

INTRODUCTION

This booklet is designed for students and parent/guardians to help define the role of athletics in Wayne-Westland Community Schools. This ready reference should assist anyone seeking information about the function and governance of athletics in this school district. Further, it should serve as an additional instrument for coaching personnel to communicate with parent/guardians and students.

MISSION STATEMENT

Wayne-Westland Community Schools recognizes that extracurricular activities are an integral part of our educational system. Therefore, the Athletic Department in cooperation with the community endeavors to create a sports program to assist students in reaching their potential as individuals and as team members to ensure their positive educational experience.

PHILOSOPHY

High School

The high school athletic program will provide students with an opportunity to be selected as members of a sports team based upon personal physical skill level, motivation and desire. Emphasis will be placed on the improvement of each student's character development and acquisition of the knowledge and physical sports skills. The welfare of the student athlete will be the rule. Efforts will be made to support the activities program with the best facilities, equipment and with the most qualified staff available. The ultimate goal of the activities will be to realize the value of participation, strive for excellence, keep a proper competitive spirit and develop and improve positive citizenship. Student athletes will apply the knowledge learned to being a lifelong healthy individual.

The Purpose of a Sound Athletic Program is as follows:

1. To build character within young men and women.
2. To build self-respect, self-concept and the feeling of self-worth within young men and women.
3. To build positive school spirit and cohesiveness within the school population and school community.
4. To provide a focal point for a significant portion of the Wayne-Westland community.
5. To provide an intramural program so that students can be active in an athletic activity.
6. To develop physical fitness, good health habits, and sport skills that will last a lifetime.
7. To develop mental alertness.
8. To develop moral qualities.

9. To develop social abilities.
10. To develop emotional maturity.

In order to achieve these goals, the Wayne-Westland Athletic Program shall be organized in a manner consistent with the needs, interests, maturity, and abilities of students and shall be structured as educational activities with competent leadership, established objectives, and standards of behavior.

The program shall be viewed as the means by which optimal physical, mental, emotional, and social growth of the participants is possible. The welfare of students shall be given precedent over the pressure to win. Success of a team shall be judged by the conduct of coaches, athletes, spectators, and by the giving of self for the benefit of others, rather than just the number of contests won or lost.

GOVERNANCE

Board of Education

The Board of Education, responsible to the people, is the ruling body for Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA)

Wayne-Westland Community Schools are voluntary members of the MHSAA and compete only with member schools. As a member school district, the secondary schools of Wayne-Westland Community Schools agree to abide by, and enforce, all rules and regulations promulgated by the MHSAA.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS

(This indented section is taken from the MHSAA Handbook)

To be eligible for athletics a high school student must comply with the following rules and regulations of the MHSAA:

Enrollment: To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must be enrolled in a high school or middle school not later than the fourth Friday after Labor Day or the fourth Friday of February. A student must be enrolled in at least twenty (20) credit hours in the school for which he/she competes.

Age (high school): A student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contests must be under nineteen (19) years of age, except that a student whose nineteenth (19th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year.

Age (middle school): 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 September 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year.

An 8th-grade student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contest limited to 8th graders must be under the fifteen (15) years of age, except that a student whose (15th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year.

Physical Examination: No student shall be eligible to represent a high/middle school for which there is not on file in the office a statement for the current school year certifying that the student has passed a physical examination and is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests. A current physical is interpreted as any physical examination given on or after April 15 of the previous school year.

Semesters of Enrollment: A student shall not compete in any branch of athletics who has been enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, for more than eight semesters. The seventh and eighth semester must be consecutive. Enrollment in a school beyond the fourth Friday after Labor Day or the fourth Friday of February, or competing in one or more interscholastic contests, shall be considered as enrollment for a semester under this rule. Students in grades 7 or 8 are not limited in the number of semesters in that they may be eligible for interscholastic athletics.

Semesters of Competition: A student, once enrolled in grade nine shall be allowed to compete in only four first semesters and four second semesters. Students enrolled in grades 7 or 8 are not limited in the number of semesters of competition.

