contests
- Dress policy (if any) for home and away contests
- Emergency procedures that will be followed in case of an accident at practice, a home game, or an away contest
- Care of equipment (all distributed equipment is the property of the RCSC)
- Need for medical release whenever there is an extended illness.

Student-athletes must know that they now are privileged to represent RCSC, the athletic program, and the community of Rochester. The athletic department requires student-athletes to conduct themselves properly on and off the courts and fields.

Equipment may be issued, but no participant may participate until physical forms are on file in the Athletic Office. Emergency medical forms and code of conduct/athletic handbook sign-offs must be on file prior to the first contest in a sport.

Post-season Coaches will collect uniforms and equipment. At the request of the athletic director or RMS administrator, a student-athlete survey may be administered by a coach to get feedback at the end of the season. The results of these surveys will be shared with the K-12 athletic director, RMS administrator, and building principal and board of education upon request.

XIV. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Communities are judged by their institutions and by the people who represent them. The

administration, coaches, student-athletes, cheerleaders, parents, and the entire spectator-base serve as public relations agents at home and away during athletic contests.

Student-athletes occupy a strategic and sensitive position with regard to the public image of the school. Team members' actions are closely observed by the general public. The team's appearance, conduct on buses, language, social media interactions, playing field behavior, and reaction to adversity reflect on the entire school community. This reflection must always be positive. Administrators, student-athletes, coaches, students, parents, and fans are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship. The only time many people see the Rochester community is through the actions of coaches, student-athletes, and adults and students in the stands.

No camera or cell phone equipped with a camera shall be used in any RCSC athletic facility. These facilities shall include, but are not limited to, restrooms, locker rooms, the trainer's office, and nurse's offices in any school building, or any facility, home or away.

RCSC reserves the right to search any backpack, purse, fanny pack, handbag or any other item designed to carry personal belongings, to ensure the safety of all in attendance.

Violation of this rule shall be punished in accordance with the discipline schedule, and may result in expulsion, if harm to students or the school is done.

