

Marysville Middle School

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

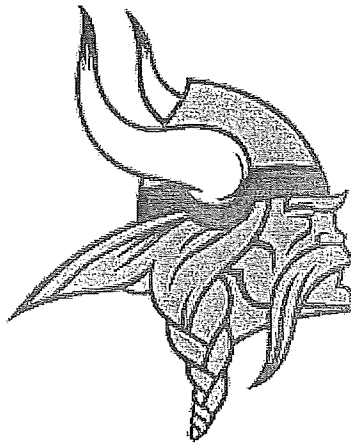


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RESPONSIBILITIES OF ATHLETES, COACHES AND SPECTATORS

I. Responsibilities of Athletes.

- a. Know and adhere to the athletic code of the school.
- b. Exceed all attendance and academic requirements as practical evidence of loyalty to school and team and a proper philosophy of school sponsored athletics.
- c. Observe completely all policies regarding conduct, doing so as a duty to school, team and self.
- d. Counsel with the athletic director over questions of eligibility.
- e. Practice and play fairly, giving complete effort in all circumstances and credit in victory to teammates and to opponents in defeat.
- f. Accept favorable and unfavorable decisions, as well as victory and defeat, with equal grace.
- g. Demonstrate respect for opponents and of officials before, during and after contests.

II. Responsibility of Coaches.

- a. Develop an understanding of the role of interscholastic athletics and communicate it to players, parents and the public.
- b. Develop an up-to-date knowledge of the rules, strategies, precautions and skills of the sport and communicate them to players and parents.
- c. Develop, communicate and model policies for athletes' conduct and language in the locker room, at practice, during travel, during competition and at other appropriate times.
- d. Give the highest degree of attention to athletes' physical well being.
- e. Teach players, by percept and example, respect for school authorities and contest officials, providing support for them in cases of adverse decisions and refraining from critical comments in public or the media.
- f. Teach players strict adherence to game rules and contest regulations.

III. Responsibilities of Spectators.

- a. Attendance at an extracurricular event is a privilege. M.M.S. requires student and adult spectators to be supportive of their teams, respectful of the opponents and supportive of all teams, coaches and officials at home and away contests. Student and adult spectators who do not follow these criteria will be removed from the event and other school consequences maybe invoked.

IV. If You Have a Concern with a Coach.

- a. Please call the coach to set up an appointment.
- b. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director and a meeting will be set up for you.
- c. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or a practice. These can be emotional times for the parent or coach.

V. All coaches of all sports at Marysville Middle School are encouraged to have a pre – season parent meeting to discuss the Handbook and coaches expectations.

**M.H.S.A.A ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
FOR
JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS**

SECTION 1 (A) To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must be enrolled in a junior high/middle school not later than the fourth Friday after Labor Day (first semester) or the fourth Friday of February (second semester). Unless a specific exception stated in this section or Section 8, a student must be enrolled in at least 50 percent of his/her current course load in the school for which he or she competes.

SECTION 1 (C) Schools which have joined the MHSAA at the 6th grade level may allow 6th graders to participate with 7th and 8th graders in individual sports (e.g., bowling, cross country, track & field, swimming & diving, tennis and wrestling) and, with the approval of their middle school league, this may also occur in team sports, in either case without the necessity of MHSAA Executive Committee waiver. Schools or school-sponsored teams not in a middle school league may make this determination on their own.

Section 2 (A) A 6th grade student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contest limited to 6th graders must be under thirteen (13) years of age, except that a student whose (13th) birthday occurs on or after Sept. 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year. Any 6th grade student born before Sept. 1, 2003, is ineligible for interscholastic athletics in Michigan except that he or she may play on the 7th grade or 8th grade squad of that junior/middle school, or on a team of combined 7th and 8th grade students. In each case, all other regulations pertaining to eligibility must be met.

Section 2 (B) A 7th grade student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contest limited to 7th graders must be under fourteen (14) years of age, except that a student whose (14th) birthday occurs on or after Sept. 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year. Any 7th grade student born before Sept. 1, 2002, is ineligible for interscholastic athletics in Michigan except that he or she may play on the 8th grade or 9th grade squad of that junior/middle school, or on a team of combined 7th and 8th grade students. In each case, all other regulations pertaining to eligibility must be met.

Section 2 (C) A 8th grade student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contest limited to 8th graders must be under fifteen (15) years of age, except that a student whose (15th) birthday occurs on or after Sept. 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year. Any 8th grade student born before Sept. 1, 2001, is ineligible for interscholastic athletics in Michigan except that he or she may play on the 9th grade squad of that junior high school, provided all other regulations pertaining to eligibility are met.

Section 3 (A) No student shall be eligible to represent a junior high/middle school for whom there is not on file in the offices of the superintendent or principal or athletic director of that school a statement for the current school year certifying that (1) the student has passed a physical examination and is physically able to compete in athletic practice and contests and (2) there has been consent for disclosure to the MHSAA of information otherwise protected by FERPA and HIPAA for the purpose of determining eligibility for interscholastic athletics: and (3) beginning in 2017-2018, there has been a signed acknowledgement and assumption of risk by the parent/student as well as a concussion awareness acknowledgment.

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Section 3 (B) Following removal for play for a suspected concussion, no student shall be eligible to represent a junior high/middle school for whom there is not on file in the offices of the superintendent of principal or athletic director of that school a signed MHSAA designed Post Concussion Return to Activity Consent Form. This form must be kept on file at the school and emailed to concussion@mhsaa.com or faxed to 517-332-4071.

Section 7 (A) No student shall compete in any junior high/middle school athletic contest during the current semester/trimester who does not have in the official records represented for the last semester/trimester credit in at least 50 percent of the total periods of work carried. An academic term is a period during which a student has been enrolled in grades 6, 7 or 8 prior to the fourth Friday after Labor Day or the fourth Friday or February, or during which he or she shall have taken part in any interscholastic athletic contests. However, first-time 7th grade student may compete without reference to his or her record in the previous grade; but a student who repeats grade 7 or 8 is subject to previous semester/trimester academic requirements.

Section 11 (A) Treatment of or privileges received by athletes or their families that are not provided or available to all students violate the principles of amateurism in interscholastic athletics. Gifts or loans to family members, based on the student's athletic performance or potential, are treated as gifts or loans to the student and violate the student's amateur status.

Section 11 (D) A student violating this Section shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of not less than the next 90 scheduled school days after the date of the student's last violation, except that a student violating Interpretation 129 may not apply for reinstatement until the equivalent of one full school year of enrollment has elapsed following the date of his or her last violation.

Section 12 (A) A student who, after practicing with (including tryouts) or participating in an athletic contest or scrimmage as a member of a junior high/middle school athletic team, participates in an athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the same season, shall become ineligible for a minimum of the next two (2) days of competition and a maximum of the remainder of that season in that school year.

ELIGIBILITY DURING SEASON

Any member of a Marysville Middle School athletic team, which includes managers, MUST adhere to the following Marysville Middle School rules and regulations. The season begins when tryouts or practice starts.

1. An athlete must be passing all of his or her classes during their season. Eligibility will be checked every week.

1 st Offense	Warning
2 nd Offense	1 week suspension from contest + Must attend WINS
3 rd Offense	1 week suspension from contest + Must attend WINS
4 th Offense	Suspension for remainder of season

2. Detentions during the season. Detention will be served prior to athletic participation.

1 st Offense	Warning
2 nd Offense	1 game suspension
3 rd Offense	Suspension for remainder of season

(Athletes may still participate in an event scheduled on the day of their detention by having a parent/guardian drive them to an athletic event after detention is served)

3. Suspension during the season.

1 st Offense	Suspension from one athletic contest, after the school's suspension.
2 nd Offense	Suspension for the remainder of the season. Any combination of two detentions and suspensions during the season would equal suspension for remainder of the season, after the school's suspension.

