

MCFARLAND HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

2011-2012



SPARTANS

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INTRODUCTION

Students-Athletes & Parent/Guardians,

The pursuit of a quality education is the primary goal of the McFarland Schools. Our athletic program functions as an integral part of the McFarland High School's total offerings. It offers opportunities for student-athletes to pursue and enhance their individual interests and talents. Our program further offers opportunities which promote self-realization and personal growth to each of its participants. It also promotes the development of sportsmanship, fellowship, citizenship and self-worth.

The McFarland School Athletic Code of Conduct is provided for the purpose of setting general standards of conduct for all participants in athletic activities. It is intended to promote a healthy lifestyle as well as ethical beliefs and behaviors among athletic participants.

This handbook will provide the philosophy, policies, and guidelines that govern the athletic program at McFarland High School. This is a living document that outlines the expectations for success in the "Ideals of Spartan Pride."

Best wishes for many positive experiences,

James G Hickey
Principal

Brad Minter
Athletic Director

ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Board of Education commits itself to an athletic program that will provide all student athletes, in an equitable manner, an opportunity to compete at a level commensurate with their ability. The District supports the development of sufficient teams comprised of both interscholastic and intramural opportunities at each competitive level to satisfy this ideal. The District believes that intramural and interscholastic competition in athletics has vital educational value and is an effective, cohesive force for the school and community.

The very cornerstone of the District's interscholastic athletic program is embroidered in the concept of cooperation, competition, and participation.

- A. By participation, the Board means that every effort and resource should be utilized to create an environment in which all students actively engaged in a sport will have every opportunity to be involved. The board believes that it has an obligation to teach the maximum number of students and develop skills and attitudes to the highest level possible.
- B. The Board's concept of cooperation is a relationship between athlete and athlete, athlete and coaches, and coaches and parents/guardians that generate trust, confidence, and individual growth. All concerned with the activity (athletes, coaches, parents/guardians) have an obligation to be completely informed concerning goals, regulations, and expectations.
- C. Competition is both a healthy and motivating force in any athletic experience. The Board wishes to avoid "win at all costs" approach to athletics and will not measure the success of the District athletes or coaches on the points scored or won/loss records. Similarly, the Board desires to sustain the will to win and the effort to excel on the part of individuals. The Board believes the goals of each athlete when combined with team goals form the basis for competition at any level.

The Board wishes to continue and expand, when possible, intramural competition in athletics because the Board believes it has a vital educational value and is an effective, cohesive force for the school and community.

The Board adopts this philosophy with the aim of providing opportunities for students/athletes to:

- (1) Become better able to handle challenges and hardships.
- (2) Learn to respect reasonable rules, authority, and the rights of others.
- (3) Develop pride in themselves and their accomplishments.
- (4) Recognize their individual and team skills.
- (5) Learn the value of putting forth their best mental and physical efforts toward achievement of realistic personal and team goals.

The School District of McFarland shall not discriminate in student participation in athletic programs or activities, standards and rules of behavior, disciplinary actions or facilities usage on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, natural origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap. This policy, however, does not prohibit separate programs in interscholastic athletics for males and females if such programs are comparable in type, scope, and support from the District. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The purpose of this set of guidelines is to outline the McFarland School District's athletic procedures. This is not an attempt to restrict or hinder an athlete or coach, but rather provide uniformity within the Athletic Department.

1. PARTICIPATION IS A PRIVILEGE that carries with it reasonable responsibilities for each of the students who take part.
2. While every student athlete is of primary importance in the District's athletic program, the needs and demands of the team, budget funding, facility limitations, and safety precautions will determine the extent to which the District can meet individual options and needs.
3. The goal of the athletic program in grade 9 will be developmental with a wide range of opportunities to participate.
4. Athletic programs for students in grades 10-12 will reflect an increasing emphasis on the advanced level of competition and a greater sophistication of skill development. Coaches will share candidly the competitive options open to the student athlete in an attempt to effectively meet team and individual needs.
5. The competitive aspect of interscholastic athletics at the high school level is a highly respected experience and should receive equitable support and commitment from the school and community.
6. All students participating in interscholastic athletics must comply with the Athletic Code of Conduct and meet all WIAA and McFarland School District's eligibility requirements.
7. Efforts will be made to have alternatives to interscholastic competition available for those students not interested in highly competitive participation or unable to meet the competitive standards.
8. Efforts will be made to provide a quality experience for all students. Registration in an athletic program at any level does not guarantee equal playing time during contests. It does insure that student athletes will be provided opportunities for development and improvement at practice sessions.
9. Team Selection: Choosing the members of athletic teams is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those squads. Coaches must take into consideration the Athletic Philosophy of the District when selecting final team rosters. District guidelines are that no cuts will be made at the freshmen level. The exceptions to this guideline are:
 - a. Spirit Dance Team, where only a varsity program is offered.
 - b. Boys & Girls Basketball and Volleyball, where an intramural program is offered.
 - c. Where safety is a factor.