Previous Semester Record: No student shall compete in any athletic contest during any semester who does not have to his/her credit on the books of the school represented, at least 66 percent of full credit load potential for a full-time student for the last semester/trimester during which he/she shall have been enrolled in grades nine to twelve. A student entering the ninth grade for the first time may compete without reference to his/her record in the eighth grade. No student shall compete in any junior high/middle school athletic contest during the current semester who does not have to his or her credit in the official records of the school represented, a passing grade for the last semester.

Transfers: A student enrolled in grades 9 through 12 who transfers from one high school or junior high/middle school to another school is ineligible to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest for one full semester in the school to which the student transfers. The general exception to this rule is when there is an accompanying change of residence by the athlete's parent, guardian, or other person with whom the athlete has been living during the period of his/her last high school enrollment, into the district. Middle School does not apply.

Undue Influence: The use of undue influence for athletic purposes by any person or persons directly or indirectly associated with the school to secure or encourage the attendance of a student or the student's parents or guardian as residents of the school district, shall cause the student to become ineligible for a minimum of one semester and a maximum of one year.

Awards: A student may accept, for participation in athletics, a symbolic or merchandise award which does not have a fair market value or cost in excess of \$25.

Limited Team Membership: A student who, after practicing with or participating in an athletic contest or scrimmage as a member of a high school athletic team, participates in any other 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 three days of competition and a maximum of the remainder of that season in that school year.

Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA): This association was established for the primary purpose of promoting selected interscholastic activities among member schools, and the assurance of such advantages as may be gained by a united effort. Wayne Memorial High School and Westland John Glenn High School are voluntary members of the KLAA.

MESSAGE TO PARENTS

This booklet is designed for you because your son/daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics and you have expressed your willingness to permit him/her to compete. Your family interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. Participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences which will assist students in personal adjustments and development. A properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets the student's needs for self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. Wayne-Westland will maintain a program that is sound in purpose and one that will further each student's educational maturity.

A student who elects to participate in athletics is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial. These are the reasons we place such stress on good training habits. Failure to comply with the coach's rules of training may lead to dismissal from the squad. This concept of self-discipline and self-denial is tempered by the coach's responsibility to recognize the needs of the individual within the objectives of the team. The Athletic Department does not seek blind conformity as a means for achieving team responsibility and discipline. However, there is no place in high school athletics for students who will not discipline their minds and bodies for rigorous competition.

When your son/daughter enlists in one of our sports programs, the athletic department is committed to providing:

- adequate equipment and facilities.
- trained qualified coaches.
- equal contests with skilled officials.
- adequately supervised transportation.

Similarly, parents have assumed certain responsibilities and obligations. We take this opportunity to acquaint you with challenges that could be detrimental to a well-organized program of athletics if parents are not informed.

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult responsibilities. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the action of the other and provide greater benefit to the children involved. In our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed upon your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communications You Should Expect From Your Son/Daughter's Coach include:

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as for all of the players on the squad.
3. Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment, off-season programs, etc.

4. Procedures to follow should your child be injured during participation.
5. Discipline that may result in the denial of your child's participation.

Communications Coaches Expect from Parents includes:

1. Advance notification of any schedule conflicts.
2. Any concerns should be expressed directly to the coach as follows:
 - Start with the source. Talk directly with the coach, in private, face –to- face, away from the practice site or game arena. A telephone call may be necessary to arrange an appointment. After a contest is usually not a good time.
 - If necessary, talk next with the:
 - head coach of the program.
 - Director of Athletics.
 - Building Principal

As your child becomes involved with the programs at Wayne-Westland Community Schools, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coaches is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with the coaches are:

1. Ways to help your child improve in the sport or academically.
2. Concerns about your child's behavior.
3. The physical or mental treatment of your child.

