



Athletic Code of Conduct Handbook 2026-2027

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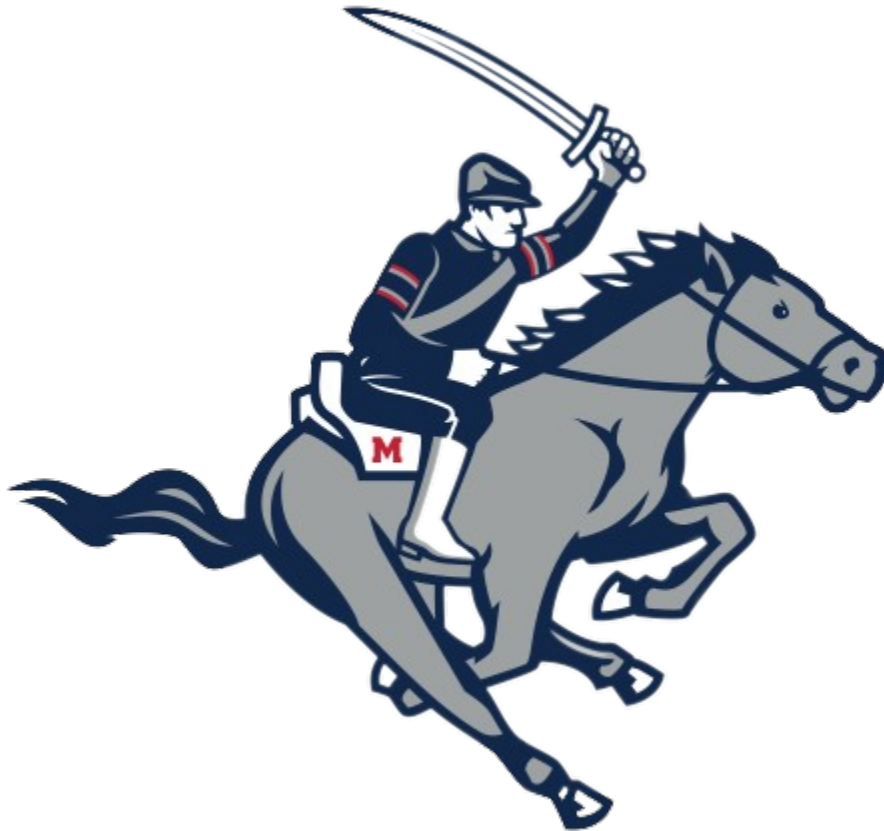
Alma Mater

Hail to Morgan praises sing,
Her bell of triumph gladly ring.

All her trials she overcame
And now she's on her way to fame.
(To the) Blue and Gray we bid adieu,

But we will 'ere remember you.

Now as Raiders we must try
To do our best for MORGAN HIGH!



Athletic Director's Vision

It is a great time to be a Morgan Raider! As we begin another school year, I am filled with excitement and optimism for what lies ahead for our student-athletes, coaches, families, and community. Morgan Athletics continues to grow because of the commitment, passion, and support of so many people who believe in providing meaningful opportunities for our students.

Athletics play an important role in the educational experience. While wins, championships, records, and awards are exciting accomplishments, the true value of sports extends far beyond the scoreboard. Athletics help develop qualities that will serve our students throughout their lives. Commitment, perseverance, teamwork, accountability, resilience, leadership, and integrity are all lessons that can be learned through participation in sports and activities.

At Morgan, our goal is not simply to develop great athletes—we strive to develop great people. Every practice, workout, bus ride, classroom lesson, and competition provides an opportunity for growth. The habits formed today will become the foundation for future success as employees, parents, community members, and leaders.

We continue to encourage our students to participate in multiple activities and sports whenever possible. Some of the greatest benefits of education come from experiencing different teams, different coaches, different challenges, and different opportunities. Students who are involved often develop stronger relationships, broader perspectives, and a greater sense of belonging within their school community.

As student-athletes progress through Morgan Junior High School and Morgan High School, each year presents a new opportunity for growth and development:

- **Seventh Grade – Embrace** – Embrace new experiences, friendships, learning opportunities, interests, and challenges.
- **Eighth Grade – Stand** – Gain confidence in who you are and what you represent.
- **Freshman Year – Connect** – Build meaningful relationships with teammates, coaches, teachers, and peers.
- **Sophomore Year – Serve** – Look for opportunities to positively impact others through service and kindness.
- **Junior Year – Explore** – Explore future possibilities, career interests, educational pathways, and personal goals.
- **Senior Year – Lead** – Lead by example and leave a legacy that positively influences those who follow.

