Boyne City Middle School Athletics

PHILOSOPHY

The overall philosophy of middle school athletics encourages participation and experiences in a variety of activities. Participation is more important than specialization, trying more important than winning, teamwork more important than individual honors, and teaching more important than titles and trophies.

At the middle school level, coaches are urged to look down the bench for substitutes without first looking up at the scoreboard. The scorebook is kept to see how many students played in the game, not how many points any one player scored. Here is where education prevails over entertainment in interscholastic athletics. Here is where philosophy of athletics is most in tune with the mission of the school.

CO-CURRICULAR POLICY

(As per Student Handbook)

The co-curricular policy addresses eligibility and substance abuse issues for after school and extracurricular activities only. Each individual co-curricular activity may have additional requirements addressed in their particular handbook.

Co-curricular Activities are defined as all school sponsored athletic teams, school sponsored academic competitions, clubs, band performances, drama, student council, and any other school sponsored activity.

BOYNE CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIORAL ELIGIBILITY

(As per Student Handbook)

Every student participating in a co-curricular activity will be <u>evaluated weekly</u> in regard to academic and behavior eligibility. Grades will be audited and the participant will be contacted if he/she is determined to be ineligible. <u>Eligibility runs from Sunday to Sunday</u>.

The following eligibility rules apply:

- 1. Unless pre-excused, a student must be in attendance (by 9:00 AM) and remain for a full day of school to participate in practices, contests or performances.
- 2. A student is permitted one non-passing grade. Participants will have until the next eligibility check to obtain a passing grade. If the student receives a non-passing grade for two consecutive weeks in the same class they will be ineligible. Students receiving two or more non-passing grades in the same week will be declared ineligible until they obtain passing grades in all subjects.
- 3. Students receiving two or more non-passing grades in the same week will be declared ineligible until they obtain passing grades in all subjects.
- 4. Non-passing grades will be determined on a cumulative basis for each marking period; not on an individual week's work. (At the beginning of a new marking period there will be a one week grace period before eligibility will be audited.)

- 5. Students receiving non-acceptable behavior reports (i.e. citizenship in the student handbook) or poor citizenship may be considered ineligible.
- 6. Eligibility can be restored when the student is passing all classes once the ineligibility has expired.

STUDENT DRESS GUIDELINES

(As per Student Handbook)

3.4 5 5

Students' dress and grooming is a student and parental responsibility. It may be necessary for the school staff to confer with students and/or parents to take such corrective measures in instances where the dress and grooming are dangerous to safety, detrimental to good health, or distracting to the learning process. The dress code has been formulated to promote health, safety, decency and respect. Athletes must abide by the school guidelines during practices. There may be some provisions made for particular activities but it is the coach's responsibility to let student athletes know what is appropriate in their sport. For more information see the student handbook.

As per the student handbook: if a problem concerning the above guidelines arises, the staff member will inform the student that a correction is needed. If the problem is not corrected, it will then be referred to a building administrator. Students choosing not to correct the problem will be choosing suspension and parent involvement. The final decision is left to the discretion of the school personnel.

PROGRAM RULES

Athletics are an extension of the classroom. These are the expectations

- ~Attendance is necessary for improvement and knowledge (see policy below).
- ~Academics Eligibility, consistency, priority
- ~Effort is expected at all times.
- ~Responsibility: Players are expected to take responsibility for themselves.
- ~Respect your coach, teammates and yourself.
- ~Attitude Positive attitude especially on the court and in the classroom
- ~Communication with parents, coaches, teammates
- ~Sportsmanship -
 - 1. Being courteous to all
 - 2. Knowing the rules, abiding by and respecting the official's decisions
 - 3. Winning with character and losing with dignity
 - 4. Displaying an appreciation for good performance regardless of the team
 - 5. Exercising self-control and reflecting positively upon yourself, team and school
 - 6. Permitting only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on our school and its activities

Game Day Attire:

- ~All players should adhere to the team concept.
- ~Look respectable Represent the school and the team with pride.

Philosophy of Athletics:

- ~To develop solid citizens who represent the community in a class manner.
- ~To reinforce the importance of academics.
- ~To have a hardworking and competitive team.
- ~ Playing time is the final concern (see policy below).

🖲 Leadership:

- ~ Display leadership qualities at school, during the school day, and on the court/field.
- ~ Respect (teammates, coaches, officials, fans, self)
- ~ Sportsmanship Practice it in practice; display it before, during, and after games.

* Attendance:

- ~ Athletes MUST be in school during entire game day to participate.
- ~ Your attendance should speak for your commitment to your team's practices/games. Your attendance sends a message to teammates and coaches.
- ~ Prior notification for absences should be communicated, by the player or a parent/guardian, a minimum of one hour before the start time of a practice.
- \sim Attendance at practices, scrimmages, and of course games has a direct effect of playing time (see policy below).