Coaches are professionals. They may make judgment decisions based upon what they believe to be best for all students involved and in the best interest of the team. As you have seen from the list above, certain things may be discussed with your child's coach. Other things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with the coaches:

1. Team strategy.
2. Play calling, etc.
3. Other student athletes.

Parents Code of Conduct

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by being a positive role model.
2. I will try my best to make athletics a positive experience for everyone involved, i.e., participants, coaches, officials and spectators.
3. I will insist my child treat other participants, coaches, officials and fans with respect.
4. I will reinforce the school's drug and alcohol free policies and refrain from use of alcohol or other drugs before or during contests.
5. I will do my best to understand and appreciate the rules of the contest.
6. I will show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
7. I will be a "team" fan, not only a "my child" fan.
8. I will help my child learn that success is measured by the development of skills, not just winning and losing.
9. If I have a concern, I will talk to the coach at the appropriate time and place, i.e., never before, during or immediately after a contest or practice.
10. I will do my best to remember my ticket to a school athletic event provides me with the privilege of observing the contest, not berating officials, coaches or players.
11. Understand the ultimate purpose of athletics. It exists as an integral part of the total educational mission of the school, participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right.

MESSAGE TO STUDENT ATHLETES

Being a member of an athletic team is the fulfillment of an ambition for many students. A wholesome athletic tradition is not established overnight; it is the result of hard work by many people over many years. It is a "Tradition." You inherited a wonderful tradition that you are now challenged to maintain. A good athletic tradition is worthy of the efforts of all concerned. Over many years Wayne-Westland Community School teams have won more than their share of league and tournament championships. Many individuals have set records and won many honors.

It will not be easy to represent your school in interscholastic athletics and to uphold a great athletic tradition. However, the contributions you make should be a satisfying accomplishment to you and your family.

DO:

- Develop your sport skill to the best of your ability.
- Achieve a thorough knowledge of your sport
- Strive for further excellence in your sport by maintaining proper training and conditioning habits.
- Establish good nutritional habits.
- Conduct yourself in an appropriate manner within the classroom, the fields of play, and within the community.
- Adopt good study habits so that you maintain an acceptable scholastic standard.
- Respect and protect school equipment.
- Accept sports participation as an opportunity to foster a better understanding of others value systems.
- Accept sports participation as another opportunity to improve your educational opportunities.
- Learn the team specific and/or coach specific rules/guidelines for your particular sport or team.

DO NOT:

- Lose sight of values inherent in athletic participation.
- Be an attendance problem at school.
- Neglect classroom work and studies.
- Drop out of sport participation without consulting your parents or coach.
- Miss a practice/event without consulting your coach.

Responsibilities to Yourself

The most important of these responsibilities is to develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your high school experience. Your

studies, your participation in other extra-curricular activities, as well as in sports, prepare you for your life as an adult.

Responsibilities to Your School

Another responsibility you assume as a squad member is to your school. Wayne-Westland cannot maintain its position as having outstanding schools unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in athletics to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school.

You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic team. The student body and citizens of the community know you. You are on stage with the spotlight on you. Your school is judged by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make Wayne-Westland proud of your school by your faithful exemplification of these ideals.

Responsibilities to Others

As a team member, you also bear heavy responsibilities to your home. If you never give your parent/guardian anything to be ashamed of, you will have measured up to the ideal. When you know within your heart that you have lived up to all of the training rules, that you have practiced to the best of your ability every day and that you have played the game "all out," you maintain your self-respect, and your family can be justly proud of you.

On the Field

In athletic competition a real athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics, and learns that losing is part of the game. One should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory.

False athletes display fits of temper, clowning, taunting, etc. Real athletes have complete control of themselves at all times.

Officials in a game are there for the purpose of ensuring equity for both teams. Officials do not lose a game. It is athletic tradition that no one except the appointed captain talks to the official and he/she should speak in a tone of respect for the purpose of clarifying a rule.

Any behavior contrary to which has been stated is a direct reflection on the school, team, coaches, and will not be tolerated.

In the Classroom

In the academic arena, a good athlete becomes a good student. A person cannot have a classroom problem and think they can be an outstanding athlete. If one is lazy in classes he/she will be lazy on the practice field or floor; they will never reach their full potential. Athletes must plan their schedules so that they have sufficient time and energy for their

studies. A healthy athlete should have a good attendance record. He/she should never cut classes or school.

On the Campus

The way we act and look on the campus is of great importance. Athletes should be leaders, and worthy of respect from their fellow students. Athletes should not wear apparel that promotes alcohol, drugs, tobacco, etc. This sends the wrong message.

STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

While a student has a legal right to attend school, the courts have held that the same right does not extend to participating in athletics. As a result, when a student elects to participate in a co-curricular activity, he/she is agreeing to abide by the standards of conduct established for that activity. Therefore, it is vitally important for both the student and the student's parents to carefully review the expected standards of conduct established in an athletic code or any special rules established by the athletic department/coach for that given activity. And, if for whatever reason the student feels that he/she cannot abide by such, then the student should not elect to engage in the activity.

Above all else, it is important to remember that when a student-athlete chooses to violate the Athletic Code of Conduct, it is the athlete who has violated his/her own oath of participation.

Administrative Points of Emphasis:

Because infractions are taken seriously, the coach involved, the athletic coordinator and the principal/designee shall meet and determine the penalty according to the degree of the infraction. The student-athlete and his/her parent should be notified before the penalty is determined and provided the opportunity to present their position on the incident. An Athletic Discipline Report form will be completed for each violation and maintained by the building administrator in charge of athletics. These reports will be forwarded to the District Athletic Director's office.

These rules and regulations are in effect twelve months of the year.

All penalties for violation of this Code of Conduct shall be cumulative beginning with the student's participation in the Middle School (grades 7-8) and again in High School (grades 9-12). Suspensions may carry over from one year to the next.

Administration of Athletic Suspensions:

After confirmation of the violation, determination of Level I, II or III and determination of first, second or third violation, the penalty is assigned by the Athletic Director. If the penalty is not fully administered using regular and post season contests, the remainder of the penalty will be applied to the next interscholastic sport season in which the athlete participates.

- If the suspension occurs during a season, the student must participate fully and complete the season in good standing, in order to complete the suspension.

- If a student-athlete chooses to go out for a sport in which they have not participated in previously as their “next interscholastic sport season”, the coach of sport in which the student usually would participate in as the next season and the coach of the new sport must agree in this participation. The student-athlete and the coaches must agree that the student must begin and complete a full season in good standing after the student-athlete serves his/her suspension.
- If the second season has a different number of “competitive dates” then the season in which the violation occurred, the number of suspended event may be adjusted by the building administrator.

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The following list highlights important guidelines of the Wayne Westland Student Athlete Code of Conduct. Each student receives a copy of this code of conduct at time of enrollment. These rules and regulations are in effect twelve months of the year, regardless of the location of the incident.

I. Athletic/Academic Eligibility

MHSAA guidelines require a student to be passing 66% of their full time subjects to be eligible for participation in interscholastic contests. High School students must pass four (4) out of six (6) classes to be eligible each semester. A student who fails three (3) classes at the end of a semester shall be ineligible for 90 school days unless the deficiencies are made up during a summer school session, by an approved correspondence course, or with an approved online course. Eligibility may be reinstated when the school accepts the credit.

In addition, district policy requires an athlete to maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 1.8 or better to be eligible to participate in interscholastic competition. If a student is ineligible at the grade check, the student will not compete for a minimum of one (1) full week. Students will become eligible after confirmation they are academically eligible.

II. Gross Misconduct

Participation in athletics is considered a privilege and not a right. Student-athletes are going to be held to a higher standard for behavior and conduct than non-athletes. A student-athlete shall not engage in acts of gross misconduct including, but not limited to; behavior which is addressed in the student handbook such as acts of theft, extortion, vandalism, fighting, assault, sexual misconduct and gross disrespect. Behaviors listed above are considered detrimental to the school, program, team and community image. Therefore, any violations will result in exclusion from athletic activity participation for the

remainder of that season and/or the next season of participation. Reinstatement to the athletic program will be pending administrative review.

III. Alcohol and Substance Use or Abuse

Use, possession, attempting to possess, concealment, distribution, sale or being under the influence of the following substances is prohibited:

- A. Tobaccos or tobacco products in any form - including possession of vaporizers and vaping devices, fluids or other nicotine products
- B. Alcohol or alcohol beverages in any form
- C. Marijuana or cannabis products in any form - including possession of marijuana, devices, contraband, oils, etc.
- D. Illegal or unauthorized drugs, including but not limited to, those substances defined as “controlled substance” pursuant to federal and/or state statute.
- E. Steroids, human growth hormones, inhalants or other performance enhancing drugs.
- F. Substances purported to be illegal, abusive or performance enhancing drugs.