The expectation for every athlete remains simple: Act Like a Raider. Being a Raider means doing your best, treating others with respect, competing with integrity, and representing your family, team, school, and community with pride. Our student-athletes are expected to be positive role models both in and out of competition. Character will always matter more than talent, and how we conduct ourselves will always be more important than the final score.

Thank you to our coaches, families, staff, volunteers, boosters, and community members for the tremendous support you provide our student-athletes. Together, we create opportunities that help young people learn, grow, and succeed. I look forward to another memorable year of Morgan Athletics and all the experiences that come with it. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Have a great year, Raiders!



Athletic Department Philosophy

Morgan Middle School is the gateway to the competitive program of Morgan High School. The program breadth is reflective of the sport experiences of the high school; teams are selected based upon skill ability. The 7 & 8 athletic program is designed to foster an increased level of competitiveness, skill development and game strategy in an age-appropriate modeling of the high school athletic experience. There is notable emphasis placed on honoring commitment to the team, accountability to others, and developing the time management skills necessary for the heightened expectations of the competitive junior high program. Regular attendance by student-athlete at all practices, as well as all games, is expected. Playing time is based upon skill, an understanding and ability to employ team strategy, coachability, and sportsmanship. Playing time is not equal, and not every team member will play in each contest.

Morgan High School is a highly competitive, very selective athletic program that strives to prepare participants for the rigors of play in the Muskingum Valley League (MVL), while continuing to cultivate the personal skills of leadership, commitment, competitiveness, time management, personal sacrifice, and the appreciation for the unique skills of the individual. Cuts are made at the high school level; students are selected to teams based upon skill, and most programs include Freshman, JV, and Varsity teams when possible. In addition to skill, selection is also determined by the demonstrated ability to apply team strategy and concepts, coachability and sportsmanship. Student-athlete attendance at all in season practices and games is required.

Introduction

Participation in extracurricular activities, including athletics, is a privilege and not a right. This manual is written to provide information to the Morgan Middle and Morgan High School athletes and staff in all sports. It is intended that information contained herein will be communicated to athletes and parents/custodians in an effort to provide more consistent administration of the athletic program in Morgan Local Schools, and to create a public awareness of the responsibilities athletes and coaches have to the program. For purposes of this manual, “participants” refers to any individual who is trying out for or participating on an athletic team, regardless of whether the participant is enrolled in the Morgan Local School District. A participant is deemed to be an “athlete” for purposes of the Morgan Local Schools Athletic Code of Conduct Handbook once the participant is notified by the coach/designee that the participant has made his/her first team. Thereafter the participant is deemed to be an athlete for the remainder of his/her career. It should be recognized that athletes represent themselves, their team, Morgan Local School District, and the community as a whole; therefore, a year-round code of conduct has been established for student athletes. The term “athlete” includes cheerleaders.

Participation Requirements

1. *OHSAA PPE Physical Form*: A physical examination completed by a physician must be on file with the Athletic Department prior to the season.
2. *Final Forms*: Effective July 2022, all parents, student-athletes, and coaches are required to register with Final Forms. Final Forms is a secure, real-time data and communication system that will help in compliance and safety and in the management of forms and data for our athletic program, student-athletes and their parents, and coaches.
3. *Academic Eligibility*: All student-athletes must meet the academic requirements set by the OHSAA (see Academic Eligibility).
4. *Attendance*: To participate, practice, or play in an athletic activity, the student-athlete must be present in school for a half day (7:30-10:45am or 10:45am-2:00pm) or have permission from the principal to participate despite the absence.

Academic Eligibility

Eligibility standards are set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association, Board Policy, and state law. It is important that athletes meet all eligibility requirements for participation, and athletes are encouraged to consult with their coaches, guidance counselors, or Athletic Director to ensure that all requirements are met.

For students enrolled in Grades 9-12:

- In the immediately preceding 9 week grading period, a student must receive a passing grade in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses, or the equivalent, which count toward graduation; and
- In the 9 week grading period of participation, a student must be enrolled in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses, or the equivalent, which count toward graduation.
- A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the eighth grade must have passed a minimum of four subjects of all carried in the preceding 9 week grading period in which the student was enrolled.

For students enrolled in Grade 7-8:

- A student enrolling in the seventh grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grade 7 or 8 must have received passing grades in a minimum of four subjects of all carried in the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled; and
- Those grades referenced, when combined, be a total grade point average of at least 2.0 on a four-point (4.0) scale.

Summer School - For eligibility purposes, summer school grades may not be used to substitute for failing grades received in the final grading period of the regular school year or for lack of enough courses taken the preceding grading period.

Post-Secondary - Students taking post-secondary school courses must comply with these standards.