When a squad cut becomes necessary, the process will include four important elements. Each candidate shall:

- a. Be informed prior to the tryouts of the criteria
- b. Have competed in a minimum of three practice sessions.
- c. Have performed in at least one game-like competition.
- d. Be personally informed of the cut by the coach and the reason for the action.

Coaches will discuss alternative possibilities for participation in the sport, or other areas in the athletic program.

10. Attendance and participation at practice is mandatory. Playing time during contests is based on many factors, including but not limited to, participation at practice, cooperation with teammates & coaches, skill level, and strategies related to the opponent.
11. Coaches fill a unique and demanding role. They need to be supported in their efforts to develop competitive teams and to meet the program goals. Any concerns of the program will be directed to the specific coach. If further discussion is required, after a meeting with the coach, the athlete/parent may schedule a meeting with the head coach and/or athletic director.
12. Requests for refunds for leaving a program will be granted during the first fifteen (15) days of a sports season.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

I. EXPECTATIONS

As a student athlete representing your school and your community and having assumed that responsibility, it is anticipated that you will conduct yourself appropriately at all times and under all circumstances. In athletics, responsible behavior is that which fosters and promotes personal and individual goals consistent with team, school, and community goals. The athlete makes a commitment to:

- A. Accept decisions of the officials and be familiar with the rules of WIAA sports.
- B. Practice self-control; reflect a positive sportsmanlike behavior.
- C. Compete and accept the outcome graciously.
- D. Treat all opposing players and fans with courtesy and respect.
- E. Follow rules and laws of the school and community.

II. REGISTRATION FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

- A. In order to register for athletic participation, students must:
 - 1. Have earned at least a 1.75 Grade Point Average (GPA) during the most recently completed grading period.
 - 2. Have a current physical exam (within 2 years of the registration year) or an "Alternate Year Card."
 - 3. Have proof of insurance.
 - 4. Have an Emergency Information Form signed by parent and student.
 - 5. Pay an athletic fee.
 - 6. Be a full-time student at McFarland High School.
 - 7. Meet requirements set by WIAA.
- B. Athletes not completing ALL of the above requirements will not be allowed to practice.

III. COMPLIANCE WITH ORGANIZATIONAL POLICIES

- A. All athletes must comply with all current rules as established by the following groups:
 - 1. **Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (W.I.A.A.)**. W.I.A.A. rules may be accessed at www.wiaawi.org
 - 2. **National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS)**: NFHS rules may be found at www.nfhs.org
 - 3. **Rock Valley Conference (R.V.C.)** for baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, track, and volleyball. R.V.C. By-Laws and Constitution maybe accessed at the MHS Sports web page.
 - 4. **Badger Conference** for hockey, and swimming. Badger Conference By-Laws may be found at www.oregon.k12.wi.us athletics.
 - 5. **McFarland High School & McFarland School District & Team Coach**

IV. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Students and parents have the responsibility to be knowledgeable about academic progress and/or grades

- A. To be eligible to compete, students must:
 - 1. Earn a 1.75 grade point average in ALL classes.
 - 2. Earn a passing grade in ALL classes.
- B. Incompletes count as an "F" when determining the grade point average until the teacher submits the grade to the high school guidance office.