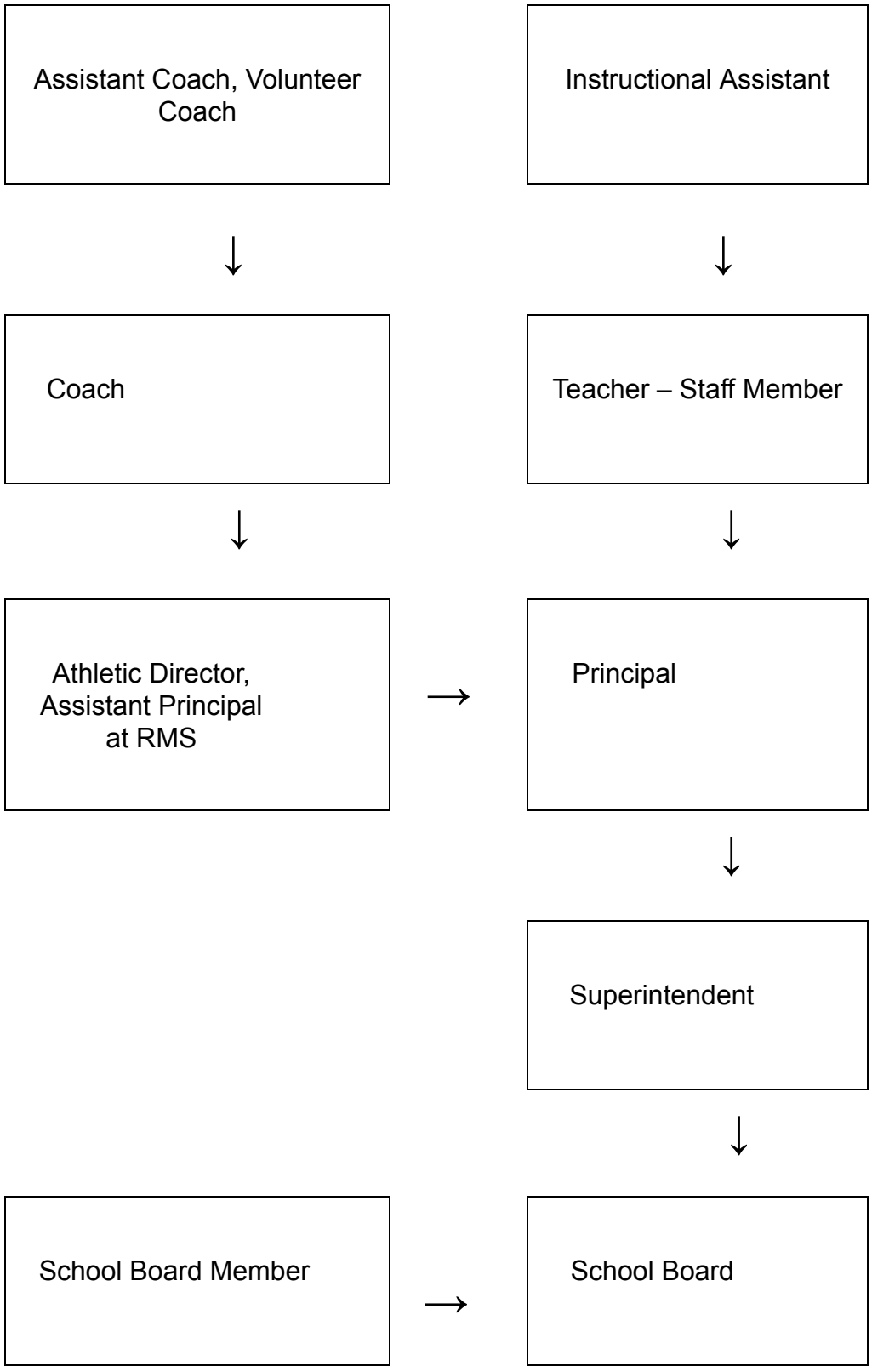
Communication between players and coaches, parents and coaches, and parents and administration should follow the communication chain of command taken from the RHS Student Handbook as outlined on the following page.

IHSAA Policy:

- Any Fan who is ejected from a Contest for an unsportsmanlike act the first time during a sports season shall be suspended from the next Two (2) interschool Contest (Home Contests for a Fan) at that level of competition and all other interschool Contests (Home Contests for a Fan) at any level in the interim, unless an IHSAA sport-specific rule or policy provides a different protocol or penalty for ejection.
- Any Fan who is ejected from a Contest for an unsportsmanlike act a second time during a sport season shall be suspended for the next Four (4) Contests (Home Contests for a Fan) at that level of competition and all other Contests (Home Contests for a Fan) at any level in the interim, unless an IHSAA sport-specific rule or policy provides a different protocol or penalty for a second ejection. If any coach, Contest Administrator, School Administrator or Fan who is ejected from a Contest a second time, the principal or his/her designee must meet with the Commissioner or his/her designee.

Chain of Command

We understand that people will not always agree and conflict will arise from time to time. It is the best interest of everyone to resolve the conflict at the level from which it arose whenever possible. The following flowchart depicts the appropriate chain of command:



Please understand that individuals bypassing this chain of command will be directed back to the first link for resolution of the conflict. We sincerely hope that conflicts are few and that adherence to the chain of command will produce a more effective solution for all parties concerned. A good rule of thumb for processing difficult situations is to allow for a 24 hour period of time to elapse from the time of incident, to reaching out to the coach.

XV. TRANSPORTATION

Bus transportation will be arranged by the athletic office. All student-athletes are expected to ride RCSC transportation to and from athletic events.

Requests to use alternate transportation from an activity will require the following: Parents and students will need to complete the "Parental Consent for Transportation by Private Vehicle from an Extracurricular Activity" form and provide proof of liability insurance for the vehicle transporting the student from the event. This form and proof of insurance should be received by the Athletic Office 24 hours in advance of the activity, by 9:00 AM of the event date or 9:00 AM of the Friday prior to a Saturday activity.