Homeschool - Students that are homeschooled in the grading period prior to participation must meet any academic requirements established by the State Board of Education for the continuation of home instruction to be eligible to participate. Any student who commences home instruction after the beginning of a school year and who is, at the time home instruction commences, ineligible to participate in an extracurricular activity due to failure to meet academic standards or any other requirements of the district shall not participate in the extracurricular activity until the student meets the academic requirements established by the state board of education for continuation of home instruction as verified by the Superintendent of the District.

No such student shall be eligible to participate in the same grading period in which the student was determined ineligible. Eligibility for students who leave a school district mid-year for home instruction shall be determined based on an interim academic assessment issued by the district in which the student was enrolled based on the student's work while enrolled in that district. Please see your guidance counselor or athletic director if you have questions.

Eligibility requirements are clearly defined in the Ohio High School Athletic Association Constitution and Bylaws. Ultimately, the understanding of and acknowledgement to meet all eligibility requirements falls upon the student-athlete and his/her parent/guardian.

Affiliations

The Morgan Local Schools athletics program maintains affiliation with three governing bodies of athletics, and thus must abide by all rules and regulations of those bodies.

OHSAA – Ohio High School Athletic Association

EDAB - East Ohio District Athletics Board

MVL – Muskingum Valley League Conference

Athletic Boosters

All parents of Morgan student-athletes are encouraged to join and become active members of the Morgan Athletic Boosters. The Morgan Athletic Boosters is formed to support the Athletics program. They currently operate concessions at most home athletic events and various other fundraisers. This organization needs your support! Booster meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance

To participate, practice, or play in an athletic activity, the athlete must be present in school for a half day (7:30-10:45am or 10:45am-2:00pm) or have permission from the principal to participate despite the absence. The principal will only authorize participation if the student's absence was excused. If an athlete is absent a full day, then a medical, dental, legal, or counseling slip must be presented to the building principal upon returning to school before the student may participate in any practice or athletic contest. Field trips, alternate learning experiences, concurrent enrollment, and special family situations should be verified by official documentation upon return from the absence in order to be excused by the principal.

Athlete Expectations

- A student-athlete otherwise eligible to participate in Morgan Athletics as of the participant's first day of practice of the first Morgan sport in which he/she participates is identified as an athlete.
- All athletes must begin each sport season on the first day of official practice unless still involved in a sport from the previous season. An athlete that moves into the district may be allowed to participate in an in-season sport, depending on whether the athlete meets eligibility requirements.
- Each athlete must determine if he/she will be able to meet the commitments of time, expense, and transportation, for the duration of the season. Work and/or vacation are not acceptable reasons for missing practice and/or games. These absences may be deemed unexcused.
- In the event a student athlete is unable to begin practice on the scheduled starting date for his/her chosen sport (set by the OHSA), the athlete, with his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) must meet with the head coach, Athletic Director and principal to:
 - determine if the reason is valid
 - establish a starting date if it is determined participation is feasible
 - determine what, if any consequences may be applicable
- All athletes must travel to and from activities with the team unless written parent or legal guardian permission is given and approved by the head coach. Where the athlete is traveling from an activity separate from the team, he or she must check out with a head coach prior to departure. All athletes are expected to following the Transportation Code of Conduct listed in the Student Handbook.

Awards Program Guidelines

It is important that student-athletes be recognized for their hard work and efforts when participating in the Morgan Local Schools Athletic Program. At the conclusion of every season, coaches will conduct end of season ceremonies/banquets for the purpose of recognizing these student-athletes in the presence of their families and friends. The Athletic Department has established awards that are distributed to qualifying athletes. The criteria for the disbursement of these awards are different from sport to sport and are listed in this section. Our purpose is to recognize as many athletes as possible with the highest accolades as possible. NOTE: A student-athlete is not eligible for an award if he/she quits the team prior to the conclusion of the total season. All award winners must finish the season, including post-season events, and be in good standing with the team.

Varsity Letter Requirements:

- BASEBALL/SOFTBALL Athlete must play $\frac{1}{2}$ the innings. Pitchers must participate in one-fourth of total innings played. If the athlete plays a “specialty” position (designated runner, designated hitter, etc.), the coach may submit documentation to support the number of games. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.
- BASKETBALL Athlete must play in $\frac{1}{2}$ the quarters, or, if injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach. Participation for one play would constitute a quarter.
- CHEERLEADERS Athlete must participate in practices and contests during a football or basketball season. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.
- CROSS COUNTRY Athlete must have 10 points to letter. If a runner is injured, a letter may be received at the discretion of the coach.
 - Team finish in meet:
 - Top Morgan Runner – 2 points per race
 - Runners 2-7 – 1 point per race
 - Medal in an Invitational – 1 point
 - GIRLS sub 23-minute 5k – 1 point
 - BOYS sub 19-minute 5k – 1 point
 - Finish All-MVL – automatic letter
- FOOTBALL Athlete must play in $\frac{1}{2}$ the quarters, or, if injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach. Participation for two consecutive plays would constitute a quarter. If on a specialty team, must participate in a minimum of 5 varsity games.
- GOLF Athlete must play in 50% of varsity matches. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.
- SOCCER Athlete must play $\frac{1}{2}$ of varsity regulation halves, or, if injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