1. Incompletes must be completed by a date specified by the high school administration. Failure to complete the coursework, by the date identified, will result in an “F” being used to identify the grade point average for athletic eligibility.
 2. Students identified as ineligible due to an “Incomplete” may practice, but are ineligible to compete in events.
- C. At midterm, students failing a course will be assigned to a program designed to assist the student in making satisfactory progress towards a passing level in that course. Failure to meet the standards of the prescribed program will result in the student being identified as ineligible until the end of the quarterly grading period.
- D. Summer school grades will be calculated with the fourth quarter grades. Students receiving one failing grade during the fourth quarter, may regain eligibility by earning a passing grade in a pre-approved summer school course. Students receiving two or more failing grades during fourth quarter will be declared ineligible until the mid-term of first quarter.
- E. Grades earned for all courses are used to determine grade point average.
- F. “Posting of Eligibility” herein is defined as the day the high school guidance office distributes the ineligibility lists. This is the date that a student, who has been identified as ineligible, will begin serving his/her ineligibility.
- G. Students identified as ineligible, with the consent of the coach, may practice with the team and attend all contests.
- H. Students identified as ineligible from the previous quarterly report may have their eligibility reviewed at mid-term of each quarter. To regain eligibility, students must:
1. Attain a 2.0 grade point average.
 2. Be passing all classes.
 3. Submit grades for all classes currently being taken.
 4. Incompletes will be identified as an “F” grade.
- I. Enrollment in an EEN program does not exclude the student from the eligibility requirements identified above. If the student is in a state approved EEN program that does not give usual grades for the courses, a student must be making satisfactory progress in the student’s total program in order to be eligible for competition.
- J. Students demonstrating unsatisfactory academic progress, may be assigned to the” morning study table” in room 148. This assignment may come from the teacher, coach, guidance counselor or administration.

V. GENERAL PROCEDURES AND DEFINITIONS

- A. The following apply to all policies:
1. All penalties under these rules will be cumulative, within each defined policy group, over the high school career from the date of the first offense.
 2. Students are required to follow the Athletic Code of Conduct on a year around (12 month) basis.
 3. If a penalty has not been served by the end of the activity season in which the violation occurred, it carries over to the next activity season in which the student participates.
 4. If a student does not complete an activity season in which a penalty is assessed, the penalty will carry over to the next activity that the student participates in.
 5. A student ejected from a contest is suspended for the rest of that competition and the next scheduled competition.
- B. The following is an interpretation of rules whereby an athlete is suspended from athletic competition for Athletic Code violation(s):
1. To determine the length of the suspension, the maximum number of regular season games, as determined by the WIAA, is multiplied by the percentage assigned to the violation. The number of contests will be rounded to the nearest whole number, with .5 being rounded up to the next number.
 2. The rules specify that the suspension must be “for no less than one entire event.” WIAA policy has defined an event as games/meets that are used to count the maximum number of events for a sport. Examples:

<i>Sport Event</i>	
Baseball/Softball Doubleheader	Each game equals 1 event
Tennis, Volleyball Tournament	Entire tourney equals 1 event
Cross Country, Swim, Golf, Track Meet	Entire meet equals 1 event
Soccer, Basketball/Hockey Tournament	Each game equals 1 event

3. It would be an additional interpretation that if a game, meet or contest could not be played to completion or completed on the day in question, a student would have to serve the ineligibility period on the day of the next scheduled game or event.

4. If try-outs are conducted in a sport prior to the conclusion of a grading period, an ineligible student will be allowed to participate in the try-out process, but will not be eligible for competition until eligibility has been restored.

VI. POLICIES/PENALTIES

A. Policy 1: Alcohol, Tobacco, Illegal Drugs and Chemicals, Controlled Substances, Look Alike Drugs, or Drug-Related Paraphernalia – Possession Rules

1. Use, possession, sale (or intent to sell), distribution or sharing of alcohol, tobacco, chemicals, illegal substances, look alike drugs including any substance represented as a drug or as intoxicating or mood altering regardless of its true nature or drug paraphernalia is prohibited.

2. Penalty For Violation of Policy 1:

1st Offense: The student will be suspended for 20% of the contests in which the student is involved and will participate and cooperate in an AODA awareness program, as approved by the high school administration and/or the AODA Director. Students failing to complete the AODA awareness program will be suspended an additional 10% of the contests.

2nd Offense: The student will be suspended for 40% of the contests in which the student is involved and will receive and cooperate with a non-school AODA assessment, as approved by the high school administration. Students failing to complete the assessment will be suspended an additional 20% of the contests.

Subsequent Offense: The student will be suspended for 50% of the contests in which the student is involved, a mandatory AODA assessment, as approved by the high school administration, 20 hours of community service, as approved by the high school administration, must be completed, and a 2.0 Grade Point Average must be maintained during the suspension period.

B. Policy 2: Personal Conduct Rules

1. Personal conduct in and out of school shall be such as to bring no discredit to the student, his/her family, school, team or organization and shall be in compliance with the rules and laws of the team, school, and community. The following are some examples of conduct that fall under this rule.
 - a. Attendance at parties where alcohol/drugs are used illegally.
 - b. Hazing
 - c. Theft
 - d. Vandalism
 - e. Repeated refusal to follow school rules.
 - f. Convictions by the Justice System

2. Penalty for Violation of Policy 2:

The disciplinary action taken by the school may vary with the degree of the offense. The school administration reserves the right to treat each case on its own merits. Recommended progressive discipline guidelines with regard to violations, not felony in nature, of Policy 2 are:

1st Offense: Recommended 10% of the contests suspension based upon the nature of the offense.