IV. Penalties for Substance Abuse

These guidelines supplement and do not supersede or modify the District’s Student Code of Conduct, with which all students are expected to comply. Violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in suspension or expulsion from school, and would also affect a student’s eligibility to participate in extra/co-curricular activities.

A. First Violation

Upon confirmation of a first violation, the student will be suspended for 25% of the scheduled competitions and/or performances for the season, regarding all extra-curricular, co-curricular and athletic activities in which the student is then participating, which will be served without interruption and consecutively. If the suspension is not completed during the season/activity in which it is first imposed, the suspension will continue into the next extra-curricular, co-curricular and athletic activity in which the student participates until it is completed, which may include the subsequent school year.

B. Second Violation

Upon confirmation of a second violation, the student will be suspended for 50% of the scheduled competitions and/or performances for the season, regarding all extra-curricular, co-curricular and athletic activities in which the student is then participating, which will be served without interruption and consecutively. If the suspension is not completed during the season/activity in which it is first imposed, the suspension will continue into the next extra-curricular, co-curricular and athletic activity in which the student participates until it is completed, which may include the subsequent school year. If the violation occurs during the season, the student will be suspended from participation in the scheduled competitions and/or performances for the remainder of the season.

C. Third Violation and Subsequent Violations.

The student-athlete will lose eligibility to participate in any interscholastic competition in the district for the remainder of their interscholastic sport eligibility.

V. Social Media

The Wayne Westland Community School District recognizes and supports its student-athletes' and coaches' rights to freedom of speech, expression and association, including the use of social networks. In this context, each student-athlete and coach must remember that participating and competing for the Wayne Westland Community School District is a privilege, not a right. The student-athlete and coach represent his or her high school and the WWCS D, and therefore, they are expected to portray themselves, their teams, and their high school in a positive manner at all times. Any online postings must be consistent with federal and state laws, as well as team, school, school division and WWCS D rules and regulations (including those listed below).

Specifically prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Sexually explicit, profane, lewd, indecent, illegal, or defamatory language/actions.
- Derogatory language regarding school personnel or other students.
- Comments designed to harass or bully students or school personnel.
- Nude, sexually-oriented, or indecent photos, images or altered pictures.

Also prohibited are all on-campus connections to off-campus violations of the policy, including:

- Use of school computers to view off-campus postings.
- Students accessing posts at school on their own devices.
- Distribution of hard copies of posts on school property.
- Re-communication on campus of the content of the posts.

Any authorized or unauthorized use in school or out of school of computer software, computer networks, telecommunications devices, information technology and related technologies, which disrupts or interferes with the educational process in any manner, is prohibited and may result in removal from the team or activity and a recommendation for expulsion.

VI. Suspension from School

Any student athlete who is suspended from school for violation of the Wayne Westland Student Code of Conduct, will be ineligible to participate in practices, competitions or any outside-of the-classroom activities for the duration of the suspension. This policy also includes in school suspensions.

VII. Attendance Requirements

1. No athlete will be permitted to practice or play in a game, contest or event if absent for any part of that school day, unless excused by the Athletic Director or designee.
2. Regular attendance at practice sessions is expected.
3. An athlete cannot drop out of one sport and start practicing in another until the previous sport is over or both coaches agree.
4. Students who participate in outside school athletics while representing a Wayne Westland school team, must understand and adhere to the expectation that their commitment to the school team comes first.

5. Students who quit or are suspended from a team after the first regularly scheduled contest, may not join another team during the season.

Individual Coaches Rules & Regulations

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with the prior approval of the building administration/athletic administrator. **Consequences may not exceed the provisions of the Athletic Code of Conduct.** These additional rules for a particular sport must be presented in writing to all team members and parents and explained fully at the start of the season. Copies of all additional team rules by coaches are on file in the building administration office.

Self-Referral

Self-Referral by Student-Athlete

Student-athletes may take advantage of a self-referral procedure to seek information, guidance, counseling and assessment in regard to student-athlete use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Voluntary referrals do not carry punitive consequences.