- TRACK & FIELD Athlete must earn a specified number of points (10) in regularly scheduled meets, place in league meet, or, if injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach. Each athlete must score in one more than one-half of the regular scheduled meets.
- VOLLEYBALL Must participate in one-half of the games. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.
- WRESTLING Athlete must compete in the sectional tourney and in ½ the matches. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

Special Considerations

Seniors who have not met the established criteria for a varsity letter but have participated for at least two (2) seasons in the sport may receive a varsity letter. A Head Coach may recommend awards in special cases to athletes who have not met the established criteria after consultation with the Athletic Director.

- Senior Athlete Letter- Seniors can be granted a letter if they have not met the letter criteria for a particular sport, provided they participated in that sport for two seasons.
- Statisticians & Managers Statisticians and Managers may receive a Certificate of Participation each year of qualification.

Athletic Awards

Participation Award	Certificate
First Letter	Letter, Sport Patch, and Certificate
Second Letter	Sport Patch, Certificate
Third Letter	Sport Patch, Certificate
Fourth Letter	Sport Patch, Certificate, and Plaque
3 Sport Athlete	Raider Pin (presented at Varsity M Awards)

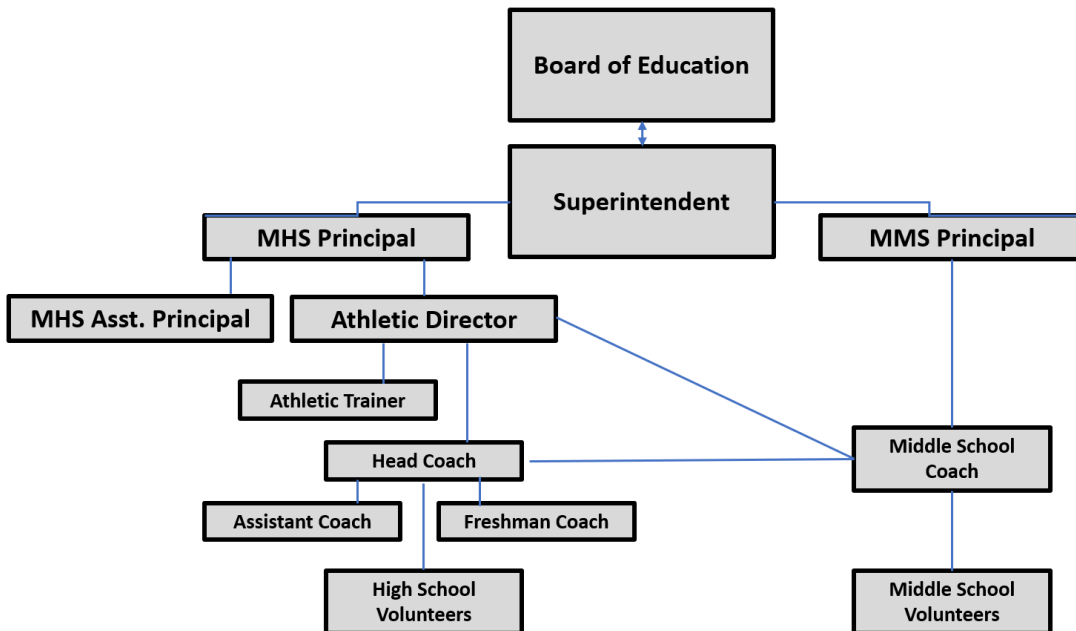
- An athlete will only receive one varsity “M” letter. This will be awarded the first time an athlete earns a letter.
- A sport patch will be awarded each time an athlete earns a letter.
- There are no JV awards other than a certificate in any sport.

Academic Awards

Certificates will be presented to all student-athletes that carry a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher at the completion of their sports season. Athletic and academic awards will be presented at each program’s sports banquet or Varsity M Awards.

Chain of Command

Questions or complaints involving Morgan Athletics must start at the appropriate level of the “chain of command” shown below. In most cases, the question or complaint should first be addressed with the head coach of the sports team. If no resolution is reached, then proceed (in order) upward through the proper chain of command.



Communication

Communication you should expect from the coach:

- philosophy of the coach
- expectations the coach may have for the athlete and team
- locations and times of all practices and contests
- team requirements (attendance, off-season conditioning, fundraisers, equipment, eligibility, etc.)

Communication the coach expects from parents and student-athletes:

- notification of scheduling conflicts well in advance
- special needs of the athlete that may not be apparent to the coach
- concerns expressed directly to the coach first

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

- the mental and/or physical treatment of your child
- concerns about your child's behavior
- ways to help your child improve

Concerns not appropriate to discuss with a coach:

- playing time/position assignment
- team strategy/pay calling
- matters concerning other student-athletes

DAOSA (Drug, Alcohol, and Other Substance Abuse) Policy

Drug, Alcohol, and Substance

The Board of Education recognizes that the misuse of drugs is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the whole school community. Therefore, the Board does not permit any participant to possess, transmit, conceal, offer for sale, sell, purchase, offer to purchase, give, receive, supply, consume, or show evidence of having consumed or used any alcoholic beverages, narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, opiate, opium derivatives, illegal drugs, non-prescribed drugs, look-alike drugs or any mind-altering substance (collectively, “prohibited substances”). Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as a controlled substance, nonalcoholic beers, steroids, tobacco and tobacco products and drug-related paraphernalia. Medications provided to the participant pursuant to Policy JHCD are not included in this prohibition, provided that the medication is taken and handled in accordance with that policy. Use of drugs authorized by a physician, or wine consumed as part of a religious or family ceremonial occasion shall not be considered in violation to this policy.

All Morgan student-athletes (7th through 12th grades) agree to this policy prior to their athletic participation. This school board-approved athletic policy impacts choices the athlete makes year-round. Any additional Morgan Local Board of Education adoption of policy which impacts the general student population will also apply to student-athletes.

Counterfeit Controlled Substance or Look-a-like drugs are defined in the following ways:

- Any drug or drug container or label that bears a trademark, trade name or other identifying mark used without the owner of the rights to such trademark's authorization.
- Any unmarked or unlabeled substance that is represented to be a controlled substance that is manufactured, processed, packed or distributed by a person other than the person with legal rights to manufacture, process, pack or distribute it.
- Any substance that is represented to be a controlled substance but is not a controlled substance or is a different substance.
- Any substance other than a controlled substance that a reasonable person would believe to be a controlled substance because of its similarity in shape, size, and color, or its markings, labeling, packaging, distribution, or the price for which it is sold or offered for sale.

Drug Related Paraphernalia is defined as any instrument used for drug abuse, or paraphernalia, including but not limited to hypodermic needles, syringes, pipes, bongs, and rolling papers, etc.

Showing signs of consumption is defined as manifesting signs of chemical use such as enlarged/reduced pupils, staggering, reddened eyes, odor of chemicals, nervousness, restlessness, falling asleep in class, memory loss, abusive language, or any other behavior not normal for that particular participant. Social media posts (i.e. pictures) can be used to determine possession.

Compliance with this policy is mandatory for all athletes. Any athlete who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion and permanent exclusion from athletics/extracurricular activities. When required by State law, the District will also notify law enforcement officials. The District is concerned about any athlete who is a victim of alcohol or drug abuse and may facilitate the process by which he or she receives help through programs and services available in the community. Athletes and their parents should contact the school principal or counseling office whenever such help is needed.

Drug, Alcohol, and Substance Violations are cumulative for grades 7-12 for any Morgan athlete and may result in the following actions, which may include law enforcement contact as appropriate:

1. STEP ONE: FIRST VIOLATION – Parent/custodian will be notified and athlete may be denied participation:
 - a. Restriction from participation – 50% of scheduled contests.
 - b. Restriction from participation may be reduced to 25% if the athlete:
 1. proceeds to be evaluated by certified chemical dependency professional approved by the Morgan Local School District;
 2. follows the recommended appropriate treatment, which may include, but not be limited to, required attendance at support groups; and
 3. the professional satisfactorily notifies the Athletic Director the evaluation has been completed.(Items 1, 2 and 3 will be at the parent/guardian's expense.)
2. STEP TWO: SECOND VIOLATION
 - a. Restriction from participation from all athletic participation at Morgan High School for one (1) calendar year from date of offense.
 - b. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.
3. STEP THREE: THIRD VIOLATION
 - a. Permanent restriction from participation from Morgan High School athletics.
 - b. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.

Note: The first incident of selling, offering to sell, giving, supplying, or transmitting a prohibited substance shall be treated as a second violation as described above.

All staff members of the Morgan Local School District will be responsible for reporting any violations of this policy to a program supervisor, building administrator and/or counselor. Administrators/program supervisors will follow the above procedures and adhere to all requirements of law in administering discipline.