2nd Offense: Recommended 20% of the contests suspension based upon the nature of the offense.

Subsequent Offense: Recommended 50% of the contests suspension based on the nature of the offense

Felony Offenses: Students charged with a felony offense are ineligible until the charges are dismissed or must serve a minimum of one calendar year from the date of the offense

Restorative Justice: Students may be assigned, by the school administration, to a restorative justice session for any violation of Policy 2.

D. Policy 3: Participation Rules

- 1. Transportation:** Travel to and from contests or events will be done on school transportation. However, sometimes other arrangements must be made. In those cases the following procedures must be followed:
 - (a) A parent or guardian must submit a written request to the high school administration in advance. If approved, the parent must have face-to-face contact with the coach before the student is released to ride home with the parent.
 - (b) For parents or guardians who fail to make arrangements in advance, the coach will have parental release forms available at away contests. The form must be completed and given to the coach before the parent will be allowed to take his/her child home from the visiting school. This procedure is meant to accommodate unplanned circumstances and is not to be used routinely.
 - (c) Students that have practice sessions or contests off school property, yet within the school district boundaries, will be allowed to provide their own transportation.
- 2. Attendance:** Students involved in activities must be present in school for the entire school day in order to participate in a school activity that afternoon or evening. Only prearranged, pre-approved absences will be considered as exceptions.
- 3. Early Release Privilege:** Some athletic events require students to be released from the traditional day. To be eligible for this early release privilege, students must be passing all classes.
- 4. School Property & Equipment:** Equipment issued to students must be returned at the end of the season or when a student's affiliation with the team ends. Students will be held responsible for all lost or willfully damaged equipment.
- 5. Injuries:** Following any injury, students must immediately inform their coach, and their coach must file a Student Accident Report with the Athletic Trainer. In the case of minor injuries not requiring the services of a physician, the Athletic Trainer and the coach will determine when the athlete is ready to return to practice and competition.
- 6. Penalty:** The penalty for violating any "Participation Rule" will be at the discretion of the principal, associate principal, athletic director, or coach. The penalty may include exclusion from practice or reduced playing time, but not limited to these examples. Chronic violations of "Participation Rules" will be considered lack of respect and subject to suspension from the program.

VII. ENFORCEMENT AND REPORTING

A. Valid Evidence - Any information or evidence considered to be relevant, valid and accurate by any person(s) reviewing a particular alleged violation shall be considered. A parental report shall be considered as valid evidence. Parties who provide information will be asked to provide specific names, dates, times and infractions. If such information cannot be substantiated on the basis of subsequent investigation, it will be treated as a rumor.

Violations must be reported to the High School Administration within 60 days of the occurrence.

B. Procedures will be followed which will provide opportunity for the student to have the case reviewed in regard to violations. A copy of the procedures will be made available to a student at the time he/she is notified of an alleged violation or whenever he/she may request an appeal.

VIII. PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING ATHLETIC CODE VIOLATIONS

A. The procedures outlined hereafter will be adhered to, as closely as possible, when suspending students from participation in athletic activities for violations of the Athletic Code. Furthermore, all suspensions will remain in force until the appeal process is served.

1. The student shall be notified of an alleged violation of the code and given a copy of these procedural guidelines. The student will then be given an opportunity to provide any information in his/her defense that may be pertinent. A decision will result in one of three actions:
 - a. The student has admitted the violation and a suspension will be assessed and served.
 - b. The student has denied the charge; however, a suspension will be assessed based on the evidence.

- c. The alleged violation will be dropped due to insufficient evidence.
- 2. A student shall begin a suspension when one or more of the following conditions are met:
 - a. The student admits the violation.
 - b. The Athletic Director/High School Administrator has met with the student, investigated the case, and determined the student has committed a major violation of the Athletic Code.
 - c. General - Suspensions shall begin immediately after the student has been found to have committed a violation. Suspensions will normally be served by remaining in practice for an activity in all respects except for participation in scheduled events.
- 3. If a suspension is assessed, a letter shall be sent to the parent(s)/guardian(s) informing them of the decision and the basis for it.