Departure times will be listed on the composite schedule for each sports season. Every effort has been made to schedule a departure time that would allow the student-athletes a minimum of thirty minutes prior to the time of the contest. Coaches need to understand that in most cases, the earliest that we can get a bus is 4:15 pm, after normal routes have run. In cases where a team needs to dress at another school, a fifteen minute dressing period will usually be added. Coaches may request to reschedule times to suit the needs of their teams as long as sufficient notification is given to the athletic director, and the time requested does not involve leaving during school hours unless previously approved by the principal.

XVI. ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Participation in school athletics at any grade-level is a privilege (not a Constitutional right) which carries with it a greater degree of RESPONSIBILITY and SACRIFICE. Student-athletes represent themselves, the student body, and the community. Accordingly, it is their responsibility to behave in an exemplary manner on and off the field and in and out of season.

The use or possession of tobacco products, alcohol, and other illegal drugs is regarded as detrimental to good health. All student-athletes, managers, and cheerleaders (all of whom are considered student-athletes for purposes of this document) are expected to abstain from such use. Abstinence is a year-round responsibility. (Exception: Students may consume alcohol in the presence of parents or guardians when a cultural background dictates such use, but only at non-school family functions when no school related activity follows that day. Alcohol consumption connected with religious observances is also exempt.)

Inappropriate behavior means acting in a manner that brings embarrassment or shame to yourself and/or your school, or that negatively impacts the reputation of yourself or your

school. Examples of such conduct include any illegal activity; any non-illegal activity that is lewd, vulgar, obscene, indecent, or that portrays sexual conduct done in a manner whereby the community learns of such activity; or any activity that degrades, demeans, or disparages any coach, activity sponsor, school official or student.

ANY VIOLATION OF THE STUDENT /PARENT HANDBOOK, INCLUDING THOSE REGARDING ALCOHOL, DRUGS; AND TOBACCO, WILL BE CONSIDERED A VIOLATION OF THE ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT.

IHSAA By -Laws Rule 8 Section I
The following is taken from the Indiana High School Athletic Association By-Laws:

"Contestant's conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as (1) not to reflect discredit upon his/her school or the Association or (2) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral, or educational environment in the school. It is recognized that principals, by the administrative authority vested in them by their school corporation, may exclude such contestants from representing their school."

The following general rules for athletes also apply:

A. Student-athletes shall be governed by local and state law, IHSAA regulations, and the Rochester Community School Corporation Code of Conduct for Athletes.
B. Student-athletes must attend school all day on the day of competition, performance, or practice with the exception of pre-arranged absences. An absence may be excused by the principal or his designee.
C. Suspension from school carries with it an automatic suspension from all athletic practices and contests, or athletic-related activity for the same period of time.
D. While attendance at social functions is up to the athlete and parents, attendance at parties where the illegal consumption of alcohol and drugs occurs is strictly prohibited. Athletes are expected to avoid such occasions and are expected to leave them immediately. If transportation by self, parents, or relatives is unavailable, the athlete is expected to call the coach, the cheerleader sponsor, the athletic director, or administrators to obtain transportation.

1. Tobacco, Alcohol, or Drugs (Use or possession)

First Violation -a 25% suspension of the contests for the squad or team. Practice for the suspended student-athlete is at the discretion of the coach. (For all violations when the percentage of the season as indicated by the penalty does not remain, the remainder of that penalty will be served at the beginning of the next season in which the student-athlete competes.) Penalties are not considered fulfilled unless/until the student-athlete successfully completes that sport's season.

Second Violation - a minimum of one sport season suspension. 50% suspension of the scheduled contests of the next sport season.

Third Violation - a minimum of one calendar year suspension.

2. Attendance at Parties

First Violation - 1 calendar year probation.
Second Violation - 25% suspension of a sport's season contests.
Third Violation - minimum of one sport's season suspension.