Tobacco Violation

The Board prohibits the smoking, use or possession of tobacco in any form including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, alternative nicotine products, electronic cigarettes and any other forms of tobacco. A tobacco violation is the use, possession, sale, transmittal, or paraphernalia possession of tobacco products. Social media posts (i.e. pictures) can be used to determine possession. Tobacco violations are cumulative from grades 7-12 and may result in the following actions:

1. STEP ONE: FIRST VIOLATION
 - a. Restriction from participation – 33 1/3% of scheduled contests.
 - b. Restriction from participation may be reduced to 20% if athlete successfully completes the TOBACCO PROGRAM available at MBHC, or a like sanctioned program.
2. STEP TWO: SECOND VIOLATION
 - a. Restriction from participation – 50% of scheduled contests
 - b. In the event that the violator is a senior and lateness of the infraction disallows time for restriction from participation, he/she may be ineligible for post season honorarium, including but not limited to: Varsity Letter, awards for merit, all-league honors (or up), participation in all-star contests, etc.
 - c. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.
3. STEP THREE: THIRD VIOLATION
 - a. Restriction from participation – from all Morgan athletics for one (1) calendar year from date of offense.
 - b. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.
4. STEP FOUR: FOURTH VIOLATION
 - a. Permanent restriction from participation from Morgan athletics.
 - b. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.

Other Substances/Look Alikes

The Board prohibits the use of any substance or device which portrays an unsportsmanlike perception including e-cigarettes, vape pens and other devices, products, or look-alikes. Social media posts (i.e. pictures) can be used to determine possession. Violations are cumulative from grades 7-12 and may result in the following actions:

1. STEP ONE: FIRST VIOLATION
 - a. Restriction from participation – 33 1/3% of scheduled contests.
 - b. Restriction from participation may be reduced to 20% if athlete successfully completes the TOBACCO PROGRAM available at MBHC, or a like sanctioned program.

2. STEP TWO: SECOND VIOLATION

- a. Restriction from participation – 50% of scheduled contests.
- b. In the event that the violator is a senior and lateness of the infraction disallows time for restriction from participation, he/she may be ineligible for post season honorarium, including but not limited to: Varsity Letter, awards for merit, all-league honors (or up), participation in all-star contests, etc.
- c. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.

3. STEP THREE: THIRD VIOLATION

- a. Restriction from participation – from all Morgan athletics for one (1) calendar year from date of offense.
- b. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.

4. STEP FOUR: FOURTH VIOLATION

- a. Permanent restriction from participation from Morgan athletics.
- b. Restriction from participation may not be reduced.

Dual Athlete (Athletes Participating in Two School Activities in One Season)

- An athlete must notify their Athletic Director prior to the beginning of the season they plan to be a two-sport athlete (including Marching Band and Pep Band).
- The athlete, their parents/guardians, Athletic Director and all coaches involved must have a meeting to discuss expectations and schedules prior to the beginning of the season.
- Failure to meet the above deadlines may restrict the athlete from participating in two sports.
- An athlete must choose a primary sport. This sport will come first if both sports have games or practices at the same time.
- Coaches can use the following as the rule for attendance of their two sport athletes.
 - Game of primary sport
 - Game of secondary sport
 - Practice of primary sport
 - Practice of secondary sport
- An athlete must attend all practices possible. In the event that practices are at different times the athlete is required to attend both practices.
- Coaches will make all decisions regarding playing time.

Fair Dismissal Policy

1. Restriction from Participation from Athletic Teams and Participation:
Except as indicated below with regard to attendance during restriction from participation for first offense infractions, athletes with restriction from participation are not permitted to take part in contests for the designated period of that sport

season. Such restriction from participation shall be reported to the superintendent, principal, and parent or guardian of the child. The report of restriction from participation shall be in writing and include the reason for the action.

2. Any athlete under restriction from participation for the first offense infraction must attend all practices and contests during the suspension. The athlete can sit on the bench, but is not allowed to be in uniform. Failure to comply can result in permanent restriction from participation from the sport for the remainder of the season.
3. Accumulation of infractions is carried over from one sport to another and from one year to another.
4. An athlete that is dismissed from or quits the team following the first regular contracted competition may not quit a sport and participate in another sport until the season for the first sport has ended. A player that is “cut” from a squad during tryouts may join another sports team in the same season without penalty.
5. An athlete may not participate in an intramural program of the same sport during that interscholastic season.
6. An athlete, who has just completed a previous season during the school year, may be given a five-day grace period when coming out for the next sport season. Any athlete not out for that sport after five days will not be permitted to compete.
 - a. Consideration must be given for sports that are conducting tryouts. A timeline will be set by the coach and must be followed by the athlete.
7. All athletes are expected to attend all practices and games unless excused by the coach in advance. Three unexcused absences from practice and/or games will result in removal from the team or squad. The coach will notify the parents after the second unexcused absence. Accurate attendance must be kept.