Transportation(Games):

- ~ Players are expected to ride the bus as a team, to and from the games.
- \sim All players must meet the minimum eligibility standards of the school to be allowed to travel with the team to away contests.
- Exceptions to this rule must be pre-approved by the athletic director and/or the Coach.
- ~If a player is riding home from an away game with parents other than their own, they MUST have written permission to the athletic office 24 hours before the day of the event. If this note is in to the athletic office less than 24 hours before the contest, it is subject to denial. Written permission for such events can be emailed to: mneidhamer@boyne.k12.mi.us or mwilson@boyne.k12.mi.us.

Playing time—is determined by the following factors:

- ~Attitude-A demonstrated desire to do the things the coach instructs the player to do for the benefit of the entire team and program.
- ~Effort—Prove your willingness to expend effort in practice in order to earn time on the court.
- ~ Talent—We want to have the best program possible for our school community and this is an area that your son/daughter will change by their commitment to the sport.
- ~ Academics—We do not expect everyone to get A's, but we do expect to hear about good effort, attitude and behavior as we communicate with teachers.

Consequences:

Missing Practices:

- ~ Missing scheduled activities (practices, games, scrimmages...) WITH prior notification:
 - 1 Not allowed to participate in the first quarter of next game or comparable consequence for sports without quarters.
 - 2 Not allowed to participate in the during first two quarters of next game or comparable consequence for sports without quarters.
 - 3 (and each additional) Suspended for next game or contest
- ~ Missing scheduled activities WITHOUT prior notification:

One game/contest suspension for each infraction Dismissal from team on third instance

~When you miss practice, as the result of a school sanctioned event or a serious family event, you may make up the absence, if another team in our program has a practice and you pre-approve the situation with your coach or Athletic Director. Football could be worked out in another way with your coach as there are no other team practices available.

Behavior unbecoming of a representative of Boyne City Public Schools: Middle School RTC visits:

~ 2 in between games - Not allowed to participate in the first quarter of next game or comparable consequence for sports without quarters.

- ~ 3 in between games Not allowed to participate in the during first two quarters of next game or comparable consequence for sports without quarters.
- ~ More than three in between games Suspended for next game or contest
- ~ More than three two weeks/games in a row = Ineligible for the next entire week

Suspension:

- -A suspension would be immediate ineligibility for a week from the time of the infraction.
- -Dismissal from the team on the third instance.

Parents Expectations:

- ~ Support—Team principles, players, coaches, policies.
- ~ Communication, Comments, and Questions are always welcome at appropriate times. Always follow the 'Chain of Command policy', which is Coach first, Athletic Director next, Principal and Superintendent. Please, talk to the Coach as soon as you have an issue. Don't let things go.
- ~ Assistance with transportation to and from practices and games.
 - -The athletes should arrive at their practices no more than 15 minutes prior to the starting time. If their coach is not present, they are not to go into the locker room.
 - -The athletes should arrive *no more than 30 minutes before the first scheduled game time* unless their coach has given different instructions. Otherwise they are not to be in the school until a coach arrives.
 - -Parents need to pick up the athletes within 15 minutes of the end of practice. The coaches would appreciate that the athletes are picked up as soon as possible after the games are over because they are required to stay until every athlete is picked up.
- ~ Meetings about your son/daughter are welcome. It is expected that he/she will also be present. To facilitate appropriate, rational, and productive communication we will adhere to a *24 hour rule* for communication about concerns after athletic contests. Please call the coach to set up these meetings.

Thank you!

PARENTS' CODE OF ETHICS NHSACA

(National High School Athletic Coach's Association)

We feel the parents play a vital role in the development of student athletes, therefore, we as coaches believe in the following:

- ✓ Be a positive role model through your own actions to make sure your child has the best athletic experience possible.
- ✓ Be a "team" fan, not just a "my kid" fan.
- ✓ Weigh what your children say; they will tend to slant the truth to their advantage.
- ✓ Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.
- ✓ Be respectful of all official's decisions.
- ✓ Don't instruct your children before or after the game, because it may conflict with the coach's plans and strategies.
- ✓ Praise student-athlete in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people.
- ✓ Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the contest.
- ✓ Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- ✓ Help your child learn that success is oriented in the development of a skill, and should make a person feel good about themselves, win or lose.
- ✓ If you as a parent have a concern, take time to talk with coaches in an appropriate manner, including; proper time and place. Be sure to follow the designated chain of command.
- ✓ Please, reinforce our drug and alcohol free policies by refraining from the use of any controlled substances before and during athletic contests.
- ✓ Remember that a ticket to a school athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest.