



WAYNESVILLE ATHLETIC HANDBOOK-CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in athletics is voluntary and a privilege. Students who participate in these activities are expected to be positive role models for other students and ambassadors of Wayne Local Schools. These students also accept higher expectations for good citizenship and behavior than non-participants, as well as increased positive recognition that accompanies membership on interscholastic teams. The purpose of this code of conduct is to establish clear guidelines of conduct for all students who participate in athletics at Wayne Local Schools.

ATHLETIC/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION

The athletic code of conduct is included on Final Forms for all athletes. Remember, athletics are a privilege, not a right. The principal and athletic director may allow a student who is being educated at home or at a non-district school to participate in one or more of the District's co-curricular or extracurricular activities providing she/he, meets the eligibility criteria established in the junior/senior high athletic handbooks with a minimum of five (5) credits. R.C. 3321.03, 3321.04 A.C. 3301-34.

Our Extra-Curricular Vision:

Wayne Local Schools will provide extra-curricular programs as an asset to the academic mission of our schools. We will provide instruction and coaching; enhanced by facilities that are student and people friendly. We will promote lifelong personal and community wellness and develop contributing productive citizens. All of our school community can be proud of our programs.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION

Every extracurricular program will operate slightly differently but the cornerstones of our philosophy are **Citizenship, Integrity, Service, Academics, and Excellence.**

Spartan Pride is ...

Citizenship- the character of an individual viewed as a member of society

Integrity- adherence to ethical principles; soundness in character

Service- contribution to the welfare of others; the function of serving

Academics- scholarly endeavors that prepare students for success

Excellence- the state of quality of excelling or being exceptionally good

I. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

OHSAA State Eligibility- Scholarship (Bylaw 4-4)

In order to be eligible for the first grading period upon entrance into grade 9, you must have received passing grades in a minimum of four (4) classes in the immediately preceding grading period. In order to maintain eligibility for grades 9-12, you must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period. In addition:



- Summer school, College Credit Plus taken in the summer and other educational options (e.g. work permitted after the conclusion of the grading period) may not be used to bring a student into compliance with scholarship bylaws, nor can they be used to compensate for lack of courses taken in the preceding grading period.
- Your semester or yearly grades have no effect on OHSAA eligibility (although they could, depending upon your school's official grading periods). OHSAA eligibility is dependent upon grades received in the immediately preceding grading period.
- Those taking postsecondary school courses, including College Credit Plus, must comply with OHSAA scholarship regulations.
- The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. Note: Check with your principal or athletic administrator for the exact date that eligibility will be determined.

The OHSAA mandates that a student must pass at least five credits each quarter to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics. This applies to all co-curricular activities at Wayne Local Schools. The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. **For the purposes of this bylaw, "school day" includes faculty in-service days, calamity days and regular school attendance days but not holidays or school breaks.**

EXCEPTION 1: Eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of the fall sports season. **EXCEPTION 2:** A student coming off the "ineligible status" may become eligible after the fifth calendar day immediately following the end of the grading period provided those grades can be obtained and verified by a school administrator.

A student who is determined to be ineligible in accordance with Bylaw 4, or who is ineligible in accordance with any policy, rule or regulation as set forth in the General/Specific Sports Regulations, shall be ineligible to participate in any interscholastic sports contests, shall not be dressed in full uniform for any such contests and shall not participate in pre-game warmups during the student's period of ineligibility. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it shall remain within the discretion of the student's school administrators as to whether the student may continue to practice with the team, assist the coaches/managers with pre-game warmup drills, sit on the team bench/sidelines (jersey only), travel with the team and/or take part in other team functions during this period of ineligibility.

Waynesville Quarterly Eligibility

All OHSAA guidelines are to be followed as stated above.

To be eligible in interscholastic athletics and co-curricular activities at Wayne Local Schools, a student must pass all classes with a 1.0 G.P.A. or above and may have no failing grades for the grading period.

If a student does not meet the eligibility standards of the Wayne Local School District at the end of each grading period, he/she will be ineligible to participate in 10% of the seasons total number of contests, or activities of the team, club, or group, including any post-season events. **Penalties go into effect the day grade cards are issued.**

The student that is ineligible at the beginning of the grading period will have his/her eligibility checked on Fridays of each week, after 10% suspension has been served. If at any time the student fails to meet the requirements of no F's and a 1.0 G.P.A., in all of his/her classes, he/she will remain ineligible until all grades are passing. Grades will be checked on Friday, which will determine the eligibility for Monday-Sunday of the next week.

For students who have passed all courses the previous grading period, eligibility will be checked at Midterm progress reports. This form indicates the student's current grades for that nine weeks. If a student receives a "D" or an "F" on the midterm, he/she will be required to take home an eligibility form to his/her parents to be signed and returned to the coach. This report will state the grade, class, and teacher and will list options that the student may choose to help improve their grades. **Options include:** 1) intervention during school; 2) after school help from the teacher; 3) peer tutoring in that subject; 4) private tutoring paid for by the parents.



II. FORMS AND RELEASES

A student must have the following information completed on Final Forms by the tryout/starting date for that sport season in order to participate such as but not limited to: a) OHSAA Health Questionnaire and Physical Examination Form; b) Emergency Medical Form; c) Athletic Code of Conduct; d) Drug Testing Consent Form. All forms populated in Final Forms must be completed and signed by both parent/guardian and student as required. Final Forms must be GREEN in order to participate.

A written release from a physician may be required before a student athlete resumes participation if an injury or potential injury was treated or examined by a physician, or upon recommendation from the school district's athletic trainer. The parents/legal guardians of student athletes may be required to allow school officials and the student athlete's health care provider to freely discuss the student's medical condition.

III. SPORTS FEES

All interscholastic athletes in grades 7-12 will be assessed an athletic program fee of \$75.00 for every season in which they participate, as adopted by the Wayne Local Schools' Board of Education.

Student athletic fees are used to defray the cost of interscholastic athletic programs.

Students who do not pay fees or meet payment deadlines can be denied participation in the interscholastic athletic programs.

All academic and workbook fees must be paid prior to participation.

Any student who qualifies for the Free or Reduced Price Meals Program may be exempt from athletic program fees by authorizing the district to share the status of the family's Free or Reduced Price Meals application. To determine if a student is eligible for Free and Reduced Price Meals, please submit the Free and Reduced Price Lunch application, available in Final Forms and on the district website, www.wayne-local.com.

For non-tryouts sports, payment of the athletic program fee is due within five business days of the first day of official OHSAA practice. For tryout sports, payment is due within five business days of team finalization. Student athletic program fees are non-refundable after the team has been finalized.

IV. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Students **must arrive within 30 minutes of the start of their school day** in order to participate in any extracurricular or special in-school activities. The only exceptions will be those students who meet the requirements of an excused legal/medical absence. A doctor's note, funeral card, or court/legal notice regarding their late arrival/or early departure must be turned in before participation in extracurricular or special in-school activities that day. Students must attend school on Friday in order to participate in events scheduled for the weekends. (A minimum of one-half day attendance at school, as determined by the administration, is required); or situations approved by administration.

V. TEAM FUNCTIONS

Participants are expected to be present at all practices, meetings, and special occasions unless excused by the head coach or advisor of the sport or activity.

VI. TRANSPORTATION

All team members **MUST** travel on school transportation vehicles. Special considerations will be given only in case of injury/illness, or written request from parent/legal guardian and coach/advisor approval. A transportation waiver will need to be completed when not using school transportation to or from an event. This form can be obtained from a coach, or the Athletic Director.



VII. EQUIPMENT

Participants are responsible for all equipment assigned to them. Equipment must be returned at the end of the season or when required to do so by the coach/advisor.

Lost, stolen, or damaged equipment must be paid for before receiving awards or before a graduation diploma will be issued. This also includes the payment for any equipment that the student committed to purchase. Athletes will be denied participation in all sports until the coach of that sport accounts for equipment.

VIII. AWARDS NIGHT

Letters and awards will be awarded as specified by the coach and Athletic Director. Recipients will be recognized at their appropriate sports awards ceremony. All athletes are expected to attend their respective award ceremonies unless excused by the head coach.

IX. TEAM RULES

The head coach of an individual sport may establish other/additional specific team rules as approved by the AD or school administration.

X. QUITTING OR DISMISSAL FROM A TEAM

Any athlete who quits a team without permission of the head coach after the starting date set by the OHSAA will not be permitted to try out for or participate in another sport until the completion of that sports season's competition. An athlete who is dismissed from a team for disciplinary reasons shall not begin participating in any other sport until that current sport season is completed. Students may be removed from a team only with approval of the Athletic Director or Principal.

XI. RULES FOR USE OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND OTHER SUBSTANCES

All student athletes are covered by both the Student Code of Conduct and the Athletic Code of Conduct. Use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and other serious misconduct will result in the denial of the privilege to participate in school athletics and co-curricular activities and may result in school disciplinary actions. This is a year round policy and is cumulative during the athletes' high school career and consequences are effective immediately.