IX. THE APPEAL PROCESS

A. If the student or the parent(s)/guardian(s) are dissatisfied with the decision rendered by the Athletic Director/High School Administration, they may appeal the decision in writing to the High School Administration within five (5) school days after receipt of the letter notifying them of the decision.

Upon receiving an appeal, a meeting shall be scheduled with the Athletic Appeal Council as soon as possible, but not later than five (5) school days after receiving the appeal to hear the case. The student may be accompanied by parent(s) or guardian(s) at the meeting. They will have an opportunity to present evidence and challenge evidence presented against the student at this meeting. This meeting will be chaired by the Superintendent of Schools.

The Athletic Appeal Council shall consist of the following voting members: a school board member, two faculty members, a building principal/associate principal (who is not assigned at the high school level), and a head coach at large.

The faculty members, building principals, and head coach at large will be selected by a “draw-of-the-lot” at the beginning of the school year. In the event that a member cannot be present at a meeting, a representative shall be appointed from the department having the absent member.

The Athletic Appeal Council will, with regard to the specific case:

- 1. Sustain the decision of the Athletic Director/High School Administration **OR**
- 2. Overturn the decision of the Athletic Director/High School Administration **OR**
- 3. Remand the case back to the Athletic Director/High School Administration with directions/suggestions.

The school district shall consider the decision of the Athletic Appeal Council as final.

X. INSURANCE COVERAGE

The school is aware that many families have adequate health and accident insurance; however, there are some families whose coverage is not adequate or who have no insurance. Those students participating in interscholastic sports are particularly susceptible to accidents, and although the school is not legally responsible for such injuries except in cases of negligence, we do feel an obligation to see that all athletes have proper insurance protection.

A low cost group insurance plan is being offered through the school for those who feel they do not have adequate coverage or wish to have additional protection. This material is available in the high school office.

XI. McFARLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Any person who believes that the School District of McFarland or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulations of Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 or has in some way violated the district’s general nondiscrimination or equal opportunity employment policy may bring forward a complaint to the Administration Offices at the following address: 5101 Farwell Street, McFarland, WI 53558. (Discrimination complaints involving students shall be processed in accordance with 411 Rule.)

Formal grievance procedures and/or the maintenance of grievance records are available upon request from the Director of Integrated Students Services in the administration offices.

XII. NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

If any person believes that the McFarland School District or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulations of Executive Order 11246; Title II of the Education Amendments of 1976; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Title IX Regulation Implementing Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and all other federal and state laws, including Subchapter II of Chapter 111, Wis. Stats., entitled "Fair Employment"; or in some way discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, handicap, disability, marital status, sex, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, political affiliation, citizenship, membership in the national guard, state defense force, or any other reserve component of the military forces of the United States or Wisconsin, arrest record, conviction record not substantially related to a person's job or activity in school, or the use or non-use of lawful products by individuals off school premises during non-working hours, he/she may bring forward a complaint.

Specific complaints of alleged discrimination should be referred to:

District Administrator

McFarland School District



WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION BULLETIN

To: Student-Athletes and Their Parents

From: Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and McFarland High School

Your high school is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. The following rules and regulations are developed by the member schools of the WIAA and govern the participation by boys and girls in school athletics and in some instances, impact upon sports activities outside the school.

This information bulletin is a **summary** of the WIAA OFFICIAL HANDBOOK as it pertains to those rules and regulations. Both student-athletes and their parents should have an understanding of these requirements. Equally important is that student-athletes and/or parents talk to their principal or athletic director if they have any question about these regulations. For additional information on Rules of Eligibility see the WIAA Handbook, or visit the WIAA website at www.wiaawi.org

This bulletin does not discuss specific penalties for all violations. The reason is that penalties vary depending upon the nature of the violation. In addition, schools often have established penalties or periods of ineligibility which are greater than the minimum prescribed by WIAA rules.

There also are exceptions and other permissive provisions in some rules. Student-athletes and their parents should discuss all athletic eligibility related situations with the school principal or athletic director who, if necessary, will get a decision, interpretation, or opinion from the WIAA office.

Student-athletes, as well as parents are asked to read this bulletin, then sign it and have their signature statement (attached) on file at their school prior to practicing and competing.

AGE

A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition if he/she reaches his/her 19th birthday before August 1 of any given school year.

ACADEMICS

A student-athlete must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and have received no more than one failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent school issued grade reporting period. Note: Some member schools adopt code and academic policies and other participation requirements which are more stringent than WIAA minimum requirements. In those instances the schools requirements prevail and must be applied as written.