4. Use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, M.I.P., transportation of open intoxicants, any alcohol related violations/offenses, illegal substances, anabolic steroids, drugs, weapons or any violation of school, local or state laws will be considered conduct unbecoming of an athlete that will have disciplinary consequences up to and including suspension for the remainder of their Marysville Middle School career.
5. Any act that would be considered "conduct unbecoming an athlete", but not limited to; insubordination, profanity or vulgarity, before, during or after an event is grounds of suspension.
6. Cell phones are not allowed to be used on the bus, in the stands or in the locker room. Phones may be used on the bus ride home to arrange parent/guardian pickup only.

These rules will be in effect year round, and be cumulative over a student's M.M.S. career.

VIOLATION CONSEQUENCES

First Violation

In-Season (Fall, Winter, Spring):

- Removed from team
- One calendar year of probation

Off-Season (summer and non-participation periods in M.M.S. Athletics during the school year):

- One calendar year of probation

Violation During Probation

In-Season (Fall, Winter, Spring):

- Removed from team
- Ineligible for the next 3 seasons (current +2)
- Student athlete must also obtain and verify assessment/counseling to regain eligibility.

Off-Season (summer and non-participation periods in M.M.S. Athletics during the school year):

- Ineligible for the next 3 seasons (current +2)
- Student athlete must also obtain and verify assessment/counseling to regain eligibility.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

1. Violation of Athletic Code of Conduct occurs.
2. Athletic Director/Coach notifies student and parent of violation and consequences.
3. Athletic Director sends written parent notification of violation, consequences and the due process procedures.
4. If parents choose to appeal they must contact the Athletic Director within 3 school days after notification.
5. Athletic Director will schedule a meeting to include the student, parent, coach and Athletic Director.
6. Following the Athletic Director meeting if the parent chooses to continue the appeal, they must contact the building principal within 3 school days.
7. The principal will convene an appeal hearing with a committee comprised of the following voting members: (Pool of appeals candidates will be selected prior to the start of the school year.)
 - * Two coaches
 - * One community member
 - * One M.M.S. teacher (non-coach)
 - * One Board of Education member

Also included: (non-voting member)

- * M.M.S. principal – Chair
- * Athletic Director/Assistant Principal
- * Coach
- * Parent/Guardian
- * Athlete
- * Recording Secretary

The appeals committee will grant or deny the parent's request by secret ballot and the decision is final. The principal will contact the parents with the committee's decision within 24 hours.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

- A. Student/athletes must be in attendance at least one half of the day of practice or contest unless excused by the Athletic Director. The student/athlete who is not in class for one half of the day cannot participate in the days practice or game. The penalty will be the same as an absence from a contest or practice (see below).
- B. Absences from a contest or practice are excused only for illness or death in the family or other emergencies deemed appropriate by the coach and/or Athletic Director. These absences must be pre-excused. Student athletes who are in school and do not attend practice will be considered unexcused from practice unless the absence is pre-excused by the Athletic Director.
 - 1st Offense – Suspension from one athletic contest
 - 2nd Offense – Suspension from one athletic contest
 - 3rd Offense – Suspension for the remainder of the year.
- C. All athletes must travel from away contests with their team except with the approval of the Coach. A signed form from the parents of the athlete must be given to the Coach before getting on the bus for a competition. Any violation will result in at least a one game suspension, and will be progressive at the Athletic Director's discretion.
- D. All uniforms will be turned into the coach within one week following the final game.

SIGNATURES OF ATHLETE AND PARENT

I have read and understand the rules and policies of the Marysville
Middle School Athletic Handbook.

Athlete Name Printed

Athlete's Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date Signed: _____

PLEASE SIGN, TEAR OUT AND RETURN THIS SHEET TO THE OFFICE
BEFORE FIRST COMPETITION