TOBACCO, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL:

Student athletes and participants in co-curricular activities may not use, possess, conceal use of tobacco including use or possession of any type of tobacco product (smoke or smokeless) including e-cigarettes and /or any paraphernalia of any form., or be under the influence of narcotics, drugs, alcohol, or look-alike drugs, or be in possession of drug paraphernalia. A student athlete or co-curricular participant shall not be in possession of prescription or non-prescription drugs, including those taken for medical purposes, unless the student has complied with school board policy and school rules, regulations, and procedures regarding the administering of medication.

DRUG TESTING:

Interscholastic athletes in grades 7-12 may be required to participate in a drug testing program. Prior to the drug testing of an athlete, the athlete and his/her parent, guardian, or custodian must sign off in Final Forms consenting to the drug testing. Testing may occur for some athletes of a particular season at the beginning of that season. Then random testing of the athletes may be conducted as needed throughout the athletic seasons. Reasonable suspicion by the Administration or a coach is also a reason for testing.



If a participating student-athlete refuses to submit to a drug test authorized under this policy, such student shall not be eligible to participate in the athletic program for that sport for the rest of the season.

CONSEQUENCES:

FIRST OFFENSE: Denial of participation until start of a reputable drug/addiction agency counseling program.

SECOND OFFENSE: Denial of participation for thirty percent (30%) of the total contests of that particular sports season (including tournament games), and a similar time period for other co-curricular activities. (consequence carries over to the next sport season if not completed. They will also have to complete required assessment from a reputable drug/addiction agency counseling program acceptable to administration

THIRD OFFENSE: Denial of participation in any extra-curricular activities for one calendar year. Or, the suspension can be reduced to 6 months if the participant agrees to complete 40 hours of approved community service within 90 days of determination that an infraction has occurred. They will also have to complete required assessment from a reputable drug/addiction agency counseling program acceptable to administration.

FOURTH OFFENSE: Denial of participation in all sports and co-curricular activities for the remainder of the student's high school career.

RULES VIOLATION FROM PREVIOUS SCHOOL (Follow Rule)

If it is verified by the Athletic Director or Principal that a new student has been in violation of the Waynesville Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco and Crime Policy prior to enrollment at Waynesville, that student will be subject to the same rules and consequences as listed in this handbook for Waynesville students and/or the student's previous schools disciplinary policies/actions. However, the coach/advisor and either the Principal or Athletic Director will meet with the student and parents/guardians to discuss the discovery and to review the consequences and expectations of the student prior to involvement in athletics at WHS.

NOTE: For each offense, student athletes and co-curricular participants will also be required to seek an evaluation from a reputable drug and alcohol agency acceptable to the administration. Failure to follow through with this requirement shall result in denial of participation in athletics for the remainder of the student's high school academic and athletic career or until the assessment procedure is carried out. An evaluation shall be a program designed to assess the needs of the particular student-athlete and will include an evaluation, drug test, and educational component regarding the harmful nature of drugs and alcohol. The cost of any such evaluation shall be the responsibility of the student-athlete.

XII. OTHER MISCONDUCT:

Student athletes may not engage in conduct that demeans their ability to serve as role models and ambassadors of the school district and the school community. This includes behavior on or off school property at any time. Students who participate in such negative activities or misconduct forfeit any privilege to participate on any athletic team or co-curricular activity. Any acts of unacceptable conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, team, school, or community will not be tolerated. These acts include, but are not limited to theft, vandalism, assault, immorality, or violations of the law and the schools code of conduct. Students who engage in unlawful behavior may be dismissed from the athletic program.

Hazing: Hazing is prohibited on or off school grounds, at any time of the day or night, and at any time during the calendar year. Hazing is defined as any activity intended to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, relevant alcohol incidents, paddling, attempts to excessively fatigue a person, physical and/or mental abuse, public stunts, or morally degrading or humiliating games or activities. School officials will respond to all suspected incidents of hazing. A student-athlete who is found to have engaged in hazing shall be disciplined by school officials. Discipline for hazing will be whatever is deemed appropriate by the principal.

Cyberspace: Student athletes are always expected to make the right decision as it relates to discipline in Cyberspace (including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Vine & Snapchat). Students who engage in inappropriate behaviors



may receive whatever discipline is deemed appropriate by the principal, up to and including permanent denial of participation on any school team.

Indefinite/Permanent Suspension: Students who engage in unlawful behavior, conduct that could be deemed unlawful if committed by an adult, bullying, harassment, hazing, or other similar misconduct under this section may be indefinitely suspended or permanently barred from participating on any and all district athletic teams, as determined by the Principal and/or Superintendent.