ATTENDANCE

A student-athlete is eligible for interscholastic competition at a member school if he/she is carried on the attendance rolls as a duly enrolled full-time Grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 student in that member school. (Subject to satisfying all other eligibility requirements.)

Note: A full-time student is further defined as one where the member school is responsible for programming 100% of the student's school day. The student is eligible for like or similar awards, privileges and services as all the other students and meets all obligations and responsibilities as other students, without exception.

- A. A student must complete eligibility in the four consecutive years starting with Grade 9 and the three consecutive years starting with Grade 10, unless there are documented extenuating circumstances and a waiver has been provided.
- B. A student is ineligible if he/she has graduated from a school offering studies through Grade 12 or its equivalent.
- C. A student who graduated in May or June retains eligibility for (a) any portion of a spring athletic schedule not completed by the end of the academic year and (b) the school's summer athletic schedule.
- D. A student is ineligible if he/she has not been enrolled in some school by the 17th day of a semester or trimester, except upon request of a school in special cases involving sickness, accident, military service, social services assignment, e.g.
- E. A student-athlete may not participate in school sports in more than four different years, and a student-athlete may not participate in the same sport more than one season each school year.

DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parents reside, within a given school district, with these additional provisions:

- A. Board of Education approved full-time student(s), paying their own tuition and residing full time with parents in their primary residence shall be afforded eligibility. Transfer students are subject to provisions outlined in the transfers section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.

- B. The residence of a student's guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.
- C. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility, except in situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the transfer and/or waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook.
- D. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state and is enrolled in a district approved program may be eligible at either school (first priority to school of residence) but (a) may not participate at both schools in the same year and (b) academic ineligibility accompanies student upon transfer. Transfer restrictions may also apply.
- E. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state or who is participating full time in a legislated open enrollment option must meet all statutory timeline requirements. This provision extends the opportunity to decline attendance at the new school and continue at his/her school of residence. If the student begins the school year at the new school and then transfers back to school of residence after attending one or more days of school or one or more athletic practices, he/she shall be subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer Section of this document.
- F. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's attendance boundaries, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).
- G. After a student-athlete has not participated and/or has had their eligibility restricted for one calendar year due to reasons relating to residence and/or transfer, he/she becomes eligible.
- H. A student-athlete will not be eligible if his/her attendance at a particular school resulted from undue influence (special consideration because of athletic ability) on the part of any person.
- I. A student-athlete who has been declared ineligible at a school for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons or due to another State Association's provision retains that ineligibility status if he/she transfers to another school.
- J. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester, a full-time student whose residence in a given district and attendance at a member school does not conform with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAAHS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer students are subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.

DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only if the student is residing full time with parents in their primary residence with these additional provisions:

- A. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year'. Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer restrictions may also apply.
- B. Residing full time with guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.
- C. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's traditional attendance area, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).
- D. Except in situations involving midyear transfer and/or transfer after the fourth consecutive semester students attending member residential schools shall be eligible at the member school provided they reside at the school or reside full time with parents in their primary residence.
- E. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester, a full-time student attending a nonpublic school but not residing in accordance with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers.

TRANSFERS

A full-time student may be afforded up to eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility upon entry into Grade 9. **Transferring schools at any time may result in restrictions being imposed on eligibility, or in some cases a denial of eligibility.** For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' These additional provisions relate to transfer cases:

- A. A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition for one calendar year, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student's first day of attendance at the new school.

- B. Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 9th and/or 10th grade at the beginning of the school year and who are within the first four consecutive semesters of high school will be afforded unrestricted eligibility provided all other rules governing student eligibility are met.
- C. Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 11th and/or 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to compete for one calendar year.
- D. 9th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved may be provided nonvarsity opportunities for the remainder of the school year. Restrictions are removed upon entering 10th grade.
- E. 10th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved may be provided nonvarsity opportunities for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school).
- F. In the event of divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility for students entering 9th and/or 10th grade. In situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete for one calendar year.
- G. District policies with respect to intra-district transfer do not supersede WIAA transfer rules in situations involving post-4th semester transfers. Intra-district transfers occurring after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 result in the student being ineligible for competition for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school).
- H. Unless transfer, including an accompanying change of parents residence, is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the fifth calendar day of such transfer.
- I. If within the first four consecutive semesters following entry into grade 9, a student who transfers more than once in any given school year shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that current school year and will be eligible for nonvarsity opportunities only for the balance of the calendar year. In situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete for one calendar year.
- J. A student may not have eligibility in more than one member school at the same time. A parent or parents who move from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, to a secondary residence within another school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total move.
- K. A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons and/or as a result of another State Association's regulation or sanction, retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.
- L. No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION and PARENT'S PERMISSION

A student-athlete whether an adult or not, must have written permission of parents to participate in school athletics, an emergency information form, and he/she must have a physical examination (signed by a licensed physician or advanced practice nurse prescriber) every other school year.