Referral:

- a. is allowed one time in a student's four-year high school career (two-year middle school). **Any additional referrals may be granted at the discretion of the Athletic Director.**
- b. must be only by the athlete or a member of the immediate family.
- c. must be before the first violation.
- d. cannot be used by athletes as a method to avoid consequences once a Code of Conduct rule is violated and a student has been identified as having violated one of the Code of Conduct rules.
- e. must be made to a coach, athletic administrator, teacher, building administrator, guidance counselor or the District's Director of Student services.

Appeal Procedure

The student-athlete may appeal the decision of the building to the Director of Student Services. The appeal will require the following:

- a. The written appeal must be presented to the Director of Student Services within five school days of the initial ruling.
- b. The student shall have the privilege of representation even though it is not a legal process.
- c. The Director of Student Services shall render a decision within five school/business days, in writing, to the student and his/her parents or guardian.

NCAA Eligibility Center

A student-athlete who is planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wishes to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility

Center. The Eligibility Center ensures consistent interpretations of NCAA academic requirements for all prospective student-athletes at all member institutions. Please see your high school counseling office for information about the NCAA Eligibility Center or go to the NCAA website and follow the links to the eligibility center.

Performance Enhancing Supplements

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has re-emphasized its original 1998 position against improper use of supplements that are unregulated by the Food and Drug Administration and which contain harmful ingredients such as creatine, ephedrine or excessive amounts of caffeine. The 1998 position statement on this matter was and continues to be:

“All student-athletes and their parents/guardians should consult with their physicians before taking any supplements product. In addition, coaches and school staff should not recommend or supply any supplement product to student-athletes.”

In addition, Michigan Public Law 187 prohibits any public school employee/ volunteer from promoting or supplying dietary supplements, which carry claims of enhanced athletic performance. The law covers adrostenedoine, creatine and any compound labeled as performance enhancing.

GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ATHLETES

Losing Equipment

Each athlete accepts full responsibility for all Athletic Department equipment issued to him/her, and must return all items at the conclusion of the season. Any athlete losing equipment will not be allowed to participate in another sport until the equipment is returned or paid for. Payment for these items will be made at full replacement value and paid to the respective school. Athletic Department equipment, including practice gear, game jerseys, and warm up uniforms are to be worn only during official team functions.

Dual Participation

Occasionally, an athlete is talented enough to participate in two sports during the same season. The determining factor should be fairness to the teams involved. Both coaches must agree to this arrangement before an athlete is allowed “dual participation.”

Quitting a Team

Any athlete who quits a team or is dropped by a coach for disciplinary reasons after the first scheduled contest will not be permitted to participate in any other sport, including unofficial workouts, until the final game of that sport season is completed.

Squad Cuts

High/middle school athletics exists for skilled and advanced athletes. Although “cutting” players from the athletic teams is discouraged, in certain sports maximum student participation levels must be established. The coach will explain to the athletes the criteria for gaining membership to the team before practice begins. Those students not making the team will be entitled to have a personal interview with the coach.

Proper Supervision

Athletes are not to be in the locker room, the gymnasium, the weight room, training room, the pool or other indoor athletic facilities unless properly supervised by their coach.

Severe Weather Conditions

Each building, as well as Central Office, monitors the weather conditions daily through an Early Warning Weather Radio. When severe weather conditions exist, Central Office will initiate a “Fan Out Procedure”, with specific directions for the buildings and outdoor facilities. At athletic events the official(s) assigned by the state will follow the MHSAA guidelines for postponing and/or canceling events.

Insurance

Athletics is a voluntary, extra-curricular program in which the student may participate if he/she so desires, but does so at his or her own risk of injury. Wayne-Westland Community Schools does provide supplemental insurance that will cover expenses not covered by your personal insurance policy. To be covered, a current and valid sports physical must be submitted to the Athletic Department of the student athletes respective school before participating in any school related activities.