3. Violations of the Law

Student-athletes charged with misdemeanors or felonies (or what would constitute these offenses in adult court) bring disrespect and discredit on the school and its athletic programs. When school officials learn of suspected violations of the law an investigation will follow if necessary. Student-athletes can expect suspension from athletics until matters are resolved. Student-athletes found guilty of, or admitting to any of these charges may have their suspension from athletic activity extended. The length of suspension will depend upon the circumstances surrounding the offense and will be determined by the administration. Past practice will be considered when making these determinations. Very strong punishment, including permanent suspension, may result from charges being brought against a student-athlete.

4. Investigative Procedure

a. Eye-witness accounts of a code violation by school employees are sufficient evidence of guilt.
b. Reports from the police, probation office, or other official government agencies are sufficient evidence upon which to act.
c. An athlete may admit a violation. A student-athlete's parent may also report his/her student-athlete's violation. In both of these instances the school will usually consider these as sufficient evidence of guilt.
d Reports from other parents, other students, or school patrons will be used in investigations, but are not, in and of themselves, sufficient evidence to suspend a student-athlete.
e. As per the RCSC substance abuse policy, a student who seeks help from a school official and who follows the recommendations of a school counselor, school nurse and administrator will not be subject to suspension, extra-curricular ineligibility, or other disciplinary actions for violation which occurred prior to the self-referral. A self-referral will have no effect if school personnel or law enforcement officers learn of a violation beforehand or if the student is making the self-referral knowing that a report may be made to the school.
f. When a violation occurs outside of school time, it is the expectation of the administration that parents will make coaches and officials aware of these violations immediately so they can be dealt with in a timely manner. Oftentimes, when student-athletes and parents do not report violations, the administration learns of them through reports provided to RHS by the Fulton County Probation Department. When reports are received of a student-athlete's being on probation, an investigation follows immediately.

5. Code Enforcement

Alleged violations of the above general rules shall be reported to the school employees. An investigation by the coach, principal, assistant principal, and/or athletic director will follow if necessary. Any of these individuals may investigate.

The Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) is an organization controlled by high school principals in Indiana. The IHSAA acknowledges that the principal is the primary authority regarding enforcement of all rules and prescription of punishments. Because the high school principal is the person solely responsible to the IHSAA, he/she reserves the right to act unilaterally to impose, rescind, or amend any penalty to a student-athlete.

6. Appeal Procedure

Any student-athlete has the right to appeal a suspension. The student-athlete or parent of the student-athlete must notify the principal of their desire to appeal in writing within five school days from the receipt of the notice of suspension. The administrator will then notify the parent(s) of an appeal hearing. The confirmation and date of appeal will be sent within five days via certified mail. Any parent or guardian that fails to show up for an appeal meeting will forfeit their right to appeal. Any appeal that is denied by the principal may be heard by the superintendent. Any appeal that is denied by the superintendent may be heard by the Board of Education.

XVII. ATHLETIC AWARDS

THE FOLLOWING AWARDS ARE GIVEN TO RECOGNIZE ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AND PERFORMANCE:

FRESHMAN AWARDS: Numerals will be awarded at the conclusion of the first sports season that a freshman completes. A special participation certificate will be awarded at the conclusion of each sports season. Upperclassmen, who did not participate as freshmen, will also receive numerals at the conclusion of their first season.

JUNIOR VARSITY AWARDS: A junior varsity participation certificate will be awarded at the conclusion of each sports season.

VARSITY AWARDS: The Zebra "R" is awarded for the first varsity award by any athlete. Chevrons are awarded for each varsity award in every sport. The special Zebra certificate will be awarded for every varsity sport. A captain's star with a sports emblem will be awarded to a maximum of three captains as designated by the coach.

MANAGERS: Managers will be identified as freshmen, Junior Varsity, or Varsity Managers.