Equipment

Issued equipment to a student-athlete is to be worn only at practices, scheduled events, or as directed by the head coach. Student-athletes, upon the completion of the respective season and with the direction of the coach, shall return all such property in a clean and appropriate condition when requested. Failure to do so will result in the student-athlete’s reimbursement for repairs, cleaning, or replacement costs to the Morgan athletic department. Equipment purchased with athletic department monies or donated equipment is property of Morgan Local Schools. No such equipment may be borrowed or otherwise utilized without the approval of the Athletic Director.

Final Forms

Effective July 2022, all parents, student-athletes, and coaches are required to register with Final Forms. Final Forms is a secure, real-time data and communication system that will help in compliance and safety and in the management of forms and data for our athletic program, student-athletes and their parents, and coaches.

Hazing

It is the policy of the Morgan Local Board of Education and Morgan Local Schools that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. No administrator, faculty member, or other employee of the school district shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in hazing. Our teacher-coaches should intentionally instruct and address issues of hazing in a proactive manner. Choosing to ignore (“Don’t ask, don’t tell”) hazing and hazing-like situations is not an option.

Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, into an activity that creates a risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

Administrators, faculty members, students, and all other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with Ohio law.

Inclement Weather

Administration will make the final decisions on the status of games and practices. There may be occasions when the decision-making process needs altered or adjusted based on factors beyond control. When such situations arise, administration will do their best to act promptly with the safety of student-athletes as the top priority. During such scenarios, Morgan Athletics thanks you in advance for your support and cooperation recognizing winter weather provides challenges and can change quickly.

Morgan Middle School		Morgan High School	
Level 1	Coaches may have voluntary practices after 2:00pm.	Level 1	Coaches may have practices after 2:00pm.
Level 2	No practices or home athletic events.	Level 2	No practices or home athletic events.
Level 3	No practices or home athletic events.	Level 3	No practices or home athletic events.

Multi-Sport Athletes

The Morgan Athletic Department and the Morgan Local School District strongly encourage our student-athletes to take advantage of the many athletic programs and activities offered over the course of the school year. Student-athletes and parents are

reminded that this also involves making a commitment to the individual program as well as the coaches and fellow students who are also involved in the chosen activity.

Attendance and active participation are expected from all team members, particularly when a sport is “in season”. Missing part or all of any practice, contest, or team event to attend a workout, contest, showcase for another sport, including but not limited to summer or fall travel baseball/softball, Junior Olympic volleyball, or AAU basketball, will result with the absence being considered unexcused with the possibility of decreased playing opportunities or other sanctions, at the discretion of the head coach.

While this policy might be interpreted as one that “punishes” those who are hoping to broaden their multisport opportunities, we also wish to recognize and appreciate those who demonstrate a commitment to the team and sport by completing all practices, contests, and time requirements and miss team events only due to excused reasons as determined by the head coach.

Passes & Admission Prices

Following are the prices for Athletics Sports Passes and Game Admission for 2026-27:

Gate Prices	General Admission	Student	Morgan Senior Citizen (65+)
High School Events *	\$6	\$3	Free
Junior High Events **	\$5	\$3	Free

***Fall:** Soccer, Volleyball, Cross Country, Football; **Winter:** Basketball, Wrestling; **Spring:** Track & Field

***Fall:** MMS Volleyball, MMS Cross Country, MMS Football; **Winter:** MMS Basketball, MMS Wrestling; **Spring:** MMS Track & Field

Season Pass Price	Adult	Students	Morgan Senior Citizen (65+)
Fall	\$80	\$50	Free
Winter	\$80	\$50	Free
All Sport: Fall/Winter/Spring	\$120	\$80	Free

Pre-Season Parent Meeting

The OHSA mandates that all student-athletes and parents attend a pre-season information meeting prior to the start of each sport season in which the respective student-athlete participates. Parents will sign-off on an attendance form at such meetings and the form will be maintained for OHSA audits. Those parents unable to attend the required meeting must schedule a time to meet with the Athletic Director prior to the start of competitions. Parents are only required to attend one preseason meeting per year. If the student athlete plays multiple sports, you must attend the meeting in the first season in which they participate. However, attendance at each preseason team meeting is required.

Senior Banners

At the beginning of each sport season, all seniors have the option to purchase a photo banner through the Morgan Athletic Booster Club to be displayed at their sport venue. The Athletic Department will see that the banners are hung, but will not be responsible for lost or damaged banners. It is the individual's responsibility to secure his/her banner at the conclusion of the sport season.

Senior Nights

Senior student-athletes within each sport season will have an opportunity to be recognized at one selected "Senior Night" during their sport season. The date for Senior Night will be mutually agreed upon by the Head Coach and the Athletic Director. A standard format will be used for each event and senior sports team members and parents will be honored as listed below. Any changes to this format must be approved by the Athletic Director.