A physical examination taken April 1 and thereafter is valid for the following two school years. Physical examination taken before April 1 is valid only for remainder of that school year and the following school year.

TRAINING and CONDUCT

A student-athlete must follow his/her school's code of conduct (training rules) on a year-round basis.

- A. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct during the season of a sport (start of practice to final game) must be suspended from competition for a period of time specified in the code (minimum of one meet) if the violation involves (a) possession and/or use of alcohol, (b) possession and/or use of tobacco, including chewing tobacco and (c) use, possession, buying or selling of controlled substances, street drugs and performance enhancing substances (PES).
- B. The member school will determine minimum penalties for violation of any other provisions of its code of conduct, including out of season offenses and for any other unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principals and standards of the school and this Association including but not limited to criminal behavior.
- C. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct at times other than during the actual season of a sport must be disciplined by the school, the nature of such discipline to be determined by the school as indicated in its code of conduct.
- D. A student-athlete who violates any part of the school or WIAA's code of conduct resulting in suspension of WIAA-sponsored tournament competition must be immediately declared ineligible for the remainder of tournament series in that sport. During the WIAA Tournament, an ineligible athlete may not suit up.
- E. A student-athlete, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is also suspended from the next competitive event.
- F. Any player who spits on, strikes, slaps, kicks, pushes or intentionally and aggressively physically contacts an official at any time shall be immediately ineligible for competition a minimum of 90 calendar days from the date of the confrontation. In addition, the player is ineligible to compete for the first 25% of the next season in that same sport.

- G. A school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to a penalty being enforced. If a student appeals a suspension, according to the schools appeal procedure, the student is ineligible during the appeal process.

AMATEUR STATUS

A student-athlete must be an amateur in all recognized sports of this association in order to compete in any WIAA sport.

- A. A student-athlete may not accept, receive or direct to another, reimbursement in any form of cash or merchandise such as shirts, jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, jerseys, warm-ups, equipment, balls, duffel bags, backpacks, watches, rings, billfolds, coupons, gift certificates, regardless of their value for athletic accomplishments, such as being on a winning team, being selected for the school varsity team, or being a place winner in an individual tournament, e.g.
- B. A student-athlete may receive awards for school achievement which are symbolic (non utilitarian) in nature – badges, certificates, trophies, medals, banners, ribbons, pictures, plaques, event T-shirts, event hats, game balls, unattached emblems, letters, season highlight DVD or video, e.g.
- C. A student-athlete may not receive compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete. This includes receiving free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for all other participants.
- D. A student-athlete may not be identified as an athlete, provide endorsement as an athlete or appear as an athlete in the promotion of a commercial/advertisement and/or profit-making event, item, plan, or service.
- E. A student-athlete may not participate in school athletics or in sports activities outside the school under a name other than his/her own name.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

A student-athlete in a given sport may not compete in that same sport outside of school either as a team member or an individual or independent entry during the same time he/she is participating with the school team. Violation of this rule results in loss of eligibility for the remainder of the season (including the WIAA tournament series).

- A. WIAA rules do not prevent athletes from practicing with nonschool teams or from receiving private skills instruction during the school season. However, they may not participate officially or unofficially (including "banditing") in any nonschool competitions or races, including scrimmages against other teams.
- (1) This restriction applies to normal nonschool games as well as "gimmicks," such as reduced numbers competition (3-on-3 basketball, 6 player soccer, e.g.), specific skill contests (punt, pass, and kick, shooting contests, free throws, 3 point, e.g.), fun runs, etc.
- (2) A student who was a member of a school team during the previous year may not delay reporting for the school team beyond the school's official opening day of practice in order to continue nonschool training and/or competition.
- B. During the school year before and/or after the school season of a sport, a student-athlete may participate in sport activities outside of school with these restrictions:
- (1) A student-athlete must not participate in nonschool programs, activities, camps, clinics and/or competition that is limited to individuals who are likely to be candidates for the school team in that sport in the following season.
- (2) Nonschool activities in which students are engaged may not resemble in any way a school team practicing or competing out-of-season.
- C. In the summer nonschool roster restrictions are not in effect and members of a schools team may voluntarily assemble with their teammates (without school and/or school coach involvement) at their own discretion.
- D. A student-athlete or his/her parents must pay the fee for specialized training or instruction such as camps, clinics, and similar programs.
- E. A student-athlete may not be instructed except during the school season of a sport and approved summer contact days by the person who will be his/her coach in that sport in the following school season. The sports of baseball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track & field, and wrestling are exempt from this rule, BUT only (a) during the summer months and (b) if the program involved is not limited to individuals who are likely to be candidates for the school team in that sport in the following season.
- F. A student-athlete must not participate in an all-star game or similar contest except for summertime activities (a) within the same league or program (e.g., softball game between divisions of same league) or (b) in which a team is selected to represent a league in post-season play (e.g., Babe Ruth league team). Some post-season all-star opportunities may be permitted for 12th graders who have completed high school eligibility in a particular sport. Check with your Athletic Director to be certain.