Transportation

All students are expected to ride with the team to and from each activity. If a parent/guardian chooses to drive their own child home from a contest, this would be acceptable under the condition that these arrangements are made with the appropriate staff (athletic director) prior to the trip. It is not acceptable for a student to drive home from a school-sponsored activity with anyone other than his/her parent or guardian. If students are not riding home with their parent or guardian, they shall ride with the team.

Athletic Trainers

Each high school will have a certified athletic trainer (A.T.C.) on staff. Student-athletes are encouraged to inform the trainer on site of any injury they incur. Should their condition merit, the parent/guardian will be notified. If a doctor holds the athlete out of play, then a doctor’s note allowing the student-athlete to resume participation MUST be presented to the athletic trainer.

Athletic Training Room Rules

1. The training room is for medical purposes ONLY. It is not a lounge, locker room or equipment room.

2. NO cleats in the training room.
3. No more than three (3) athletes at a time in the training room. Wait your turn patiently in the hall.
4. Sign in on the daily treatment log to receive treatment.
5. To receive treatment arrive at least ½ hour before you are supposed to be ready for practice or game.
6. Do not take supplies without permission.
7. If you receive permission to use something from the training room you must sign it out on the equipment log. You are expected to return any loaned equipment promptly, or you will be charged for it.

Practice Policies

All sport teams MUST conform to the MHSAA regulation regarding in-season and out-of-season limits and dates. Length of practice will vary due to coaching circumstances. A time limit determined by the coaching staff (usually two hours) should be adhered to as much as possible. Athletes must have time for normal home activities, study and other school activities.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

An athletic award is given by the high school as a special recognition of athletic performance. To qualify for this honor, a student should meet the established qualifications of the coach and be a team member in good standing in the sport in which the award is granted.

A student may be denied an athletic award for the following:

- Any student who is dismissed from any team or who leaves the team, even though he/she has satisfied the requirements for an award.
- Any student who has not properly accounted for all equipment issued.
- Any other circumstance deemed necessary by the coach.
- At the discretion of the coach with notification to the building administrator

Kensington Lakes Activities Association – Scholar-Athlete Award

Following each season the KLAA recognizes our varsity student-athletes. A student-athlete will receive a scholar-athlete patch for the first time receiving the award and pin for each time after. To be recognized, the student-athlete will need to meet the following criteria.

1. Be a 10-12 grade member of a varsity team
2. Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25.

KLAA Three Sport Athlete Award

A student who participates in three sports in one school year may earn the KLAA three Sport Athlete Award. The student must earn a varsity letter in one of the three sports and complete the season in good standing.

Sportsmanship

The ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical behavior and integrity are important to our culture. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. In perception and practice, good sportsmanship shall be defined as those qualities of behavior, which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed by the Farmington Public Schools as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. The Farmington Athletic Department continues efforts to maintain "Excellence in Athletics" through good sportsmanship. If sportsmanship is not made our highest priority, our programs will be no different than most of the non-school athletic programs. The most important sportsmanship guideline is practicing the Golden Rule—treating others the way you want to be treated, with respect. Everyone represents our schools at an athletic event. One act of sportsmanlike or unsportsmanlike behavior paints a picture of how we are perceived by neighboring communities, schools and the media. Maintaining the proper perspective about school sports will help us in our quest for good sportsmanship, show what is good about our school district and remind us that school sports are here to educate students and have fun. Any spectator that exhibits behavior contrary to this guideline may be removed from the sports activity for that event or longer.

Remember-Good Sports Are Winners!

Fundraising

Athletic Booster Groups

The administration recognizes the valuable services rendered by Booster organizations affiliated with Wayne Westland Community Schools. Further, the administration welcomes this participation and commends the organizations for their contributions and services to our youth and school. Any sport team desiring to establish a support/booster group for the purpose of supporting program improvements shall submit a letter of intent to the building principal and to the Director of Student Services by May 30th.

General Purchasing

All purchasing of athletic equipment shall be made through the office of the Athletic Director if the program expects the department to pay for the purchase. Any purchases made by a coach, building or Booster Organization will be paid by that group. All purchase MUST be approved by the Athletic Director prior to purchase.

Risk of Injury

By its nature, participation in interscholastic athletics includes risk of injury, which may range in severity. Although serious injuries are not common in school athletic programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants have the responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury.