Spectator Policy

Morgan Local Schools realize that spectators and fans are an integral part of the athletic experience. We believe that all spectators should exhibit appropriate behavior at all times, regardless of the situation. Spectators should display respect to officials, coaches, athletes of home/visiting teams, and opposing fans at all times. Participation in and attendance at extracurricular athletic events is a privilege, not a right. Spectators who engage in offensive behavior not only send the wrong message to young athletes but they risk forfeiting their ability to attend athletic/school events.

Unsuitable Behavior for Spectators

- Obscene language, profanity, belligerence, and/or gestures, alcohol consumption, illegal drugs.
- Disrespect for the athletes, coaches, officials.
- Confrontation with any coach or official before, during, or following an athletic event.
- Being ejected or escorted from an athletic contest for any reason by an official, law enforcement, or any school administrator at home/away events.

Consequences for Spectator Violations – Lifetime

- 1st Offense: Must complete the entire course titled "Positive Parenting within School Programs" on nfhslearn.com/courses. Upon completion of course, certificate must be printed off and provided to home school's athletic director. Suspension to all sporting events will be enforced until course is completed and certificate is turned in.
- 2nd Offense: Two weeks suspension from the date of occurrence/violation from all athletic events for grades 7-12.

- 3rd Offense: Three months suspension from the date of occurrence/violation from all athletic events for grades 7-12.
- 4th Offense: One calendar year suspension from the date of occurrence/violation from all athletic events for grades 7-12.
- 5th Offense: Permanent suspension from all Morgan Local Schools athletic events for grades 7-12.

Zero Tolerance Policy

- Any verbal, physical threat, or altercation will result in 5-Step consequences being abandoned and will result in permanent dismissal of privileges to all Morgan athletic events and possible criminal charges being pursued at the discretion of school administrators.

Sports Medicine

The Morgan Local School District, in cooperation with MVHC, provides daily coverage and professional assessment and evaluation of all Morgan student-athletes during the regular sport seasons. This service is provided free of charge to our student-athletes; however, each family should coordinate and communicate related health issues and concerns through both their personal health care provider and the school's athletic trainer. Student-athletes will be seen by the Athletic Trainer at posted hours throughout the school year, regardless of the current status of the student-athlete as it relates to being "in-season" or "out-of-season". It is the expectation that Athletic Trainers will be treated with the utmost respect at all times.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Other Unacceptable Behavior

All participants should realize that participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege and not a right. This privilege could be denied by any misconduct portraying themselves, others, or the school in a negative fashion. Athletes are subject to an appropriate penalty at the discretion of the Athletic Director and/or the Principal, taking into consideration the seriousness of the offense, any harm or injury to person or property, the remorse of the athlete and any other relevant factors. Discipline may include, but are not limited to, extra conditioning, restriction in participation from games, or removal from the team. A heavier weight may be placed on participants who have violated the conduct policy multiple times.

1. RESTRICTION IN PARTICIPATION EQUITY

- a. In the event that a violation occurs too late in the season for a restriction in participation to be served, the restriction in participation may carry over into the next sport in which he/she competes.
- b. In the event that a violation occurs too late in the school year for a restriction in participation to be served, the restriction in participation may carry over into the following year.

- c. In the event that the violator is a senior and lateness of the infraction disallows time for restriction in participation, he/she may be ineligible for post season honorarium, including but not limited to: Varsity Letter, awards for merit, all-league honors (or up), participation in all-star contests, etc.
- 2. RESTRICTION IN PARTICIPATION PERIOD shall begin:
 - a. From the date of the restriction in participation for infractions that occur during the competition season.
 - b. If the infractions occur during the off season, the restriction in participation will begin at the first week of competition.
 - c. Restriction in participation will be from OHSAA events such as Jamboree games, Foundations games, Previews or one (1) scrimmage if sport does not have such events.
- 3. SELF-REPORTING
 - a. An athlete who reports any infraction they committed to the Athletic Director prior to being questioned about the incident will be considered to be self-reporting.
 - b. An athlete who self-reports an incident may be given a 50% reduction of the original restriction in participation.
 - c. Self-reporting will only be considered on 1st offense incidents.

Weight Room

Morgan Local Schools provides an outstanding weight room facility, which is available to all Morgan Local students and employees. The weight room is located in the RAC and maintains posted hours by sport seasons (hours are available by contacting the Morgan Athletic office). No students are permitted in the weight room without direct supervision by a Morgan athletic department-approved weight room supervisor or coach. Any sports-specific weight training should be monitored by a coach from that sport. There is an expectation that all weights, dumbbells, and exercise equipment are cleaned and properly stored after use.