Freshmen managers will receive numerals and participation certificates. Junior Varsity managers will receive participation certificates. Varsity Managers will receive the Zebra "R" with the manager’s emblem for his/her first award and then chevrons and the Varsity Foil certificates upon receiving subsequent awards.

NOTE: Coaches that utilize statisticians may decide to award a varsity letter to the statistician providing that the statistician is present at all contests and is responsible for just more than

taking stats at the contests. They should also be responsible for compiling stats, posting stats, entering stats on a computer, etc. The statistician's letter will be treated the same as a letter for a Head or Varsity Manager.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES: as relates to any of the above awards may be considered by members of the Athletic Council.

JACKET AWARD: The Rochester High School Awards jacket will be earned by any athlete, manager, or cheerleader that receives a Varsity Award in their sport. Students should present their Zebra "R" at the Winning Edge store in Rochester to purchase the Rochester Awards jacket.

EARNING OF VARSITY AWARDS

IN EACH SPORT, THE COACHES WILL DISTRIBUTE TO ALL PLAYERS AND PARENTS THE CRITERIA NEEDED TO EARN VARSITY AWARDS. THE FOLLOWING GENERAL GUIDELINES WILL BE CONSIDERED IN MAKING AWARDS:

THE ATHLETE MUST:

1. Be academically eligible at the end of the season for which the awards are presented
2. Observe all training rules and complete the season successfully
3. Attend practice regularly
4. Meet the minimum criteria set up by the coach in the sport. In most sports this will either be a minimum number of quarters of contests, such as in football or tennis, or a minimum number of points scored such as in track or swimming
5. Have the recommendation of the coach in order to earn a varsity award. If the athlete has not lived up to the standards set up in numbers 1 through 4 above, the coach may decide not to give him/her a varsity award. By the same token, a coach may decide to give a varsity award to an outstanding performer who may not have met the lettering criteria because of illness or injury or who may have made outstanding contribution to the team late in the season (i.e. state tournament competition).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The following awards will be provided by the Athletic Department for presentation at the Awards Night for each individual sport. These will be the only awards given at the program with the exception of those awards that are donated by individuals and designated as Memorial Awards.

ALL PROGRAMS: Most Valuable Athlete- Medallion
Most Improved Athlete- Medallion
Mental Attitude Award Winner- Medallion
Team Captains - Chenille Star with Sport Specific Pin

STATISTICAL/UNDERCLASS AWARDS (Given at Coaches' Discretion)- Certificates

Football:

Outstanding Frosh Player
Outstanding JV Player
Outstanding Offensive Back
Outstanding Defensive Player
Outstanding Offensive Lineman

Volleyball:

Outstanding JV Player

Boys/Girls Basketball:

Outstanding Frosh Player
Most Assists
Outstanding Defender
Outstanding JV Player
Best Free Throw %

Wrestling:

Outstanding JV Wrestler
Most Takedowns
Most Pins

Boys/Girls Swimming:

High Point Swimmer
High Point Diver

Baseball/Softball:

Outstanding Pitcher
Outstanding JV Player
Outstanding Offensive Player
Outstanding Defensive Player

ESTABLISHED MEMORIAL AWARDS- Plaques**:**

- Jim Ballinger Award for Courage/Leadership/Scholarship (Football)
- Tom Kelly Award for Outstanding Offensive Lineman (Football)
- John McKee Coach's Award (Football)
- Ron Shearer Award for Outstanding Defensive Back and Lineman (Football)
- Nick Patterson Memorial (Mental Attitude Boys' and Girls' Basketball)
- Don Smiley Sportsmanship Award (Boys' and Girls' Basketball)
- Gerald Knauff Award for Outstanding Rebounder (Boys' and Girls' Basketball)
- Dick Gottschalk Award for Courage/Leadership/Scholarship (Wrestling)
- Tom Syler Award for Sportsmanship (Baseball)
- Charles Rathburn Award for Courage/Leadership/Scholarship (Boys' and Girls' Tennis)
- Jordan Shafer Most Improved Award (Wrestling)