USE OF STUDENT IMAGE

The participation of student-athletes in school and WIAA tournaments may result in the use of student-athlete images in promotion of school and WIAA events.

WIAA ALTERNATE YEAR CARD / EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORM – 2011-2012

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Present Address: _____ Phone: _____

Parents' Name: _____ Employment: _____

Work Phone: _____ Second Contact #: _____

Family Physician: _____ Dentist: _____

Allergies: _____ Medications: _____

Medical Conditions: _____ Do you wear contacts? _____

Check any sports you plan on participating in:

FALL

- Cross Country
- Dance Team
- Football
- Golf – Girls
- Soccer – Boys
- Swim – Girls
- Tennis – Girls
- Volleyball

WINTER

- Basketball – Boys
- Basketball – Girls
- Dance Team
- Hockey – Boys
- Swim – Boys

SPRING

- Baseball
- Golf – Boys
- Soccer – Girls
- Softball
- Tennis – Boys
- Track

INFORMED CONSENT

1. I hereby give my permission for the above named student to practice and compete and represent McFarland High School in WIAA approved sports.
2. I also attest to the fact that the above named student has had no injury or illness serious enough to warrant a medical evaluation prior to participating this school year.
3. Pursuant to the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and the regulations promulgated there under (collectively known as "HIPAA"), I authorize health care providers of the student named above, including emergency medical personnel and similarly trained professionals that may be attending an interscholastic event or practice, to disclose/exchange essential medical information regarding the injury and treatment of this student to appropriate school district personnel such as but not limited to: Principal, Athletic Director, Athletic Trainer, Team Physician, Team Coach, Administrative Assistant to the Athletic Director and/or other professional health care providers, for purpose of treatment, emergency care and record-keeping.
4. It is recommended that information regarding your child's allergies and medications be made available.
5. I authorize the school to provide emergency treatment of any injury or illness my child may experience if qualified medical personnel consider treatment necessary and perform the treatment.
6. My child and I are aware that participating in WIAA approved sports is potentially hazardous. I assume all risks associated with participation in a WIAA approved sport, including but not limited to falls, contact with other participants or facility equipment, the effects of weather, traffic, and other reasonable risk conditions associated with the WIAA approved sport. All such risks to my child are known and appreciated by me.
7. I understand it is my responsibility to notify school personnel if any information given above is changed.
8. PARENTAL INSURANCE WAIVER: I feel that I have adequate insurance protection for my son/daughter (above named student) while practicing or competing in a WIAA approved sport.
9. I, the parent of the above named student, have read and understand the Athletic Code of Conduct and the WIAA High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin. I understand the rules and the consequences for violating the rules, and I agree to support the rules and expectations set forth in the Athletic Code of Conduct. I give permission for my child to participate in WIAA approved sports under the conditions stated in the **Athletic Code of Conduct**.

PARENT: If there is any question that this student may not be qualified for athletic competition /practice without, at least a partial re-evaluation, contact your medical advisor before signing this card.

*** SIGNATURE OF PARENT:** _____ Date: _____

STUDENT PLEDGE

I, a participant in a WIAA approved sport, assume full responsibility for all school property and equipment issued to me and promise to confine use of that equipment to practices or competition while under the supervision of school assigned personnel. I further agree to pay for all equipment that I lose, misplace, or carelessly damage.

I have read and understand the Athletic Code of Conduct and WIAA Eligibility Information. I understand the rules and the consequences for violating the rules, and I agree to abide by all of the rules and expectations set forth in the Athletic Code of Conduct.

*** SIGNATURE OF STUDENT:** _____ Date: _____

* =Signature required.